

# How to bring your technology idea to life







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- Developer
- Designer
- Non-Technical



#### Matt Smith

Technology Innovator and Entrepreneur

Lehi, Utah (Provo, Utah Area) Research

Current Principal Engineer at Lingotek

CTO, Co-Founder at Kalood

Organizer / Board Member at LaunchUp

Founder at Web Startup Group

Owner at SiteSays.com

Owner/Creator at LDSMissions.com

see less -

Past PhD Student (Social Analytics) at Brigham Young University

Researcher at BYU Data Mining Lab

Graduate Studies Webmaster at Brigham Young University

Freelance Website Development at Smithworx

see less -

Education Brigham Young University

Brigham Young University Brigham Young University

see all -

Recommendations 13 people have recommended Matt

Connections 500+ connections
Websites Personal Website

Blog

The Web Startup Group

#### The Web Startup Group



webstartupgroup.com







# 1. How do you get an idea out of your head?





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#### 2013-03-24: Idea Title Goes Here

This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details.

- I like to use bullet points since they are good
- I like to use bullet points as they helpful
- I like to use bullet points too

#### 2013-03-01: Pithy Idea Title Goes Here

This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details.

- · I like to use bullet points
- I like to use bullet points since they are good
- I like to use bullet points as they help

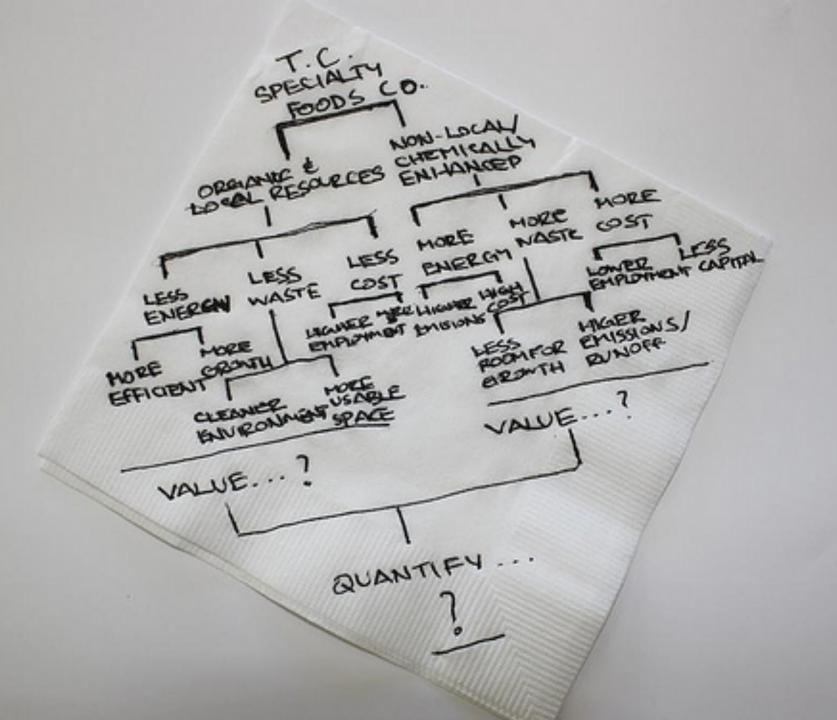
Sometimes there is more description and or quick pictures or drawings. Sometimes there is more description and or quick pictures or drawings. Sometimes there is more description and or quick pictures or drawings.

#### 2013-02-22: Idea Two

This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details.

