



Orbiter History / Product Development / Artwork

The Orbiter - Brainteaser / Copplestone's Putting Rail – Golf Aid

What do you do with an idea? Share it!

My name is David Copplestone and I have an idea that I would love to share with you.



It's called the Orbiter and it is a sculpture, a brainteaser, and an example of functional art.

### **Orbiter Ball Toss Brainteaser**

It has been a lifelong goal of mine to create to entertain and with the creation of the Orbiter Ball Toss and Ring Toss games I feel my goal is accomplished. The games that I created have provided the hoped for entertainment to crowds of thousands at **Faneuil Hall** and **Copley Square** in Boston.

Orbiter Ball Toss Brainteaser

**Now my hope is to see that as many people as possible enjoy these games.**

This is happening as the Orbiter is publicly presented and word spreads. Orbiters have been selling on Amazon over the years and have entertained in homes, offices, schools, parks, parties, restaurants, market places, amusement parks, colleges, corporations, all the places where crowds gather with time on their hands, looking for challenging entertainment and **with your help I'd like to expand Orbiter sales using Online Marketing, catalogs, stores, and major trade shows.**

"To help get the word out, you can share [the link to this page](#) to your Facebook Timeline!"

"To show your support you can go to the [Orbiter order page on Amazon!](#)"

[copplestonegames.com](http://copplestonegames.com)

I've been working on this posts and ring toss concept for years and now I feel the creative part of the project is complete, the Orbiter is finished. It's time to focus on the entertainment goal and **build up the marketing and sales phase of the project**. I've loved every minute of this creative process and I look forward to sharing this idea with those who would like to help me see that as many people as possible get a chance to experience Orbiter magic.



**The Orbiter is a pendulum device/brainteaser to showcase a player's eye to hand coordination skills.**

**I appreciate your support and will continue to do all I can to see that the Orbiter rocks and orbits the world.**

This entertaining toy is a pendulum device/brainteaser to showcase a player's eye to hand coordination skills. The object is to set the ring in motion, from one taller uniquely angled post in order to ring the second shorter conversely angled post.

Players are challenged to learn six orbiter swings, each one different with increasingly difficult swing paths. Once you understand how and why the ring moves through space you will be able to perform the swings with confidence.

#### Orbiter History / Development

When David Copplestone the creator of the Orbiter was 17, he recalls walking on a beach in Georgia during the April vacation, wondering, "What will I do with my life?" He says that he felt that he was a creative person at heart so he thought that he should follow that path and create - a life goal of sorts.





David went to The Art Institute of Boston and when he finished he divided his time between fine art, functional art and house painting. Starbucks 24" x 36" Oil



**Following a dream to the Caribbean**  
Ring Toss History

Copplestone: tabletop posts and ring toss games  
Orbiter History - Following a Dream  
Ring-toss Evolution and innovation by: David Copplestone



**In 1980 Five years after completing his studies at the Art Institute of Boston, David Copplestone was taking a sailing trip in the islands** when he saw something that he immediately thought would fulfill that teenage dream he had of creating something interesting and hopefully cool and clever. He was watching people **playing a version of the Ring the Bulls Nose game at Admirals Inn in Antigua**. They had a brass ring hanging from the ceiling, and they were swinging it over onto a large hook anchored on a wall beam about eight feet away. The smiles on everyone's faces and the wear on that hook indicated this pastime's popularity. As he played, it occurred to him that if there was a portable desktop version of this game, millions of people could enjoy it at home or in their office.

As soon as he got back home from that trip he began creating versions of the ring toss game. The first was a 12" upside-down L shaped ring-toss game followed in 1984 by a ring-toss game installed in any doorway. He kept making new versions and new games to go with them with the goal of recreating the same feeling, focus and excitement that he had felt when he played that game in the islands. David says that the realization of that goal the **"Ahha moment"**, came finally to him one sleepless, conceptual thought filled night in 1988, after years of trying, when he visualized the game, but instead of a ring and hook, he thought **"POSTS!!! What if I used a ring and posts? Eureka! That's it"**. I will hang the ring from one post and swing up onto another post, perfect.

