



Engineering Design - Developing Possible Solutions

Now it's time to brainstorm! The next step in the Engineering Design Process is to come up with possible solutions. In engineering there is no one correct way to deal with a problem. There are many solutions to every problem. Some will make more sense than others and some will be ruled out based on your specifications. But don't worry about all of that right now. During this part of the engineering design process you are going to let your mind go wild and come up with any possible solutions to the problem at hand. The most outlandish idea today might be the best idea tomorrow, so don't hold back.

If you have a complex problem to deal with it might help to break the problem into smaller pieces and brainstorm solutions to each part individually. For example, if you were trying to speed up the process of packaging eggs on a farm, you might first brainstorm how to move the eggs to the containers and then come up with a way to move the filled containers.

Remember also that you are in a group for a reason. Everyone should be involved in the brainstorming and no idea should be judged at this point. The more different viewpoints you have, the better. Get all of your ideas down on paper and you can evaluate and analyze them later.