

I can use the CPM in completing my honey-do list. It would be great to explain how I've spent my time the next occasion my wife asks why there are so many items remaining on the list. Many of the tasks have predecessors that are not written. My favorite is always buying a new tool to complete the task. For example, I may need to drive to an auto parts store to purchase a puncture repair kit for her slow leaking car tire.

The CPM will come in handy in identifying those assumed tasks that require time management. My most recent list includes the following tasks: 1. Fix loose tile in kitchen 2. Why does pool need water often? 3. Wash the dogs 4. Cut the grass 5. Replace blown bulbs in house 6. Remove window screens 7. Fix side door handle 8. Fix dresser drawer 9. Trim hedges

As you can see, there are assumed tasks requiring more time to complete than the actual requested task. The loose tile in the kitchen will require research for the proper repair technique and tools required before I can buy them from a hardware store. I'll need to fill the pool and use small drops of dye to locate a possible leak. Then I'll need to locate a store with the tools needed to repair vinyl lining. The lawn mower needs gas and my dogs can go for a swim after I fix the pool.

In using the CPM, I can show my wife the actual critical path to her honey-do list and explain the slack time. However, thinking like a man, I will not show my wife the slack time. Instead I'll focus on the assumed tasks and time requirements not listed. In the end, I'll be able to tell my wife I've identified the critical path to accomplishing her tasks and I'm taking full advantage of the CPM output times.