



Design Brief Worksheet

Name: _____

Define the **problem** you intend to solve. [*Who*] need(s) [*what*] because [*why*]:

Describe how existing products are used and why they fail to address the problem:

Describe the target user for your solution:

List the requirements for your solution.

- A good design requirement is **needed** to solve your design problem. If it is not absolutely needed, leave it out.
- A good design requirement is not just a wish; you must believe that it is feasible. Ask if you have the time, money, materials, tools, and knowledge to make it happen?
- If you have conflicts between your requirements, have you investigated making trade-offs among them?



Decision Matrix Worksheet

Name: _____

Fill in your design requirements and the names for your possible solutions. Then use a numeric evaluation scale to rate each solution against each of the requirements and criteria (2 = totally meets the requirements, 1 = somewhat meets the requirements, 0 = does not meet the requirements). Total up the columns to see which solution is best.

Design Requirements and Criteria	Solution #1:	Solution #2:	Solution #3:	Solution #4:
Your requirement #1:				
Your requirement #2:				
Your requirement #3:				
Your requirement #4:				
Other criteria: Lump together a single rating for your own "nice-to-have," desirable criteria and universal design criteria, such as: Elegance Is the solution simple, clever, or ingenious? Robustness Is the solution sturdy, resilient, and unlikely to fail? Aesthetics Is the solution tasteful and pleasing to look at? Cost & Resources Do you have or can you get the materials you need? Time Do you have time to make the solution and debug it? Skill Required Do you have the skills to make the solution? Safety Is the solution safe to build, use, store, and dispose of?				
Total Points				