



# The Innovation Process

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## The Basics

So, you've got a great idea and you're not quite sure where to start, right? Well you have come to the right place my friends!!! Yay!!! The U.S. Patent Office says that 97% of patents never make any money for the inventors.

T.I.P. (The Innovation Process)



## The Concept

The United States of America is a great country, as it welcomes new innovation, entrepreneurship, and invention. That being said, it's important to note that the U.S. is a *First to Invent* country. This means that innovation and ideas are granted to the first creator that proves they came up with the idea first, not the first person to patent or market that idea.

## The Journal

Typically, the first thing inventor's do is go rush out and get a patent. This can be a very expensive route and should not be considered until later in the innovation process. Actually, the first thing an innovator should do is immediately write down their ideas. The best way to document ideas is by using a notebook. A notebook is a great way for an innovator to document all of their ideas, from the date of conception until completion. For legal purposes (discussed further in detail later), the best notebook is an engineering or scientific notebook, 8.5"x11" or smaller, bounded, with scientific grid lines. When documenting your ideas, make sure to include all relevant information, such as: Title of the idea, date of conception, alternative names, brief description, why it works, why it's important, how the idea was conceived, and drawings.

## USPTO History

In 1793, George Washington created the U.S. Patent Office, and later on, Benjamin Franklin became the first Commissioner of the Patent Office. Over 200,000 patent applications are filed annually and over 125,000 patents are granted at the U.S. Patent Office. June 8, 1995, the PPA was introduced.

The strategic guide is, your initial evaluation, prototyping, and the development of your innovation from an invention into an actual product.