



Group Decision Tip

E-mailed every two weeks to help groups make good decisions

Get a second

In principle, a virtue of most decision making systems such as Robert's Rules of Order is that for an idea to be considered by the group, at least two members need to think it worthy of the full group's time. A motion needs a second in order to be considered. Requiring that I get one other person bought into my idea before taking up full group time assures that the group cannot be dominated by a single person or an untested idea. Further, requiring at least one collaborator increases chances for creativity.

Practical Tip: Before you take your idea to the whole group take it to at least one other person first. Be open to feedback and adaptation. Take your idea to someone who could lend credibility and help you take it to others. If initially rejected, try someone else. When at least one other respected group member believes in your idea then perhaps it is time to take it to the full group. If you cannot get at least one other person to believe in your idea, change it.

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