

Learn from Mistakes * Edison knew 1800 ways *not* to build a light bulb.

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MAKE YOUR OWN RULES * What new Rules can you make up for your idea?

Combine Ideas * Gutenberg combined a wine press with a coin punch to create the printing press. What different ideas can you combine?

Think like a Kid * What would a five year old see if he were looking at your project?

Pause for a Bit * What problem are you working on that would benefit from a pause?

Evaluate Your Ideas and Decide What to Do With It

See the Positive * When you judge new ideas, focus initially on their positive and interesting features. This will counteract a natural and negative bias, and enable you to develop more ideas.

Sense What's Out of Whack * Be critical and sense what's out of whack with the idea. Why won't it work? What is it lacking? What doesn't feel right about the idea?

ASK A FOOL * Break the group think environment by having someone dislodge assumptions and allow you to see things more clearly. What would a fool say about the idea?

Check Your Timing * Is the timing right for you new idea?

Slay a Sacred Cow * Many rules outlive the purpose for which they were intended. What rule, policy or way of thinking has been successful in the past but may be limiting you now?

LOOSEN UP * What can you take less seriously?

Listen to That Hunch * What hunches do you have about your idea?

Flex Your Risk Muscle * Don't be afraid to try new things.

Slay a Dragon * Where does fear hold you back? What dragons can you slay?

Don't Fall in Love with Ideas * If you fall in love with an idea, you won't see the merits of alternative approaches. What part of you idea are you in love with? Kiss it goodbye!

AVOID ARROGANCE * A little humility can help you steer clear of disaster. Where does ego adversely affect you performance?

Frust Yourself * What the world really needs to know is what kind of ideas are in your head. What ideas do you have waiting for expression?

Implementing Your Ideas

Fight for It * Be a warrior. What are you willing to do to put you idea into action?

Map out Your Plans * Can you visualize yourself reaching your objective?

Take a Whack at It * Start now. Go for it. What are five ways you can take a whack at your idea?

BE DISSATISFIED * Dissatisfaction can be the prod you need to spot potential problems and opportunities.

Put a Lion in Your Heart * What gives you the courage to act on your ideas? What puts a lion in your heart?

Get Support * It's much easier to be creative if your environment both supports and expects new ideas.

Get Rid of Excuses * What three factors will make it difficult for you to reach you objective? How can you get rid of these excuses?

Have Something at Stake * Survival, self-esteem, money, reputation, whatever – have something at stake so that you'll be motivated to make your idea successful.

Give yourself a Kick in the Seat of the Pants * Don't wait for you ideas to happen. What r3e three things you can do to reach you goal?

Expect Resistance * What resistance do you expect to you idea? How can you overcome this?

Sell, Sell, Sell * How can you make you idea more attractive to other people?

Assign a Deadline * What tight deadline can you give yourself?

BE PERSISTENT * How persistent are you?



CREATIVITY

A STUDENT ORGANIZATION MAY BE ABLE TO SURVIVE ON THE SAME OLD IDEAS, PROJECTS, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS; HOWEVER, ONE NEEDS AN INFLUX OF NEW IDEAS TO EXCEL. ALL OF US HAVE THE CAPACITY TO BE CREATIVE. HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS THAT MAY HELP YOU REDISCOVER YOUR CREATIVE SELF.

Explore and Discover Resources You Can Use to Create New Ideas

Give Yourself a Whack on the Side of the Head * Break out of habitual thought patterns. Jolt your routine
Look Somewhere Else * Venture off the beaten path. You can't see the good ideas behind you by looking twice as hard at what's in front of you.

BORROW IDEAS * Remember, there is no such thing as a totally new idea.

Find the second right answer * The best way to get a good idea is to get lots of ideas. Don't stop with the first right answer you find, look for others.

See the Big Picture * What are the larger implications of your ideas? How does it fit into the big picture?

Expect the unexpected * Often what we're looking for leads us to something much different. Columbus was looking for India.

See! Hear! Taste! Feel! Smell! * Pay attention to a wide variety of different information. What other senses can you use to develop your ideas?

LISTEN TO YOUR DREAMS * How can you relate a recent dream to a current problem?

Look to Nature * Bell invented the telephone by imitating the ear. What patterns and cycles in nature can you use to develop your ideas?

LOOK TO THE PAST * What ideas from history can you apply to a current project or idea? What were you doing ten years ago that might be useful to you now?

Hear the Knock of Opportunity * Where do you hear opportunity knocking? How can you answer it?

See the Obvious * What are you overlooking? What resources and solutions are right in front of you?

Transform Your Resources into New Ideas

Use Your Imagination * How can you keep the artist in you alive?

Think Something Different * The first person who looked at sawdust thought compressed fire logs did this. What different ways can you think about your ideas?

Do Something to It * Transform your ideas. Break the rules. What creative things can you do to your ideas?

Ask "What If?" * What off beat "what if" questions can you ask about your concept? Such questions will stretch you thinking and lead to new ideas.

Be Wacky * Being wacky stimulates your creative juices. What wacky things can you do to your idea?

Break the Rules * Challenge the rules and try a different approach.