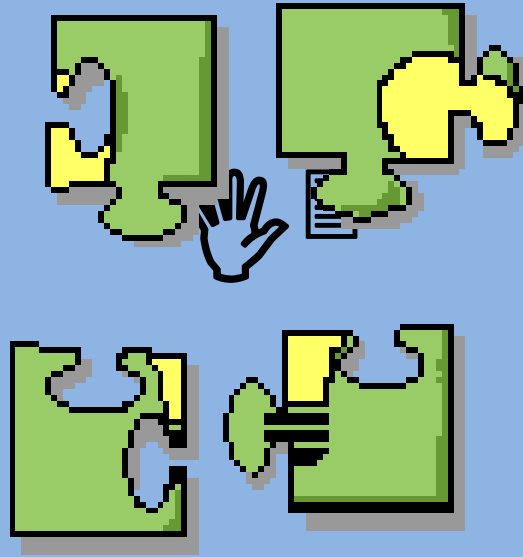


i^3

What can it be?

Copyright 2010 Illinois Innovators and Inventors



...part of the solution for inventors



$i^3 =$

Illinois

Innovators

and

Inventors

What Is i^3 ?



Illinois Innovators & Inventors is an independent, not-for-profit organization developed for inventors in **Southern Illinois** and the **Greater St. Louis Area**.

Purpose of i^3

...to **support** and **encourage** the of useful interchange information such as:

- how to **protect one's ideas**
- how to **bring those ideas to market**



i³ welcomes and encourages all **inventors and **small business owners** interested in:**

- **patents and patent searching**
- **trademarks and trademark searching**
- **copyrights**
- **trade secrets**
- **licensing**
- **venture capital**



The Beginning of i³

In 1986, a group of businessmen from Edwardsville, IL, established i³ to **encourage** and **support** inventors in the area.





Are you an inventor?

**Do you have a new idea
that needs development?**





Things to Keep in Mind

Keep in Mind...



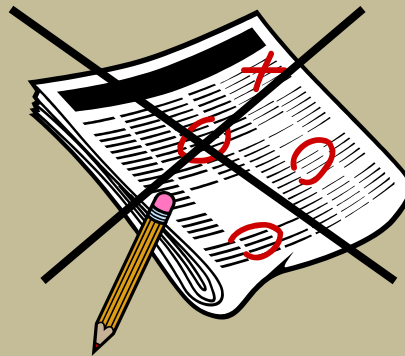
Ideas are plentiful.

However, those ideas which can be
patented, produced, marketed and *sold*
at a profit are not.

Keep in Mind...

DON'T

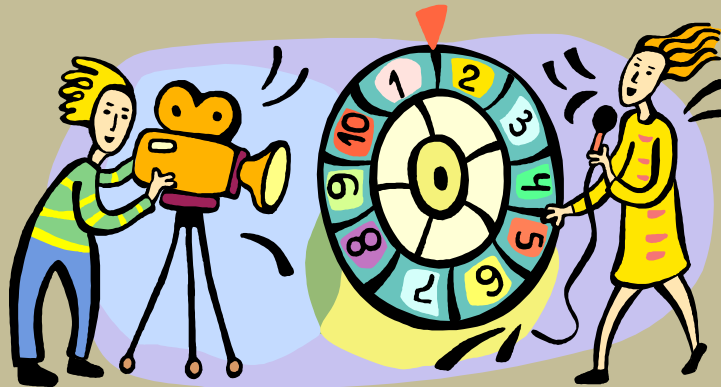
Don't respond to late-night TV commercials and ads in do-it-yourself magazines.



Keep in Mind...

DON'T

Don't seek the help of invention development companies, particularly those asking for money to be paid **BEFORE assistance is given.**



Keep in Mind...

DO

Do get advice from impartial parties.

Organizations do exist that can evaluate a product for a reasonable fee.



Keep in Mind...

DO

Do visit or join inventors clubs, such as i³.

These groups can offer **impartial**, if not professional, advice.



Keep in Mind...

