



## INNOVATION & PATENT TEAM

If you have questions or wish to discuss your idea with someone, the Patent Team is happy to meet with you. Send an email to the Patent Team (patents-legal@paypal.com) to set up some time or to discuss over email. Or you can simply submit your ideas directly to the Patent Portal (<https://go/invention>). Alternatively, you can contact our Global Innovation Team (<https://go/invention>) or email our Global Head of Innovation, Maria Mileder (at [mmileder@paypal.com](mailto:mmileder@paypal.com)).

## PATENT TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

1. Don't get discouraged.  
50 - 100 ideas are received and reviewed by the IP team every month. Multiple reviewers look at every idea submitted. The majority of ideas are declined for a variety of technical and legal reasons. Not receiving approval for your idea is just part of the process. Don't get discouraged and keep the ideas coming.
2. Be ready to share your idea.  
On some occasions, 30-minute brainstorm sessions are requested by the IP team to help understand ideas better. After that brainstorm session, the patent team will do a final review of the ideas and make a decision on whether to file a patent application.
3. Be persistent.  
Just because an idea isn't successful the first time, don't give up. Look at ways to improve an idea if you believe in it. Can you add additional details, consider future enhancements, or modify the technology to make it more robust? How can you innovate on your original suggestion to make it better?
4. Expand the possibilities.  
Have you ever heard the saying "two heads are better than one?" When you combine ideas or discuss with others, you have the opportunity to come up with concepts or improvements on your idea for the IP team to review. The tweak or improvement you make may be what you need to get your idea filed.
5. Don't wait until it's too late.  
Patents aren't normally at the top of people's minds, especially when you are at the beginning of a project or looking to release a product – it should be. If you have an idea, but don't do anything with it, someone else may patent the idea first.
6. Consider what you are sharing.  
Discussing ideas with third-parties prior to filing a patent application, such as giving a presentation, talking at a trade show, or talking to a customer, can unintentionally give others an advantage and may cause PayPal to lose the ability to pursue a patent on your idea.
7. Think "ahead of the curve."  
Be on the lookout for new ideas – innovation is everywhere. Consider walking your ideas from conception through implementation and to submission. You never know what will "click" to make the idea work.