

Mix and Match

Teamwork Challenges

What are they?

A selection of activities designed to bolster teamwork with experiential learning.

These teamwork challenges may be used autonomously to enhance a separate event, or combined with each other to produce a major team-build experience.

How does it work?

With most activities lasting approximately 15 minutes, you have the freedom to pick and choose the correct combination of challenges to suit your set time, audience and objectives.

The Challenges

Basher Build

Relive those 'pleasant' memories from family camping trips and put up a tent as fast as possible. However, with the tent-handlers blindfolded, your guidance and instruction is the key in getting a roof over your heads. You'll probably do better than I did fully sighted, Bodmin 93'...

Battleships

A much larger version of the classic board game. Your ship's equipment has gone on the blink and your enemy is close by. Put your nautical heads together and sink the foe.

Bomb Disposal

NO, NO! Not the Green Wire!!! Gather together your team in front of a menacing explosive and act out your Bond-esque fantasies.

Communicate, plan, problem-solve, decipher and BANG!!! Only kidding - you'll be fine if you do all those things.

Chain Gang

Teams must traverse a minefield field using only the safe stepping stones and get over and under the obstacles. No member of the team is allowed to touch the ground with any part of their body and they are only allowed to step on the discs provided.

Sounds easy? Not when you are attached to the rest of your team by bungee cord! A challenging task that will test teamwork to its limits!

Caricature Team Building

Find out that there's more to drawing silly cartoons. In this creative workshop delegates learn to observe details and accurately transfer them. As a result, they can appreciate that successful business depends on assessment and attention to detail. Sketching big noses has never been so educational.

Colour Blind

The team is blindfolded and has to work out which of 25 different shaped colours and shapes are missing. The only question they may ask is "what colour is this." The challenge requires detailed explanation and careful listening, as well as strategic questioning and formulation of a concise plan.



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Dangerous Cargo

Teams attempt to traverse an area without touching the ground. Constructing bridges to avoid the ground and other obstacles, communication and planning is needed as it is forbidden to touch the 'dangerous cargo' as well! Get your lateral thinking heads on and transport the cargo safely.

Giant Crossword

Luckily for train commuters everywhere, The Daily Telegraph doesn't come in this particular size. Consisting of 26 clues, 93 king size letters are divided equally around the team. Each member is responsible for movement of their own letters; thus it is a question of communication and delegation in order to complete the crossword within the allocated time limit.

Gin and Tonic

A task requiring lateral thinking - the challenge is to make the perfect Gin and Tonic. However, things aren't that simple; ingredients are retrieved from storage areas with pieces of equipment only to be used once. By working out cryptic puzzles, teams can measure out ingredients in the correct quantities and produce their tasty beverage. Chin-chin!

Giraffe

What?! Don't worry – all will become clear. Using only newspaper and sellotape, teams compete to construct the tallest model giraffe. Requiring planning and teamwork, delegates need to efficiently balance height and stability to make their models stand freely for ten seconds. It's just like being on the Serengeti again....

Grid

Divided into 'Builders' and a 'Director', your team is charged with assembling a grid using 12 pieces of wood. The group's Director is given a diagram explaining the correct construction of the grid - communication, management and delegation are needed to solve the puzzle.

Human Machine

A washing-machine, a toaster, a military helicopter, the Eiffel Tower! Watch in awe as various machines and objects are assembled before you 'in the flesh'. A task requiring agility, flexibility and more often than not, a hell of a lot of imagination – teams build the most unlikely of constructs using their own bodies.

Human Sheep

If sheep were over five feet tall and blind, and shepherds were mute - you'd have the activity Human Sheep! With half of the team dressed as sheep and their shepherds only allowed to use musical instruments to make sounds, teams settle on a communication system. The musical shepherds should then carefully direct the sightless sheep to their pen, avoiding all sorts of farmyard based hazards.



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Indoor Machine

Don't stress – leave the health and safety issues with us. Teams sift through an assortment of materials and use them to build a self-propelled, trigger released vehicle. Speeding to victory can be achieved through careful communication, planning, time management and excellent design.

Minefield

Teams are strapped together with lengths of bungee cord. To traverse the minefield and reach the safety of the other side, only 2 planks of wood are available to assist them. Team members will plan routes together, practice their communication skills and more importantly – tread carefully!

Mini Squares

How well can people work as a unit when they can't talk to each other?

Let's find out: With a total ban on speaking, teams are asked to construct 4 squares from 24 irregularly shaped segments - each segment displaying a letter.

The correct squares will give the answers to 4 questions, so teams will need to develop non-verbal ways to communicate.