#### 2013-01-04: Idea One

This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I describe my idea in plenty of details. This is where I



# Now there are plenty of other tools that you can use...

#### idea

```
sketch
```

powerpoint / keynote / google presentation photoshop / fireworks / illustrator / etc pencil / lucidchart / bsalmiq / etc invisionapp / etc twitter bootstrap / etc

• • •

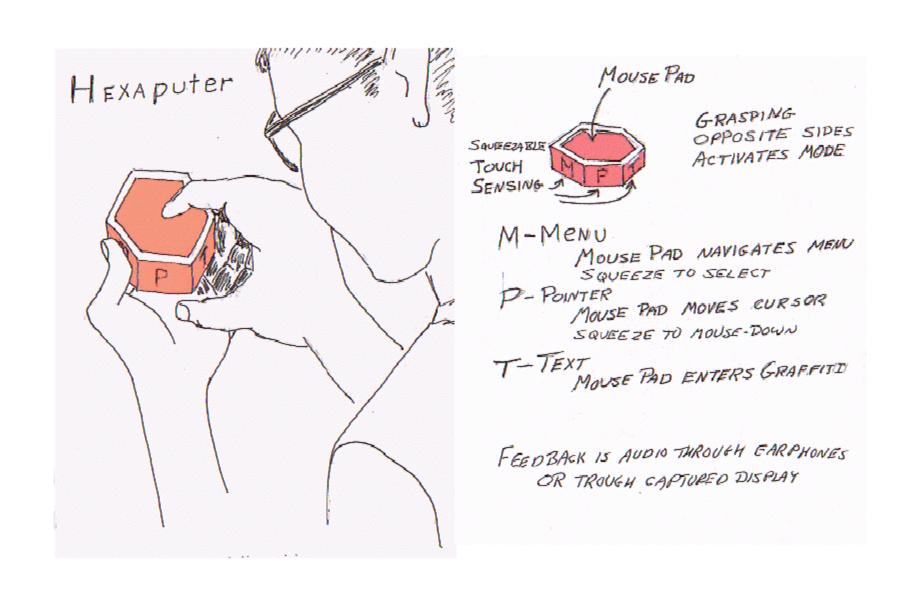
code

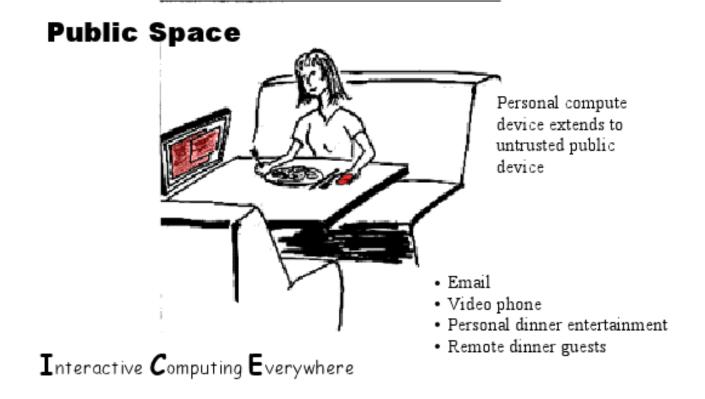
reality

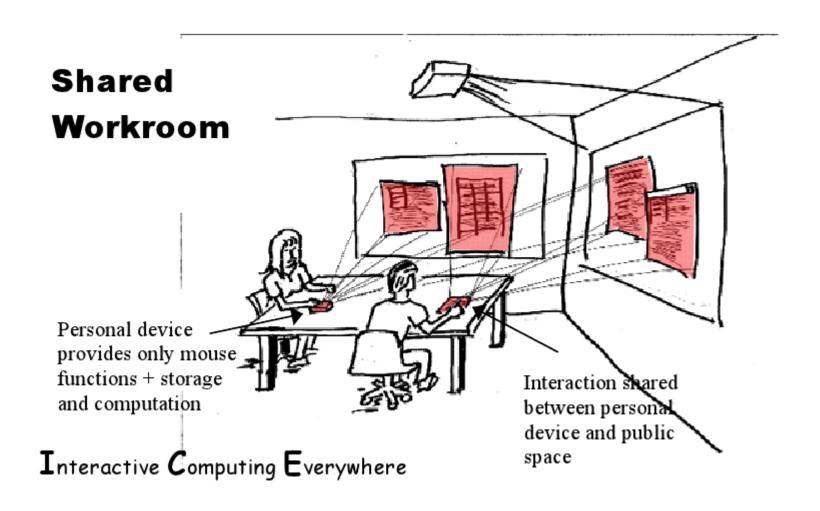
# Use whatever tool helps you convey the idea the quickest



# An idea stuck in your head remains dead















Used with Permission by Michael Zaro

### Get the idea out of your head

### Idea Dump

### Breakout - groups of 3 or 4

1. Personally think about ideas that you don't mind sharing (e.g., what is an idea that would make a conference even more collaborative?)

