

Patent Nonobviousness

Eric E. Johnson ericejohnson.com



Nonobviousness how-to

SCOTUS in Graham v. John Deere says:

- Determine the scope and content of the prior art
- Note the differences between the prior art and the claimed invention
- Determine the level of ordinary skill in the art
- Consider secondary factors as well (the "Graham factors"

Graham factors

- Commercial success
- Long-felt but unsolved need
- Failure of others
- Copying of inventor
- Unexpected results
- Skepticism of experts
- Acquiescence
- Adoption by industry