The Orbiter was created that morning. He had the plans in his head he just had to go down to the workshop and make the prototype. **FUN!!!** The original Orbiter had a 14-inch tall post, a 10-inch tall post, a 2-inch ring, and a 6-inch square base.

**The project continued to evolve and as the product developed so did David's engineering skills and conceptual thinking capabilities.** He created many sizes and versions but the converse posts idea, that conceptual thought, was the key to all of them.

The posts at various angles and differing heights created the challenging swing possibilities that demanded concentration from the players and produced the same level of excitement that he had experienced when he played that island ring game. That was the feeling that he had been looking for.

**Orbiter Six Swing.** The fact that, **each time you change the position of the base you have to create a whole new swing path** in order to get the ring back to the ring zone, adds so much to the challenge of the game. **That feature of the design transforms the game and takes it in a new direction** that is different from the original goal of the single swing, ring and hook, ring toss game and challenging in many creative new ways. The limitless number of swing paths that a player can use makes the Orbiter **a fun way to explore and understand physics**. There is a lot to figure out. There is a lot going on. How and why does an object move through space and how do you work with momentum, the pendulum effect, and gravity to get the ring to go where you want it to go?

The Orbiter was the fulfillment of David's goal of creating to entertain.

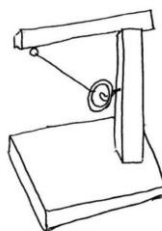
Copplestone took the Orbiter (He called it El Toro at that time) to the **Boston Gift Show** in 1990 and because of the attention it attracted there it was pictured in the What's New in Gifts section of the trade magazine **Giftware News** by its editor and a distributor Channel Craft who saw the Orbiter at the show took it on and sold it at tradeshows around the country for the next two years. When it was time to invest in some marketing work for El Toro, packaging and messaging sorts of things, they asked David if he would like them to take over the project and make the investment or did he want to do the work himself. He elected to take it back and do it himself.

Over the next years he worked on the Orbiter, showed his products on his website and sometimes advertised in Souvenirs & Novelties.

Major Ring-toss Innovations:

1. Tabletop ring-to-hook ring-toss 1981
2. Tabletop ring-to-post ring-toss 1988
3. Tabletop two player ring-to-post ring-toss 2021

1981



1988



2021

[Manufacturing Specs](#)





In 2017 he took the Orbiter directly to the people at Faneuil Hall in Boston to see if his efforts to add to the Orbiter's appeal had worked.

As he watched he realized that the Orbiter and the people playing it there were making his dream **“to create to entertain”** come true. He just put the Orbiters that he had created over the years out there and the crowds reacted to them and just naturally began to play and enjoy the game's mystique.



To show that life is a circle, **David recently went back to the High School** that he had been attending when he had that original life goal setting moment **and together they installed an Orbiter in the courtyard there**. That Orbiter is six feet tall, has a ball instead of a ring, a cup instead of a hook and is complete with the school colors. David says that seeing the Orbiter at his high school after all these years left him with a warm feeling of completion. After all he relates, this is where I was when I went on that April vacation and had that life goal setting moment on a beach at seventeen.

# The Straight Putt

## Copplestone's Putting Rail

Another of David's many creations - Copplestone's Putting Rail - will be a strong part of this marketing campaign along with the Orbiter.



Copplestone's Putting Rail™

One Perfect Putt

THE MILLION DOLLAR PUTT!!!

It is an incredibly difficult, almost impossible putt to make.

It's like hitting a hole in one on a 375 yard par four.  
To be successful you need to address the ball with confidence, feel good about the shot, have the wind at your back, and have a little luck and some good old fashioned golf magic working for you.  
Offer it up as a work place activity or for any kind of gathering.  
The Million Dollar Putt is the description of the feeling you get when you sink it, it's not the prize.  
Unless of course you want to run a national competition.



Congratulations!  
You Did It.

This putt takes great skill and determination to make.  
Challenge your golf buddies, friends and family to a Million Dollar Putt Championship.



