When you wish to produce a result by means of an instrument, do not allow yourself to complicate it by introducing many subsidiary parts but follow the briefest way possible, and do not act as those do who when they do not know how to express a thing in its own proper vocabulary proceed by a method of circumlocution and with great prolixity and confusion.

Leonardo da Vinci, Codex Atlanticus, f. 549 v [206 v-a], c. 1497