Navigate

Sounds straight forward - but you won't be getting a map, compass or GPS system. In fact, all you'll be getting is a blindfold to wear. In pairs, one sighted member of the team guides a non-sighted member. It is a case of negotiating a network of cones to retrieve tennis balls and score points. Perfect your guidance, communication abilities and trust to avoid the sin bin, and win!

Outdoor Launch

It does exactly what it says on the tin. If your team build it correctly. With an assortment of materials, delegates pool their ideas and think practically in order to produce a free standing launch device with a trigger mechanism. Then it's lift off for your launch pilot - an egg! The team to safely project their protein-based friend the furthest will be champions!

Photo Mission

Watch out David Bailey. Teams are given 10 shots on a Polaroid camera but are asked to capture 40 different objects on film. Nothing is impossible however, and with the application of logic, planning and artistic licence, teams are able to complete the challenge.

Polaroid/Digital Photo Story

The opportunity to produce a Polaroid or digital image plot. Requiring imagination, creativity and collaboration, teams will tell their story with snapshots. With added speech bubbles for quirky dialogue, the kitsch magazine look is complete.



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Pyramid

Marvel of the ancient world; a true mystery we have yet to grasp. So let's just pretend it isn't made of wood, ok? Now it is time for the unknown to be revealed. Teams take seats around the pyramid, and each member possesses a clue to its construction date. With each clue forbidden to be seen by others, leadership, communication and rational thought should be utilised to solve the puzzle of the pyramid.

Quick Draw

No, it isn't a wild-west style duel to the death. That would be counter-productive in terms of team-building. Teams try to guess what objects one member is drawing. Trouble is – the artist doesn't know themselves! Another team member instructs their penned-pal without mentioning the answer. A test of co-ordination, listening and communication.

Radioactive

Presented with three containers of different volumes, teams are instructed to separate a quantity of 'radioactive' fluid into equal parts. It won't be easy; the slightest spill could jeopardise the measurements, as well as contaminate the area! With careful planning, logical thinking and calm nerves needed, teams will be tested in this toxic trial.

Rocket launch

Houston, we have a problem; we've run out of sellotape. Using the assorted materials and equipment supplied, teams are challenged to assemble a rocket launcher and a missile. As if that wasn't worrying enough, they then fire their rocket at a target. With eggs acting as their budding astronauts, teams with yolk closest to the target win! Omelettes for tea, then.

Safe Crack

Want the treasure? Then it's up to your team to determine the code and open the safe. Several puzzles and riddles stand in your way – by solving them teams can gain the means to work out the combination. But with a time limit imposed it is imperative for teams to plan, deal with stress, efficiently problem solve and intelligently delegate.

Scrabble

An absolute classic in the family games world. But to avoid the inevitable arguments – this time it's a team effort! By preparing and communicating effectively, teams attempt to make as many words as possible. With points linked to the clock, speedy spelling pays off.



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Scruples

Time to truly find out about your colleagues. Infinitely revealing, this game introduces team members to a series of ethical quandaries and poses the question 'what would you do?' A great activity for opening up conversational channels and breaking down barriers.

Ski Race

Teams of four are placed on a pair of giant skis. Whilst facing in opposite directions on the skis, delegates manoeuvre around an obstacle course.

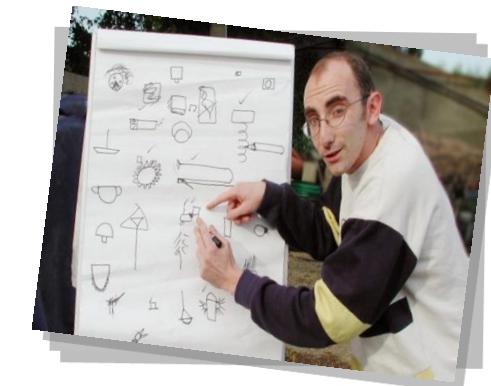
Bewilderment and frustration ensues, but by employing co-ordination, team communication and an element of trust, teams can navigate themselves to a record time.

Spider's Web

Assure arachnophobics if necessary, there won't be any live spiders in this activity. There will be a web however, and it is the team's job to safely get all members through. Web-dodgers should communicate and work together, as it is forbidden to touch any part of the web or its frame. No gap in the web can be used twice, so tactical planning is also vital for success; you don't want to get caught up in it!

Tower

Lego - the lifeblood of the construction industry. Now it's time to harness the full power of the tiny building blocks. Well, almost; teams are given three graphs denoting optimum relationships between tower height, bricks used and time. Then, against the clock teams attempt to follow the graph guidelines and create the tallest free standing tower possible. The closer they are to graph guidelines, the more points are awarded.



Speak to us to design an event that suits your objectives, audience and requirements...