The Million Dollar Putt - Tee it up at the 48 and putt it down the rail into the cup.



COPPLESTONE'S PUTTING RAIL™

LOOKING FOR A NEW ACTIVITY?

EAGLES!!!

MEETING! GOLF PARTY! FAMILY GATHERING!



EAGLES - Convex Rail Golf Game 48" Rail

OK here's what you do. Put the rail down on the floor with a wall or some object behind it to stop the golf ball when you miss and I am afraid to say you will miss. The rail is just four feet long. However, because of its convex top surface the rail simulates much longer putts. The 6 inch mark simulates a one foot putt, the 12 inch mark simulates a two foot putt, the 18 inch mark simulates a six foot putt, the 24 inch mark simulates a 12 foot putt, the 36 inch mark simulates a 24 foot putt, and the 48 inch mark simulates an almost impossible 50 foot putt. When you are playing a par five and you are putting from the 48 inch mark you are putting for a triple eagle. If you are putting from the 36 inch mark, you are putting for a double eagle. If you are putting from the 24 inch mark you are putting for an eagle, if you are putting from the 18 inch mark you are putting for a birdie. If you are putting from the 12 inch mark you are putting for a par and when you are putting from the six inch mark you are putting for a bogey.

EAGLES: 48" rail - Four chances to sink The Million Dollar Putt

To set the record for the least number of strokes needed to complete 18 holes of play, tee it up 18 times - four times from the spot on the rail marked Par 5 (48), four times from the spot marked Par 3 (24), and ten times from the spot on the rail marked Par 4 (36). Count the number of strokes that it takes you to work your way from the tee down the rail and into the cup. There is a process to follow.

Let's have the first hole be the very challenging Par 5 (48). Grip it and rip it. This is your shot at the rare triple eagle. For your second shot and your attempt at the coveted albatross, pick up the ball and place it back on the rail at the Par 4 (36) tee spot and go for it. Your third stroke (eagle) if needed, will be from the Par 3 tee spot (24). Your fourth stroke (birdie), if needed, would be from the spot on the rail marked (18). Your fifth stroke (par) will be from the spot marked (12), any remaining putts that you may need to complete this hole will be taken from the spot marked (6). Keep your score and take your turns just as you would at your favorite golf course. You might use their score card or download one from the internet. Play each of the 18 holes in any order you wish, but we suggest: par 5, 4, 3, 4, 4, 4, 3, 5 and repeat.

In the case of a tie, play a three hole playoff (par 5, par 4, and par 3). If there are still players tied, play par 5s in sudden death until a winner emerges.



COPPLESTONE'S PUTTING RAIL™

LOOKING FOR A NEW ACTIVITY?

THE ONE PUTT!!!

MEETING! GOLF PARTY! FAMILY GATHERING!

American made from genuine oak.  
Putter and ball not included.  
48" x 3 1/2" x 3/4"

Start a TOURNAMENT!!



The Putting Rail  
HOTSHOTS

This game allows you to show off your shot making skills as well as your ability to make good strategic shot selections.

Each player has nine shots (eighteen shots in tournament play) to make as many points as he needs to be the player with the greatest point total. He may choose to attempt each of his nine putts from any of the forty-eight rail locations. In the numbered box record the rail location that you will be attempting and then give it a try. If you sink the putt record the location number on the point's scored line next to the box. If you miss, put a zero on the line and move on to the next hole. When you have completed all nine holes add up your points. The player with the highest point total wins. We suggest that players take turns, three putts at a time, until all players have taken their nine strokes. You may choose to acknowledge 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers.

THE PUTTING RAIL

Want to shave points off your golf score? Use the Putting Rail. The idea behind this golf aid is that the more time a golfer spends with a putter in his hand making smooth and consistent strokes, the more his putting game and golf score will improve. So, choose between five engaging games that you can play on the Putting Rail, and enjoy.



## Copplestone's Putting Rail – 48 inch

Want to shave points off your golf score? Use the Putting Rail. The idea behind this golf aid is that the more time a golfer spends with a putter in his hand making smooth and consistent strokes, the more his putting game and golf score will improve. So, choose between five engaging games that you can play on the Putting Rail, and enjoy.

