



TEAM CRAFT

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Team Building since 1989*

Team Craft

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Bridge Builders Team Tournament Program Overview

Bridge Builders is a fun, lightly competitive, and suspenseful event that draws on effective planning, communication, and a variety of other team skills to create the best bridge.

Teams of from 8 to 15 participants are challenged to build a 3 foot long bridge using paper, foil, sticks and other select materials provided by Team Craft.

After making a plan, each team splits in two sub-teams to build their halves in different locations. Communication between sub-teams is limited to simulated phone calls, e-mails, faxes, and an express shipment of raw materials.

When construction time is over, the two halves are assembled. After short presentations touting their bridge's design attributes, each bridge is tested to determine its load bearing ability. Team members determine the bridge's load challenge and are vying to build the strongest bridge compared to other teams.

Teams must also incorporate multiple elements of quality into their bridge building. Teams aim for success across five other dimensions as well: build-to-plan, length, aesthetics, efficiency, and symmetry. Winning teams receive medals for effective teamwork.

A debrief at the end of the program ties the building experience to the challenge of coordinating teamwork across locations in the work arena.

Bridge Builders—Schedule

Example Time Schedule: approximately 3.5–4 hours

30 minutes—Ice Breaker—teams formed—challenge described

30 minutes—Total team planning time

10 minutes—sub-teams go to construction locations

60–90 minutes—construction time

15 minutes—break—teams assemble finished bridge parts

30 minutes—Team Presentations and weight testing

15 minutes—awards for best designs across all dimensions

20 minutes—debrief—key learnings and applications to work

