

Tinker Toys: Leader Directions

Reminders:

Communicators attend

Communicators listen

Communicators get the whole story

You are the leader of a company about to build a new product. The product will be based precisely on a prototype built and displayed in another location. You will select all of your team members and assign them specific jobs. Each will be chosen for a specific job with specific roles and responsibilities. You will be assigned the role of “Looker.”

Please make sure your team members are completely familiar with the roles and responsibilities assigned to them.

Roles and Responsibilities

Looker (Leader)- Looks at only the prototype and then describes it to the runner. Talks to the runner and the feedbacker.

Feedbacker – Looks at the prototype and the product. Can only answer yes or no questions. Can call the exercise complete when the product looks exactly like the prototype.

Runner- Listens to the descriptions from the looker and tells the builder. Looks at neither the prototype nor the product, but can talk to anyone.

Builder- Listens to the runner, gets pieces from the supplier, and builds the product. The builder is the only one who touches the product. Talks to the runner, feedbacker, and supplier.

Supplier- Controls the supplies and gives them to the builder. Can talk to anyone by answering “yes” or “no” when asked questions. Cannot initiate communications. (If your group is short of people, this position will be cut)

Company Policies and Regulations

- You have 10 to 15 minutes to talk with different people in your company, assign jobs, and examine your materials.
- All communications are to be verbal. No writing is allowed once the prototype is revealed.
- A company meeting may be called by anyone, at any time, to discuss group dynamics and to talk about how things are going. However, the product and the prototype cannot be discussed at these meetings.
- Details are important.

- Only the builder can attach pieces to the product. The builder may have only five unattached parts at one time.
- People can switch roles as listed on the back of this sheet. However, this may occur only once during production.

During production, the following roles may be switched, but only once:

- SUPPLIER may switch with the BUILDER or RUNNER
- BUILDER may switch with the RUNNER or SUPPLIER
- RUNNER may switch with the SUPPLIER or BUILDER
- LOOKER may switch with the FEEDBACKER
- FEEDBACKER may switch with the LOOKER

NOTE: The runner cannot see the prototype or your product being built. The only people who can see the prototype are the looker and the feedbacker. The only people who can see your product are the builder, supplier, and feedbacker.