

In groups of 4:

15 Best Startup Ideas

The collage features several data visualization elements:

- Top:** A flowchart titled "Flowchart illustrating the process of Opportunity Assessment Project (OAP)" showing a sequence of steps from "Identify the Opportunity" to "Evaluate the Opportunity".
- Left:** A bar chart titled "Market Analysis" showing data for "Market Size", "Market Growth", and "Market Saturation".
- Right:** A pie chart titled "Financial Projections" showing the distribution of "Revenue", "Expenses", and "Profit".
- Center:** A 3D bar chart titled "Project Timeline" showing the duration of various project phases.
- Bottom:** A circular diagram titled "OAP Written Analysis" showing the components of the analysis, including "Market Analysis", "Financial Projections", "Project Timeline", and "Risk Assessment".

## Ann McCormick

- [illegible]

## 15 Worst Startup Ideas

Create a 3-5 minute ad for your "worst startup idea" turning it into a good idea

Thank you Ann!



What did we learn?

1. E-ship is about seeing problems as opportunities  
The bigger the problem, the bigger the opportunity!
2. How to optimize/hack brainstorming  
(customers/lead users as fertile source of ideas)
3. Best combination is a creative visionary +  
operations/execution (hard to do)

## Creativity / Brainstorming Takeaways

- 1.) Creative visionaries / Lead users / talking to customers often a fertile source of ideas
- 2.) Certain ways of organizing can lead to increased group creativity (plus sales/profits)!

Purpose of creativity in a startup - In how many areas do you want to be doing something new?

## Key Points

1. Innovative Ideas - necessary but not sufficient
2. How to Hack Brainstorming and Become More Creative
3. Your turn to brainstorm!

Successful entrepreneurship = invention + inspired execution

The Wire  
Technologies for language)



# **How to Hack Brainstorming?**

<b>Idea sources</b>	<b>MIT Data</b>	<b>Tsinghua data</b>
	<b>percentage</b>	<b>percentage</b>
In school-doing outside-funded research	2.40	1.66
In school- graduate thesis	4.64	3.96
In school- in class	1.98	5.88
In school-informal discussion w/ students	3.41	11.00
In school-other research	2.28	1.92
In school-professional literature	1.73	4.48
In school- visiting scientists, engineers	1.77	4.86
In school-working w/ outside company	3.20	4.86
Other sources-discussions in social/ professional conferences	21.54	17.65
Other sources-research conference	2.66	4.48
Other sources-working in the industry	41.44	24.81
Other sources- working in the military (government experience)	4.01	2.94
Doing outside-funded research	2.07	0.77
Total	100	100
Number of observations	1284	110

<http://mitworld.mit.edu/video/262>

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**Table 1: Lead user vs non LU funded ideas (census)**

	LU Ideas (n=5) **	Non LU Ideas (n=42) ***	Sig.
<b>Factors related to value of idea</b>			
Novelty compared with competition *	9.6	6.8	0.01
Originality/newness of customer needs addressed*	8.3	5.3	0.09
% market share in year 5	68%	33%	0.01
Estimated sales in year 5 (deflated for forecast error)	\$146m	\$18m	0.00
Potential for entire product family *	10.0	7.5	0.03
Operating profit	22%	24.0%	0.70
Probability of success	80%	66%	0.24
Strategic importance*	9.6	7.3	0.08
Intellectual property protection*	7.1	6.7	0.80
<b>Factors related to organizational fit of idea</b>			
Fit with existing distribution channels *	8.8	8.0	0.61
Fit with existing manufacturing capabilities*	7.8	6.7	0.92
Fit with existing Strategic Plan*	9.8	8.4	0.24

\* Note: these items were measured using a 10 point rating scale, where 10=high, 1=low

\*\* Funded lead user ideas: all are for major product lines.

\*\*\* Funded non LU Ideas: **one** is for a major product line, 41 are incremental ideas.



Brainstorming?

# What are characteristics of good brainstorming sessions?

Creativity / Brainstorming Takeaways  
Creative visionaries / Lead users / talking to customers often a fertile source of ideas  
Organizing can lead to increased group creativity  
How many areas do you want to be

TABLE 3  
Means and Standard Deviations, Experiment 2

Dependent Variables	Group Size			
	6		12	
	Electronic Brainstorming	Nonelectronic Brainstorming	Electronic Brainstorming	Nonelectronic Brainstorming
Number of nonredundant ideas <sup>a</sup>				
Means	39.10	30.20	85.90	29.50
s.d.	10.32	12.04	23.43	3.62
Overall quality				

<sup>a</sup> Data are for 30 groups.  
<sup>b</sup> Data are for 120 individuals.  
<sup>c</sup> The higher the value, the better the performance.

