

Principles of Furniture
&
Joinery Design



**MORE
LATERAL
THINKING
TOOLS**

Creative Pause

2

- When you start thinking your brain follows a certain direction or flow.
- Introducing a pause can interrupt this flow.
- Change your activity.
- You focus on something else and suddenly your train of thought moves off in a different direction.
- You create a new idea!



Motivation

3

- Motivation
- Motivation and creation go hand in hand. You can be motivated to become creative or your creation can motivate you to carry on.
- Motivation on creativity
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJUFjTOM32g&feature=related>

Design an expandable table

4

- Previous Slide from 1st presentation
- Random words
- Chair
- Colourful, circular, character based.
- Height, happy, hippy.
- Aluminium, automatic, alien.
- Irregular shape, Iridescent, Irish
- Red, revolving, Rocco style.

- Expand on each of the words to see what comes into your mind
- Revolving, shiny aluminium, irregular shape, like an alien head.

Design an expandable table

5

- Random Input
- If you start from a different viewpoint you will get completely different ideas.
- Purpose is to get new ideas not linked to old ones.
- These ideas are provocations that may change your direction of thinking.

Plus, Minus & Interesting

6

- PMI
- Problem: Client wants you to design a kitchen but he does not want wooden hinged doors.
- Solution:
- 3 mins to list all the Plus - Positives
- No doors would allow easy access.
- Know exactly what's in the presses.
- Cut down on costs.
- Cut down on time/labour.
- Other

Plus, Minus & Interesting

7

- 3 mins to list all the Minuses - Negatives
- No doors to stop all the dust getting into presses.
- Plates, cups & utensils would be very dirty and dusty.
- Very unhygienic for open packs of food.
- Very dangerous for small children and pets.
- Nosey visitors would see inside your presses.
- Temptation to keep eating.
- Other

Plus, Minus & Interesting

8

- 3 mins to list all the Interesting
- Looking at both columns, come up with ideas to tackle these problems.
- Glass doors, maybe opaque.
- Sliding doors.
- Storage boxes fitting inside presses.
- Fit presses with drawers.
- Cover with cloth, material.

- Get more precise information.
- Find out from client why he doesn't want hinged doors
- Perhaps he is in a wheelchair and can't manage hinged doors?

References

- Motivation on creativity
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJUFjTOM32g&feature=related>
- De Bono, E.(1996) Serious Creativity. Using the Power of Lateral Thinking to Create New Ideas. London. Harper Collins.