

Investigating Bags

Learning Outcome:

Students will understand that designer need to consider form and function when designing and producing a product.

Introduction:

There are thousands of different bags and carriers for us to buy. They have all been carefully designed for the intended purpose of the bag. Some factors that designers need to consider when designing a bag or carrier are:

- its purpose or function and what it needs to hold;
- the overall size and shape, if it needs compartments, pockets, etc.;
- the most suitable materials it should be made from;
- how it will be carried. How it should be fastened (closed);
- how to make it look good (aesthetics);
- whether it needs to be plain or decorated in some way; and
- the colour, or combination of colours used.

Learning Activities: What makes a good bag?

Part A – Classroom investigation of bags

1. You will examine three of the bags on display around the room (10 minutes per bag). You can choose which bags to analyse.
2. Make a coloured drawing of each bag.
3. Carefully look at each bag in front of you, put yourself in the designer's shoes and explain how well he/she has considered the factors on the list.

Part B – Online investigation of bags

1. Use the internet to research different types of homemade laptop bags.
2. Select at least three different bags. Save a photo of each bag.
3. Using Word, Pages, PowerPoint, Keynote (etc), paste a copy of each photo.
4. For each photo:
 - a. Outline what you like about each bag
 - b. Outline how each bag may influence your own bag design

Part C – Synthesize your findings

1. Complete the final page – synthesizing your findings and planning any final investigation you may need to complete before you can start to design your own bag.

Bag No: 1 Description of bag: _____



Coloured drawing of the bag

Describe how the designer has considered the purpose of the bag when deciding:

a) Its size, shape and other design features

b) How it is to be carried

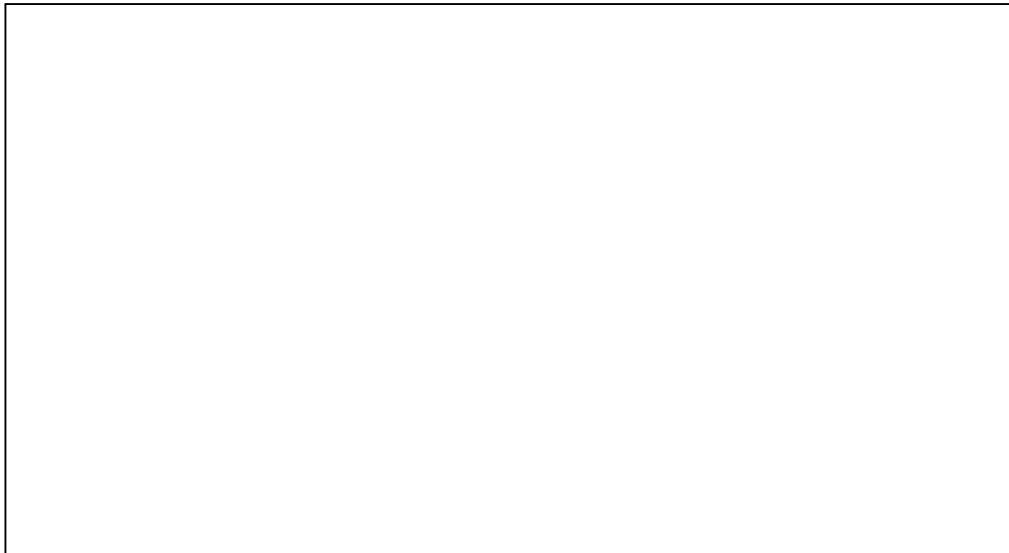
c) How it should be fastened (kept closed)

d) The aesthetic appeal of the bag (making it appealing to the eye)

e) The suitability of the materials used to make the bag

f) In your opinion, is it designed well? Why/why not?

Bag No: 2 Description of bag: _____



Coloured drawing of the bag

Describe how the designer has considered the purpose of the bag when deciding:

a) Its size, shape and other design features

b) How it is to be carried

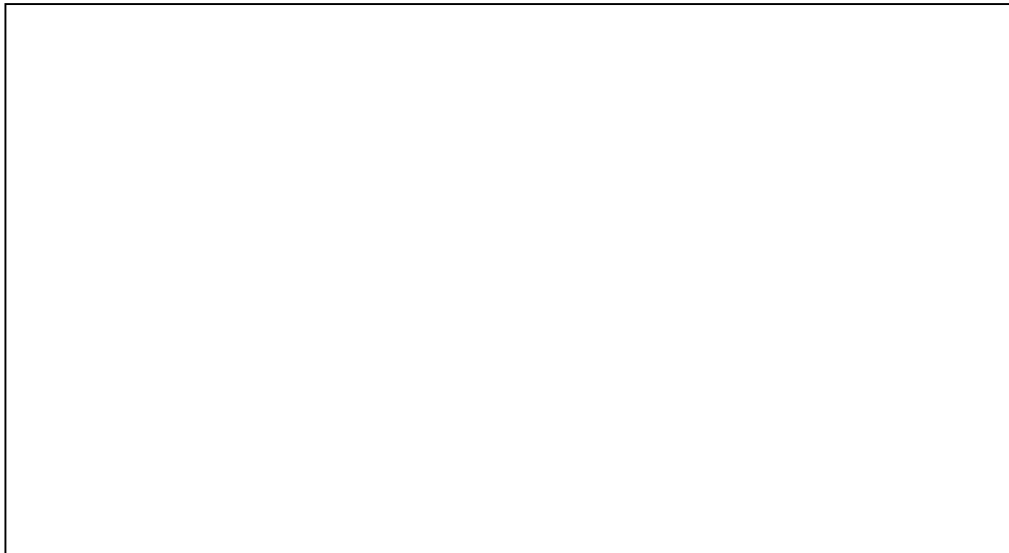
c) How it should be fastened (kept closed)

d) The aesthetic appeal of the bag (making it appealing to the eye)

e) The suitability of the materials used to make the bag

f) In your opinion, is it designed well? Why/why not?

Bag No: 3 Description of bag: _____



Coloured drawing of the bag

Describe how the designer has considered the purpose of the bag when deciding:

a) Its size, shape and other design features

b) How it is to be carried

c) How it should be fastened (kept closed)

d) The aesthetic appeal of the bag (making it appealing to the eye)

e) The suitability of the materials used to make the bag

f) In your opinion, is it designed well? Why/why not?

Analysis of your findings

What did you find out about these different bags?

Which bags did you like the most? Why?

Which bags did you like the least? Why?

Which aspects of these bags do you think you could incorporate into your own bag designs?

What further investigation do you need to do to before you can design your own bag?

Write a five step plan on how you will complete this investigation.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.
