

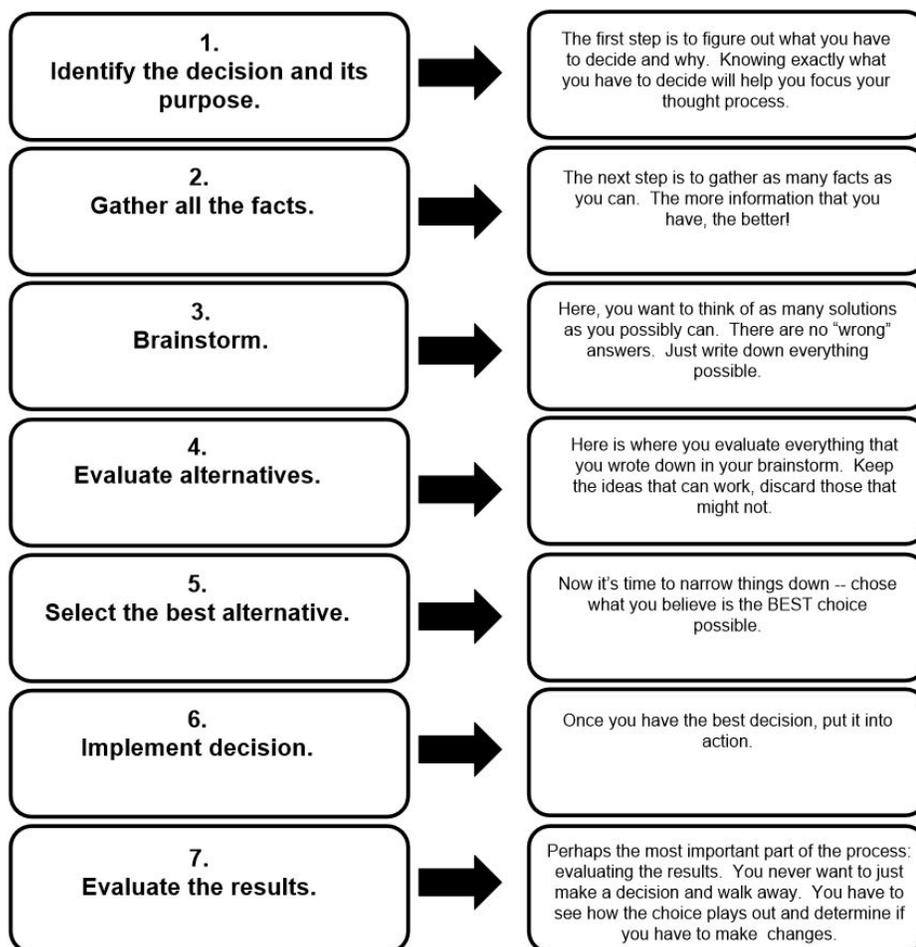
## The Decision-Making Process

Some decisions are easy, such as deciding whether or not to take an umbrella when there is a 90% chance of rain. Others are a little less easy, such as deciding what movie to see when out with a group of friends.

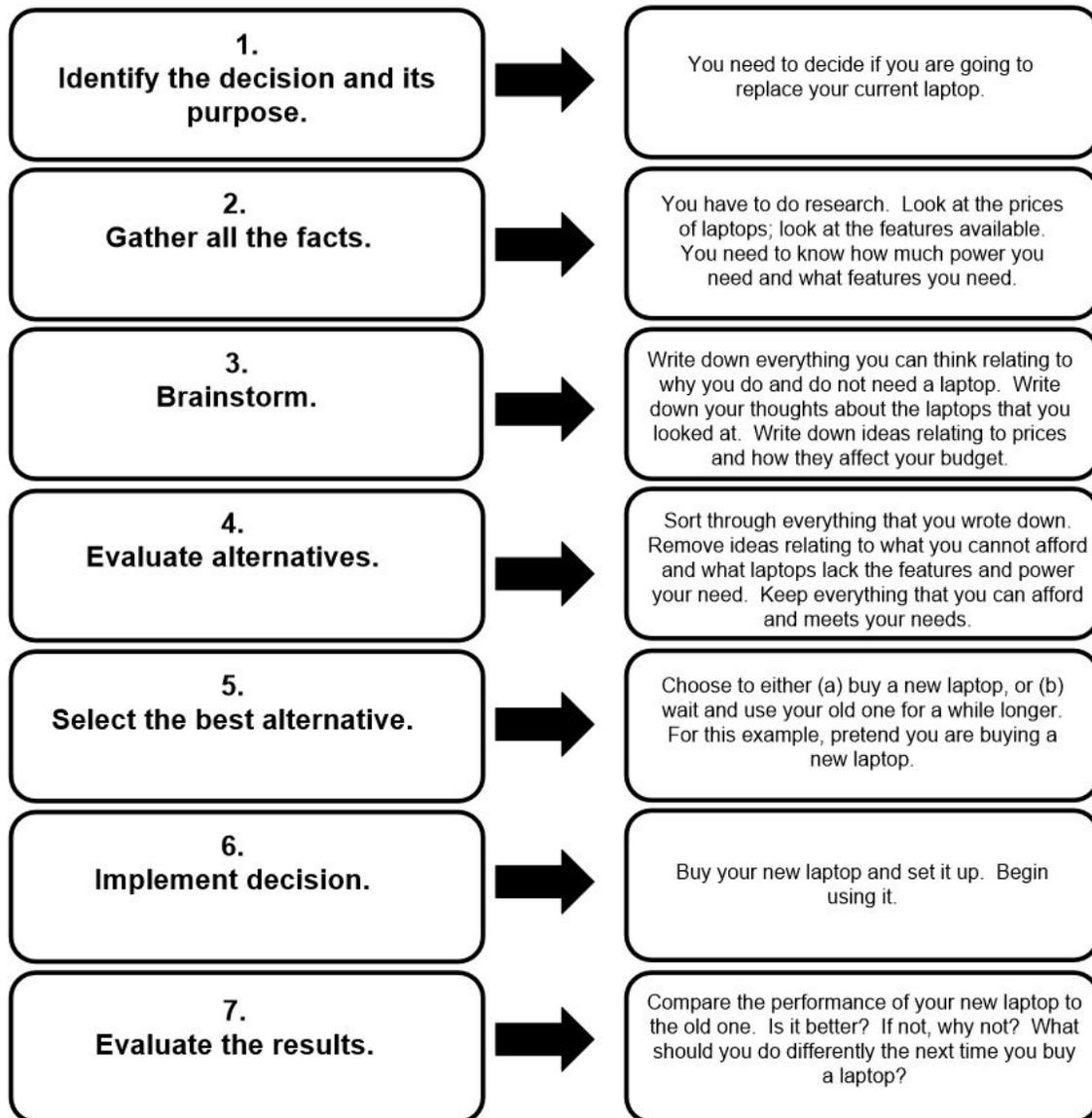
The more complex the problem, the more important it is to make sure that you look at it from as many angles as possible.

Below is one version of a decision-making model that can be used to make a choice. What makes it useful is not just the fact that it gives you a step-by-step approach to follow, but it also helps you look at the situation from other points of view by asking you to first brainstorm and then evaluate the ideas that you came up with.

This process can be used individually or by a group. Take a moment to look at the chart below, studying the steps (on the left) and the explanation of each one (on the right).



Below is an example of decision making in action. Here, you are faced with trying to decide if you are going to buy a new laptop or continue using your current one.



As you can see, steps 3 and 4 are the most important. If you do not take the time to think through the process, you risk making a bad decision!