

ALL HANDS ON DECK BRIEF FOR FACILITATORS

Key Themes	Teamwork, Communication, Time management, Planning, Delegation
Participants	Unlimited – suggest teams with a minimum of 4
Timings	Suggested 30 minutes minimum for this activity + debrief time
Materials Required per team	One deck of cards per team (jokers removed)

Overview

This activity is aimed at challenging team members to plan a strategy and work together to achieve a task in the most effective way. Communication, collaboration and delegation are just some of the key skills needed to succeed.

Running the activity

- Split the participants into equal groups and advise them that the purpose of this activity is to work as effectively as possible in their teams to complete the task in the shortest possible time.
- Cards need to be laid out in accordance with the grid (see Team Brief on next page)
- All cards must be in neat and tidy rows with no cards touching.
- You have 10 minutes to prepare your strategy and undertake any practice runs.
- You will be then asked to submit an estimated time in which you will agree to complete the task.

There are 3 rounds to the activity – with the discussion time reduced to 5 minutes for rounds 2 and 3. The idea is that the team improves their time throughout the successive rounds of the game. The question is will they set too short a timescale and not achieve the task or be more realistic and see completing the task as the most important goal?





Suggested Review Questions

- How effective was your initial plan?
- How effectively did you follow your plan?
- How did you decide what to change?
- Were the time estimates you set achieved?
- What was more important to you – the timescale or achieve the task?
- What is the risk of unrealistic timescales?
- How effective was the delegation of elements of the task?
- What can you take from this back to the workplace?

ALL HANDS ON DECK TEAM BRIEF

Your Task

- You need to lay the deck of cards out in the order below in the fastest time possible.
- You will have 10 minutes to prepare your strategy.
- All cards must be in neat and tidy rows with no cards touching.
- There will be 3 rounds in total.
- Before each round you need to submit your estimate of the time it will take you to achieve the task.

	A	5	J	9	2	Q	10	7	3	8	K	4	6
	A	5	J	9	2	Q	10	7	3	8	K	4	6
	A	5	J	9	2	Q	10	7	3	8	K	4	6
	A	5	J	9	2	Q	10	7	3	8	K	4	6