DO

Do seek professional legal advice from a **patent attorney** or **patent agent** when applying for a patent (claims).



Keep in Mind...

DO

Do a *preliminary* patent search yourself (no cost)
at a **Patent Depository Library(PDL)**:

- **Illinois State Library (Springfield) (217) 782-5737**
- **St. Louis Public Library (Downtown) (314) 539-0390**

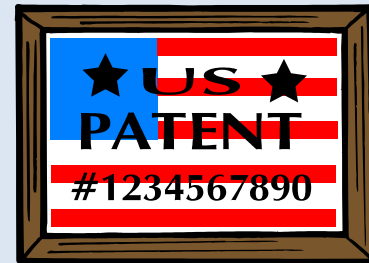
***It is best to call for an appointment before visiting either PDL.**

Keep in Mind...

DO

Do research and consider the various types of patents for your idea:

- Provisional
- Utility
- Design



Keep in Mind...

In some cases, the best protection may be something other than a patent.



Copyright?

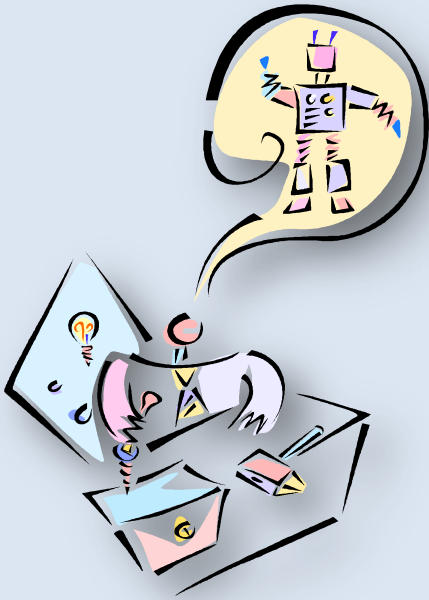
Trademark?



Trade Secret?

Keep in Mind...

Finally, let's dispel a myth!



A prototype is *not required* for a patent application, although a working model might be helpful to you.



i^3 Meetings

i³ Meetings

DATE: **2nd Wednesday** of every month
(except December)

TIME: **7:00 – 9:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Edwardsville Public Library**
112 South Kansas Street
Edwardsville, IL



Prior to every meeting...

A **dated, non-disclosure agreement (NDA)** is signed by **ALL** in attendance and kept on file. This signed **NDA** protects all in attendance who wish to discuss their inventions or ideas.



i³ Meeting Format



- Meetings conducted by a member-leader
- Program speaker or other presentation relevant to inventors
- Business portion
- Inventor progress /networking portion



i^3 Membership

Membership

Become a Member!

**i³ membership dues are
only \$25.00/yr.**

Membership

i³ Membership Includes:

- **Email notices** of meetings, special events, and inventor resources/ links.
- **Invitation** to annual Christmas Party.
- **Free attendance and networking** at all **i³** meetings.



Membership

Just one meeting will make your investment worthwhile!



Inventor Information & Resources

i³ organization's website:

<http://ilinventor.tripod.com/>



Inventor Information & Resources



U. S. Patent and Trademark Office

<http://www.uspto.gov>

U. S. Copyright Office (Library of Congress)

<http://www.copyright.gov/>



Contact Us

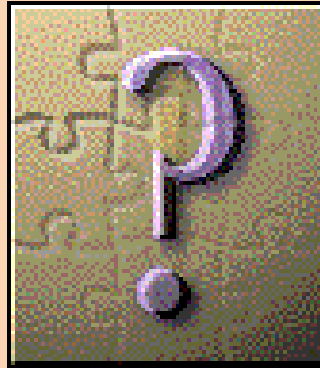
Illinois Innovators and Inventors

P. O. Box 623

Edwardsville, IL 62025

Email: inventorclub@yahoo.com





Questions?





We hope to see you at our next

i^3 meeting!

July 14, 2010





Thank you

Presentation by Brennan Innovators, LLC

www.BrennanInnovators.com