

# Identifying Waste & Kaizen

Industrial Engineers spend the most time identifying waste and mapping out the process. This is so important because without it, then improvements to the process would not be able to be made or sustained. It is the foundation of continuous improvement. Naturally lean provides IE's with many tools that we can use in order to make improvements such as Kaizen, eliminating sources of waste. By seeing these tools put to use we are better able to understand their importance and can apply them to our lives.

## Activity:

Please watch the following videos:

- **Identifying Waste:**
  - [Lean coffee video. Identify waste exercise.](#)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3sUpnBZxoo>
- **The Different Types of Wastes:**
  - [Funny Introduction To The 8 Wastes Of Lean Manufacturing](#)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2nBKRKKWXk>
- **Kaizen:**
  - [Kaizen The Secret behind Japanese Productivity](#)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcBXtwGexNc>

## Identifying Waste in Your Life

There is waste everywhere you look. It does not have to be found in a manufacturing setting. Based on the video, see if you can think of a process or activity in your life that has a lot of waste in it and can be improved. Identify a wasteful activity either in your life personally, or an everyday activity.

1. List the different kinds of wastes in that process.
2. Create a list of Improvements that can be made (through Kaizen Bursts).
3. If possible, execute those bursts and get rid of unnecessary waste.