3 minutes

2. Share one idea with your group (The hope is that everyone shares at least one idea)

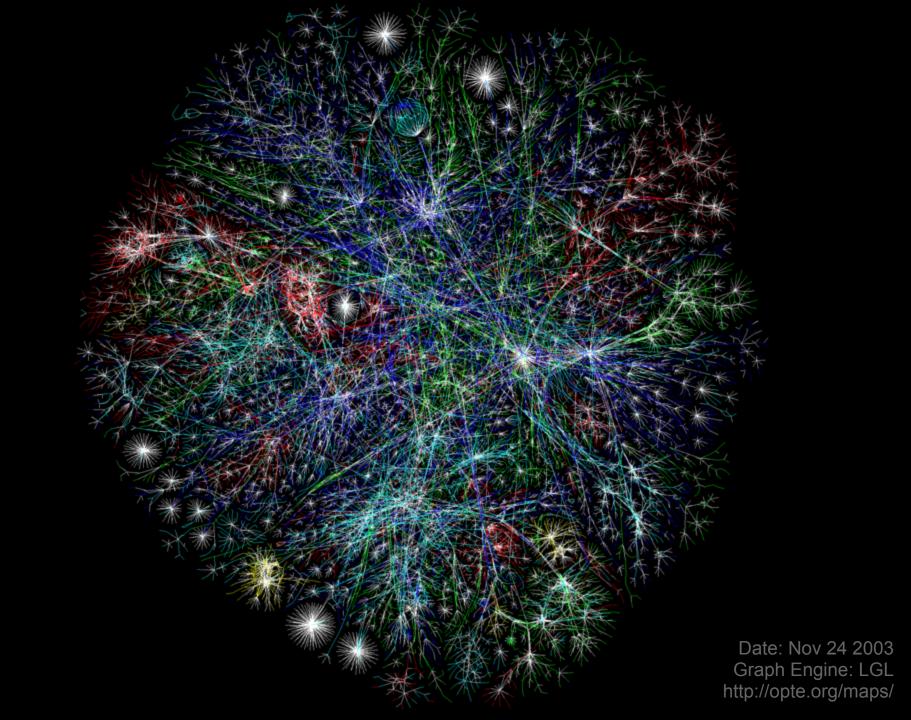
5 minutes

- Pick ONE idea that your group found most interesting
   3 minutes
- 4. Pick someone in the group to share it with everyone1 minute / group

### **Ideas**

- 1. virtual boardgames
- 2. social shopping
- 3. hotel management
- 4. multi-level printing
- 5. personal medical data management
- 6. lost + found tags
- 7. sprinkler home automation
- 8. b2b deals
- 9. open source business creation
- 10. rate yourself

