



THE DESIGN PROCESS IN 3 STEPS

Please refer to this as a guideline to the three steps generally exercised in the design process.

Step 1: Generally a client comes to me with preliminary sketches and specifications. Based on what the client has on hand will determine the best way to start a project. The project may start from scratch (from first conception) using arbitrary examples or where a set of sketches from the person who created the original concept may have left off. This step provides my client and I the opportunity to exercise the function, aesthetic and ergonomic quality of the item through the use of pen and marker sketches or renderings as a form of media. This practice is used solely to develop, fine tune or make exacting all of the elements of the item. In order to fine-tune or develop the item revisions or versions of the item are required. There may be 2 to 4 versions or there may be 20 in all and this will depend on the complexity and intricacy of the item and how fast it takes to make the item as close to what the client envisions in their mind. This function will be offered with verbal, visual, and email communications between both parties.

Step 2: After mutual agreement of the features from the most recent version determined in step 1, step 2 will involve placing to scale all of the design elements using a drawing software program such as AutoDesk CAD. AutoCAD is a computer aided drafting program that will accurately draw the item. The layout of the drawing will be shown as a drafting and will display a top, side, and front view of the item. Sections or slices through the object will also be displayed along with the proper dimensioning, call outs, notes, and any other pertinent information required which describes the object. A title block and border will be provided with a proprietary message.

Step 3: This final step provides the client with the option of whether they want a 3-dimensional computer generated model. 3D models are very useful to illustrate to the client what the sketches and CAD drawing are going to look like as a finished, manufactured, and marketable product or what the “end user” will see when purchasing the item at retail. This step provides 3D illustrations that can be used for presentation purposes to a potential company who may be interested in buying the patent rights or who is willing to manufacture the item and compensate the client with a royalty fee. The client also can use the C.G. model for advertising, for finding private investors, or for rapid prototyping and manufacturing purposes. Many different views of the model can be saved individually and used to help engineers and marketers visualize the shape and use of the item. The manufacturer will be able to use the model we create to make the part without having to use their engineering and drafting services to mill, injection mold, or machine the item.