

INVENTOR 101: WORKSHOP 1.1 IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT TO INVENT IN THIS WORLD?

While one might be tempted, after looking around at how many inventions we already have around, to think that there can't be anything left to invent. However, more than 30 years ago the author of this handbook looked around and unwisely decided that so much stuff had already been invented that there couldn't possibly be anything left to invent. It's a big mistake to think everything has been invented.

Since that time, in the mid-1980s, so many things that never existed back then were invented like:

- The Internet
- Self-driving cars
- Service robots
- Online/electronic banking
- Worker-less factories where robots make the cars
- Notebook-sized computers
- Tablet computers
- Smartphones
- 3D printers
- and so much more...

The number of inventions has exploded, and the cost of inventing has come down so much that even ordinary middle class folk can equip themselves with prototyping machinery like 3D printers and start making their own inventions at home.



Not only have hundreds upon hundreds-of-thousands of entirely new things been dreamt up, but a lot of things that already existed have been improved upon in ways that never could have been expected.

Some interesting inventions, once cutting edge tech, vanished like steam engines and typewriters.



Henry Ford failed and went broke five times before he succeeded

No matter how daunting it may seem, if it is your desire to become an inventor then you are in the right place because most of the people who invented stuff also had something in common – a basic curiosity about the world around them and a hunger for knowledge and skills.

If you want to be an inventor, do not give up on your dream - you are in the right place and getting the right training to be able to give the world its next great invention. However, you are also going to have to work hard and make some sacrifices along the way.

Without the skills you will gain from this training, even if you were to have a unique idea, the chances of that idea becoming something everyone can't live without will be very small indeed.

Thomas Edison's teachers said he was "too stupid to learn anything." He was fired from his first two jobs for being "non-productive." As an inventor, Edison made 1,000 unsuccessful attempts at inventing the light bulb. When a reporter asked, "How did it feel to fail 1,000 times?" Edison replied, "I didn't fail 1,000 times. The light bulb was an invention with 1,000 steps."

One of the most important skills, for inventors, is the ability to translate their ideas into reality. This normally starts with a simple pencil sketch, which eventually becomes a technical CAD drawing and then a model. The model can be studied by industrial engineers before the design is manufactured in series production.

