

6-8-5

What it is

This is an idea generation method that enables groups of people to generate lots of ideas in a short time. It helps to prevent teams focusing on the first few ideas they have, encouraging them to come up with lots, synthesise them, and then choose the best ones.



Things you need

- Plenty of post-it notes (around 15 per person)
- A pen per person
- A group of participants (probably no more than 8 per group)
- Time - around 45 minutes for a group of 8



How to do it

1. To start with, we need to have a question or set of questions to think about answering. For example, one could be, 'How might we improve student experience?'
2. Give everyone 8 post-it notes and ask them to spend 5 minutes to jot down 6 to 8 potential answers to the question/s.
3. Following on from that, everyone in the group gets 2 minutes each to share their ideas with one another.
4. Next, take 5 more minutes for people to think of new ideas, develop someone else's idea, or merge ideas together.
5. People have 2 minutes each to present their ideas to the rest of their group again.
6. Finally, the group has an informal discussion to decide which of their collective ideas are the most promising.