# How do you know if your idea is worth pursuing?

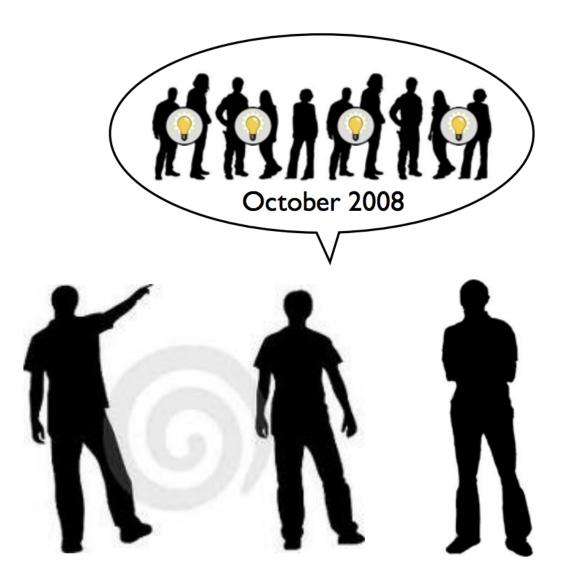




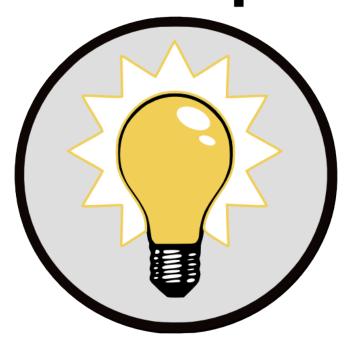








### The Web Startup Group



webstartupgroup.com





#### page**mass**











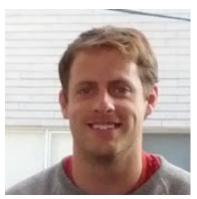
































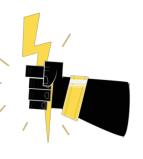








Pinterest







### Motivating Milestones

Real and self-imposed deadlines

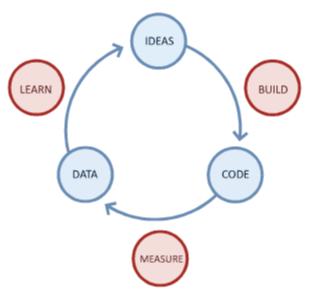
Involve people

Share your idea / accept invitations to present

These structure your progress and push you to refine your idea

## Can you get your idea to resonate with others\*?

#### Minimize TOTAL time through the loop



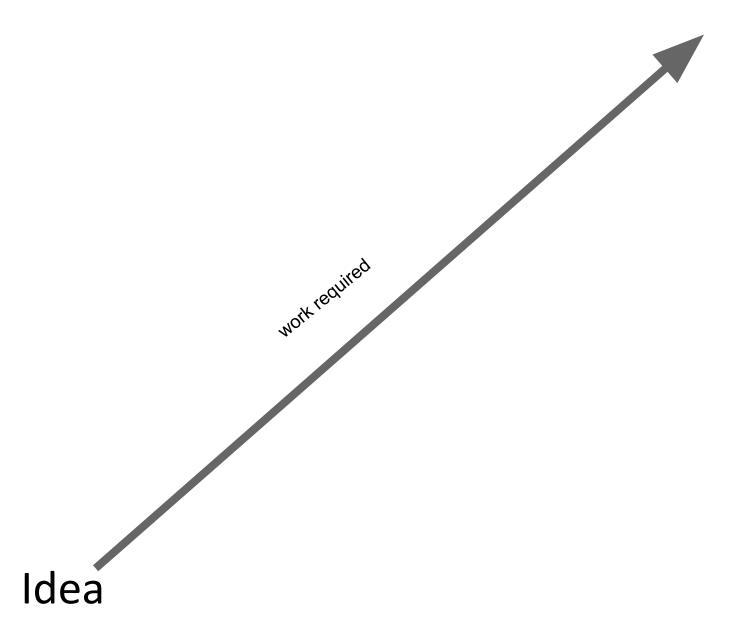


## The toughest feedback to hear, is the feedback you need the most.

"Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning."

- Bill Gates

### Reality



# Reality Work required Idea

#### idea

sketch

. . .

the gap is shrinking,

let's talk about why...

• • •

code

reality

## What would it take to build it alone or with a small team?

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world.

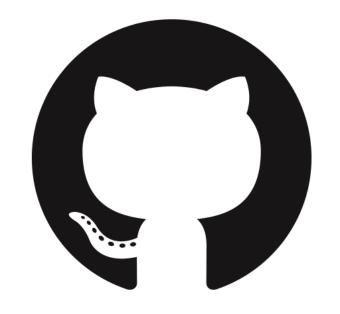
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

It happens everyday...



news.ycombinator.com



## GitHub

github.com

Let's explore what is trending today...

## Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication

- Leonardo da Vinci





**#40** Tonight at 6: 30pm

Free, Monthly (every 1st Thursday)



Josh Coates Amp



**Dave Bascom**The Weeds









### Q & A