**Table 2**

*Average Number and Quality of Ideas Suggested By Real and Nominal 4-Person Brainstorming Groups Working Under Personal- Versus Collective-Assessment Instructions*

Condition	Measure			
	Number of ideas	Number of good ideas	Average originality	Average feasibility
Real group				
Personal	32.33	3.00	2.52	2.90
Collective	23.66	2.00	2.49	3.07
Nominal group				
Personal	84.33	13.33	2.46	2.60
Collective	64.66	5.66	2.43	2.70

*Note.* Lower numbers indicate higher originality and feasibility.

**TABLE 1**  
**Means and Standard Deviations, Experiment 1**

Dependent Variables	Group Size					
	2		4		6	
	Electronic Brainstorming	Nonelectronic Brainstorming	Electronic Brainstorming	Nonelectronic Brainstorming	Electronic Brainstorming	Nonelectronic Brainstorming
Number of nonredundant ideas <sup>a</sup>						
Means	24.80	26.20	42.20	31.80	69.80	35.90
s.d.	8.22	9.68	11.77	11.87	19.10	10.11
Overall quality score <sup>a</sup>						
Means	70.95	67.65	125.30	81.35	205.90	109.20
s.d.	18.84	33.14	35.15	26.52	51.58	31.74
Number of high-quality ideas <sup>a</sup>						
Means	10.00	10.10	17.30	11.10	28.10	16.10
s.d.	3.33	5.68	3.71	3.66	7.84	5.42
Production blocking <sup>b,c</sup>						
Means	2.13	2.03	2.23	2.74	2.31	3.27
s.d.	0.95	1.24	1.03	1.19	1.05	1.34
Evaluation apprehension <sup>b,c</sup>						
Means	2.42	2.32	2.25	2.87	2.04	3.24
s.d.	1.21	1.00	0.90	1.10	0.87	1.54
Satisfaction <sup>b,c</sup>						
Means	5.05	5.72	5.36	5.22	5.38	4.81
s.d.	1.29	0.83	1.30	0.88	1.15	1.35

<sup>a</sup> Data are for 30 groups, two observations per group.

<sup>b</sup> Data are for 120 subjects, two observations per individual.

<sup>c</sup> The higher the value, the stronger the perception or attitude.

Electronic Brainstorming and Group Size. R. Brent Gallupe, Alan R. Dennis, William H. Cooper, Joseph S. Valacich, Lana M. Bastianutti, Jay F. Nunamaker, Jr. Source: The Academy of Management Journal, Vol. 35, No. 2 (Jun., 1992), pp. 350-369

	Lucas	number of good ideas	Average originality	Average feasibility
Personal	32.33	3.00	2.52	2.90
Collective	23.66	2.00	2.49	3.07
Nominal group	84.33	13.33	2.46	2.60
Personal	64.66	5.66	2.43	2.70
Collective				

*Note. Lower numbers indicate higher originality and feasibility.*

# Brainstorming

## 1. Capture Ideas

a. Write them down

i. Beware of the tyranny of the pen

ii. Everyone writes

b. Record them Audio

c. Video

d. Pictures

## 2. Frame the Problem

a. A question contributed?

b. Neither too broad not too narrow

## 3. Facilitator - separate idea creation from idea screening!

as do you

Number of nonredundant ideas <sup>a</sup>				
Means	39.10	30.20	85.90	29.50
s.d.	10.32	12.04	23.43	3.62
Overall quality score <sup>a</sup>				
Means	146.00	99.10	340.00	111.00
s.d.	36.20	38.70	102.00	28.70
Number of high-quality ideas <sup>a</sup>				
Means	25.00	17.12	64.62	20.00
s.d.	7.56	7.81	14.94	4.60
Production blocking <sup>b,c</sup>				
Means	2.69	3.11	2.34	3.66
s.d.	1.26	1.26	1.20	1.37
Evaluation apprehension <sup>b,c</sup>				
Means	2.33	3.13	2.01	3.78
s.d.	0.95	1.23	0.96	1.38
Satisfaction <sup>b,c</sup>				
Means	5.07	4.73	5.64	4.35
s.d.	1.41	1.30	1.12	1.26

<sup>a</sup> Data are for 16 groups, two observations per group.  
<sup>b</sup> Data are for 144 subjects, two observations per individual.  
<sup>c</sup> The higher the value, the stronger the perception or attitude.

Electronic Brainstorming and Group Size: R. Brent Gallupe,  
Alan R. Dennis, William H. Cooper, Joseph S. Valacich, Lana  
M. Eastman, Jr. F. Naranjo, Jr. Source: The Academy of  
Management Journal, Vol. 35, No. 2 (Jun., 1992), pp. 350-369

# When are you going to use brainstorming in entrepreneurship?

Table 2  
Average Number and Quality of Ideas Suggested  
Nominal 4-Person Brainstorming Groups Working  
Personal- Versus Collective-Assessment Instruction

Condition	Number of ideas	Measure	
		Number of good ideas	Average originality
Real group			
Personal			
Collective			
Nominal	32.33		

## Creativity / Brainstorming Takeaways

- 1.) Creative visionaries / Lead users / talking to customers often a fertile source of ideas
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Purpose of creativity in a startup - In how many areas do you want to be doing something new?