

Design spec: a desk tidy

Meet your client, find out what they need, then plan a product you can test.



NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

LEARNING GOAL

Turn a client's problem into a clear design brief and a specification you can test.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- ☐ I can write a brief naming the user and the problem.
- ☐ I can find user needs with open questions.
- ☐ I can write measurable ACCESS FM criteria.

1 Read the brief, then write it

PART B

3 marks

CLIENT Jamie, a Year 7 pupil (made up)	PROBLEM Pens, a calculator and a phone get lost on the desk, so homework starts late.	FREE SPACE ON THE DESK
WHERE IT IS USED A small desk at home, for homework most evenings.	IT MUST HOLD (JAMIE MEASURED) 6 pens up to 150 mm long, a calculator 160 × 80 mm, a phone 150 × 75 mm.	

Write the brief in one or two sentences: **who it is for, the problem, what you will design.**

Start: I will design a ... for ... so that ...

2 Interview your client

3 marks

A partner plays Jamie. Write their answers.

Q1 Which things go missing most often, and why?

Q2 When do you use your desk, and for how long?

Q3 What colours, shapes or styles do you like?

3 Inspiration sketches

2 marks

Sketch two ideas you like. Add a callout to each.

VIEW A: IDEAS (5 MM GRID)



● Example: a sloped slot keeps the phone upright

Write a specification you can test



4 Specification: ACCESS FM

PART S

14 marks

Write one criterion you can measure for each area, and how you will test it. Read the Size model first.

AREA	CRITERION: IT MUST ...	HOW I WILL TEST IT
A AESTHETICS <i>look, colour, shape, finish</i>		
C COST <i>budget for materials</i>		
C CUSTOMER <i>what Jamie needs and likes</i>		
E ENVIRONMENT <i>waste, reuse, recycling</i>		
S SAFETY <i>edges, corners, stability</i>		
S SIZE MODEL	It must fit the free space: no more than 300 mm wide and 200 mm deep.	Measure the finished product with a steel rule and check it fits the space.
F FUNCTION <i>what it must hold or do</i>		
M MATERIALS <i>what it is made from, and why</i>		

5 Materials shortlist

3 marks

Name three materials you could use. Give one reason each links to your specification.

MATERIAL 1 AND WHY	MATERIAL 2 AND WHY	MATERIAL 3 AND WHY