Participatory design involves users throughout the design process, with the focus on how people interact with technology in real-world settings. Participatory design workshops actively engage users and the design team together, in shared activities designed to inspire and explore ideas for new interactive systems.

**THE DESIGN OF INTERACTIVE THINGS**

**THE DO IT DESIGN WORKSHOP**

**INSPIRE, EXTEND & EVALUATE A SYSTEM WITH A PARTICIPATORY DESIGN WORKSHOP**

**INVOLVE USERS THROUGHOUT!**

Participatory design emphasizes iteration, rapid redesign, and exploration of breakdowns and surprises, rather than imagining a stereotypical ‘perfect’ interaction. The approach is fundamentally generative, not evaluative – how to create new designs that not only improve the user experience, but also empower users to accomplish more.

**USEFUL TECHNIQUES**

- Sketching Quickly illustrate ideas about how people interact with current or new technology.
- Video Recording Record video efficiently and effectively using phones, tablets or video cameras.
- Rapid prototyping Simulate interactive systems with cutouts, paper, transparencies, point & lines, foam, cardboard and other materials.
- Capture guides Guide and label the recording of a design activity with a series of tasks, cards, or paper or on a mobile device.