

Test, improve and re-test

engineering

What you need: group bird-feeder prototype from earlier in this project · watering can or large jug with water (pour station) · shallow plastic tray · metre stick · bird seed · tablespoon · paper towels · spare improvement kit (bottle tops, string, lollipop or garden sticks, tape, card offcuts) · scissors

Words to use

Criterion · Fair test · Improvement

The three checks every feeder gets

One level spoon of seed (holds seed) – a ten-second shower from the same height (seed stays dry) – two fingers on the perch for a slow count of three (stable perch). Score each 0, 1 or 2.

Our scores

Check	First test (0-2)	After our one change (0-2)
Holds seed		
Seed stays dry		
Stable perch		

Total out of 6 – first test, then after our change

Our lowest first-test score was... so the one change we made was...

Did the total rise, stay the same or fall? What does that tell you about the change?