

Steps:

1. State your problem, issue, or challenge.
2. Select 3-5 requisite characteristics or fundamental qualities.
3. List variations of each characteristic - consider sticking to less than 20 variations.
4. Pick some random combinations or paths through the idea grid – list the results.

Example:

1. In What Way Can I Make A Better Pest Trap?
2. Shape of trap, method of trapping, bait used, and targeted pest
3. Listed 7 characteristics for each – don't **have** to come up with 7 for each
4. Pick random idea paths through the grid and list them.

	Shape	Method	Bait	Target
1	rectangle	spring-bar	cheese	mice
2	circle	gun	nothing	rats
3	triangle	nail	poison	roaches
4	square	drop weight	smelly foam	ants
5	rhombus	vise grip	dirt	crickets
6	diamond	razors	plastic	spiders
7	star	container	picture	fleas

Sample Results:

- Circular spring-bar trap with poison for catching rats
- Triangular vise grips, with no bait, for catching ants
- Diamond shaped nail trap using smelly foam to lure crickets
- Star shaped container with a plastic bait for spiders