Group Rôles

In your discussion and laboratory sections for this course, you will be working in **cooperative** groups to solve written and experimental problems. To help you learn the material and work together effectively, each group member will be assigned a specific role. Your responsibilities for each role are defined on the chart below.

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| **Actions** | **What it sounds like** |
| Manager   * Direct the sequence of steps. * Keep your group on-track. * Make sure everyone in your group participates. * Watch the time spent on each step. | * “Let’s come back to this later if we have time.” * “We need to move on to the next step.” * “Chris, what do you think about this idea?" |
| Recorder/Checker   * Act as a scribe for your group. * Check for understanding of all members. * Make sure all members of your group agree on plans and actions. * Make sure names are on group products. | * “Do we all understand this diagram?” * “Are we in agreement on this?” |
| Skeptic   * Help your group avoid coming to agreement too quickly. * Make sure all possibilities are explored. * Suggest alternative ideas. | * “What other possibilities are there?” * “Let's try to look at this another way.” * “I'm not sure we're on the right track.” |
| Energizer/Summarizer   * Energize your group when motivation is low   + by suggesting a new idea;   + through humor; or   + by being enthusiastic. * Summarize (restate) your group's discussion and conclusions. | * “We can do this!” * “That's a great idea!” * “So here's what we've decided” |