

We use **ACCESS FM** to help us write a **specification** - a list of requirements for a design - and to help us **analyse and describe** an already existing product.

ACCESS FM - Helpsheet

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

A is for **Aesthetics**



Aesthetics means **what does the product look like?**

What is the: Colour? Shape? Texture? Pattern? Appearance? Feel? Weight? Style?

C is for **Cost**



Cost means **how much does the product cost to buy?**

How much does it: Cost to buy? Cost to make?
How much do the different materials cost? Is it good value?

C is for **Customer**



Customer means **who will buy or use your product?**

Who will buy your product? Who will use your product? Are they the products target market group? How will it improve their life? What is their Age? Gender? What are their Likes? Dislikes? Needs? Preferences?

E is for **Environment**



Environment means **will the product affect the environment?**

Is the product: Recyclable? Reuseable? Repairable? Sustainable?
Environmentally friendly? Bad for the environment?

6R's of Design: Recycle / Reuse / Repair / Rethink / Reduce / Refuse

S is for **Size**



Size means **how big or small is the product?**

What is the size of the product in millimeters (mm)? Is this the same size as similar products? Is it comfortable to use? Does it fit?
Would it be improved if it was bigger or smaller?

S is for **Safety**



Safety means **how safe is the product when it is used?**

Will it be safe for the customer to use? Could they hurt themselves?
What's the correct and safest way to use the product? What are the risks?

F is for **Function**



Function means **how does the product work?**

What is the products job and role? What is it needed for? How well does it work? Is it fit for purpose? How could it be improved? Why is it used this way?

M is for **Material**



Material means **what is the product made out of?**

What materials is the product made from? Why were these materials used? Would a different material be better? How was the product made? What manufacturing techniques were used?