



Research Methods in Science in Engineering

## Choosing a Research Topic

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### Choosing Research Topic

1. If you can at all avoid it, do not pick a research topic right away.
2. Read. Pick a different topic every few days and read all about it.
3. Observe what topics interest you the most and keep reading.
4. Read textbooks, websites, journal articles, theses and dissertations.
5. Keep reading in the topics that hold your interest the most.
6. At some point, you will find it difficult to find new information.
7. You will be left with curiosities unanswered questions. Let these be the seeds of your research topic.

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## The Ideal Research Topic

- The subject intensely interests you.
- Lots of opportunity to generate new knowledge.
- Is an emerging area with excellent potential for your future career.
- Is a significant topic with lots of interest from others.
- Your university has all the resources you need to do research in that area.
- Your university or advisor has a strong reputation in your topic area.

## Be Cautious Seeing These as Benefits:

- Mature subject area.
- Lots of learning materials.
- Lots of people at your university working on that same topic.
- Low risk of failure.