

PROJECT: Build a Bridge

Drive from one end of a country to another and you'll see all kinds of bridges. Whether a beam, arch, truss, cantilever or suspension bridge, all bridges have three things in common: a deck, supports and foundations. Make a simple bridge yourself.

You'll need:

- 5 sheets of newspaper
- 25 paper clips
- 2 tables or 2 chairs
- 30 cm (12 in.) masking tape
- an egg timer or watch
- toy cars

You have ten minutes to meet this challenge. (Set egg timer.)

1. Position the tables or chairs a meter (a yard) apart.
2. From the materials provided and in ten minutes, design a bridge that spans the gap between the tables or chairs.
3. When the time is up, start loading your bridge with cars. See how many cars your bridge can hold before it collapses. (You can make it really interesting by adding "wind," in the form of a fan.)



beam bridge



arch bridge



truss bridge



cantilever bridge