



Generate Ideas

| Lotus Blossom Tool

Focus the power of brainstorming using a structured, visual representation of ideas—pushing you to fill out every box with new ideas.

WHEN

Use Lotus Blossom when the emphasis is on developing many ideas.

WHY

Help develop many ideas with a focus on quantity, not necessarily quality.

HOW

Eight 3-by-3-inch squares are arranged around a center blossom. The center square of each blossom contains a concept or problem related to the other squares of the blossom.

STEP 1: Enter a problem to be solved, an item to be improved, or a theme to be examined in the center box (Box I in the example).

STEP 2: Brainstorm related components, solutions, or themes and put them in the boxes immediately surrounding the center box (Boxes A-H).

STEP 3: Use the values from those boxes as the center of the eight lotus blossoms on the outer edges of the sheet. (You're propagating ideas.)

STEP 4: Brainstorm related components, solutions, or themes, and enter these in the eight boxes surrounding each of the new center seeds for each outer lotus blossom. Try your best to complete all the blossoms to maximize ideas.

STEP 5: When the exercise is complete, you will have at least 64 new ideas to explore related to the original problem or theme. Review and determine which are viable or important to move forward with. Stormdraining may also be useful here.



Lotus Blossom Tool | Worksheet

	A			B			C	
			A	B	C			
	D		D	I	E		E	
			F	G	H			
	F			G			H	