



Creative Chain Reactions

CAREER CONNECTION

If you're interested in designing machines and tools that solve problems, then a career in mechanical engineering may be for you! Mechanical engineers are responsible for everything from identifying problems and creating designs to developing and testing prototypes, analyzing test results, and overseeing the manufacturing process.

HOW CAN AUTOMATION MAKE A MONOTONOUS TASK MORE FUN?

1. Choose an easy, boring task that you wish could be done by itself, such as feeding your pet, shutting a door, turning a light off or on, watering a plant, squeezing toothpaste, etc.
2. Use household materials to create a series of chain reactions that result in your task being accomplished! You will trigger the very first chain reaction by completing one simple step, such as rolling a marble, pushing an object, etc. This should then prompt the other chain reactions to occur in order until your task is completed!
3. Run through the reactions several times, making tweaks and changes until everything runs as smoothly as possible.

Did you know? These types of chain reactions are also called Rube Goldberg machines—named after Rube Goldberg, a famous inventor and cartoonist who drew cartoons of elaborate devices designed to accomplish simple tasks in a very complicated way