## Copplestones Putting Rail

You know what they say: the putt is **the toughest four feet in golf**. Here's a fun – and effective – way to practice the trickiest part of the game. Set your ball at the end of this handsome wooden rail, then tap it with your club as if you are on a green. If you've performed perfectly, the ball will roll straight down the length of this slightly convex surface and you'll make a hole in one. But, if you don't properly address the ball, have your club head aligned and execute a smooth back and through swing, the ball will roll off the side. And it's time to try again. You'll enjoy the challenge, and develop a consistent stroke sure to help you shoot par on the course. Entertaining even for those who don't venture out on the links.

- American made from genuine oak.
- Putter and ball not included.
- 48" x 3 1/2" x 3/4"

**I finally did it!** and saved it on a Selfie Video to share.

I set out to sink the million dollar put on Copplestone's Putting Rail at [copplestonegames.com](http://copplestonegames.com). I decided to set up my phone and video myself doing five sets of five putts four times a day for a total of 100 tries per day until I got it. I figured I'd help my putting game and get a neat video that I could share as well. I surprised myself and got it in the first 100 tries. Amazing! Here's the video. Now I'm going for more.



[Watch The Million Dollar Putt on Copplestone's Putting Rail](#) - It is an incredibly difficult, almost impossible putt to make.

[EAGLES is a game played on the 48 Inch Putting Rail simulating 18 holes of golf with four chances to sink The Million Dollar Putt.](#)

Set the record for the least number of strokes needed to complete 18 holes of play. Tee it up 18 times - four times from the spot on the rail marked Par 5 (at the 48), four times from the spot marked Par 3 (at the 24), and ten times from the spot on the rail marked Par 4 (at the 36).

Count the number of strokes that it takes you to work your way from the tee down the rail and into the cup. There is a process to follow.

Let's have the first hole be the very challenging Par 5 (at the 48). Grip it and rip it. **This is your shot at the rare triple eagle.** For your second shot and your attempt at the coveted albatross, pick up the ball and place it back on the rail at the Par 4 (at the 36) tee spot and go for it. Your third stroke (eagle), if needed, will be from the Par 3 tee spot (at the 24). Your fourth stroke (birdie), if needed, would be from the spot on the rail marked (18). Your fifth stroke (par) will be from the spot marked (12), any remaining putts that you may need to complete this hole will be taken from the spot marked (6). Keep your score and take your turns just as you would at your favorite golf course. You might use their score card or download one from the internet. Play each of the 18 holes in any order you wish, but we suggest: par 5,4,4,3,4,4,4,3,5 and repeat.

My idea, my dream, is to see the Orbiter and Putting Rail adding good times and fun Selfie opportunities every day at thousands of events, festivals, and parties around the world.

"To help get the word out, you can share the link to your Facebook Timeline!"

"To show your support you can go to the Orbiter page on Amazon!"

[CopplestoneGames.com](http://CopplestoneGames.com)

[CopplestoneArtworks.com](http://CopplestoneArtworks.com)



6 foot Orbiter



16 foot Orbiter



12 inch Orbiter



10 foot Orbiter



6 foot Orbiter

# Orbiter™

## Cape Cod's Classic Ring Toss Game

You have to be a magician to perform the many swings of the Orbiter!  
It's Art In Motion



6' Orbiter



12' Orbiter

Every time an Orbiter rings  
a wish for peace takes wing!



APPOLO

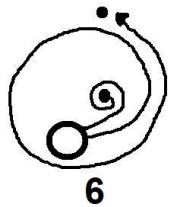
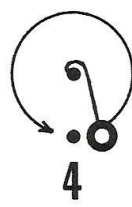
GALILEO

CASSINI

PIONEER

MESSENGER

VIKING



MOON

JUPITER

SATURN

VENUS

MERCURY

MARS





5' Orbiter Ball Toss 2013



8' Stainless Steel Orbiter 2011



5' White Orbiter 2012

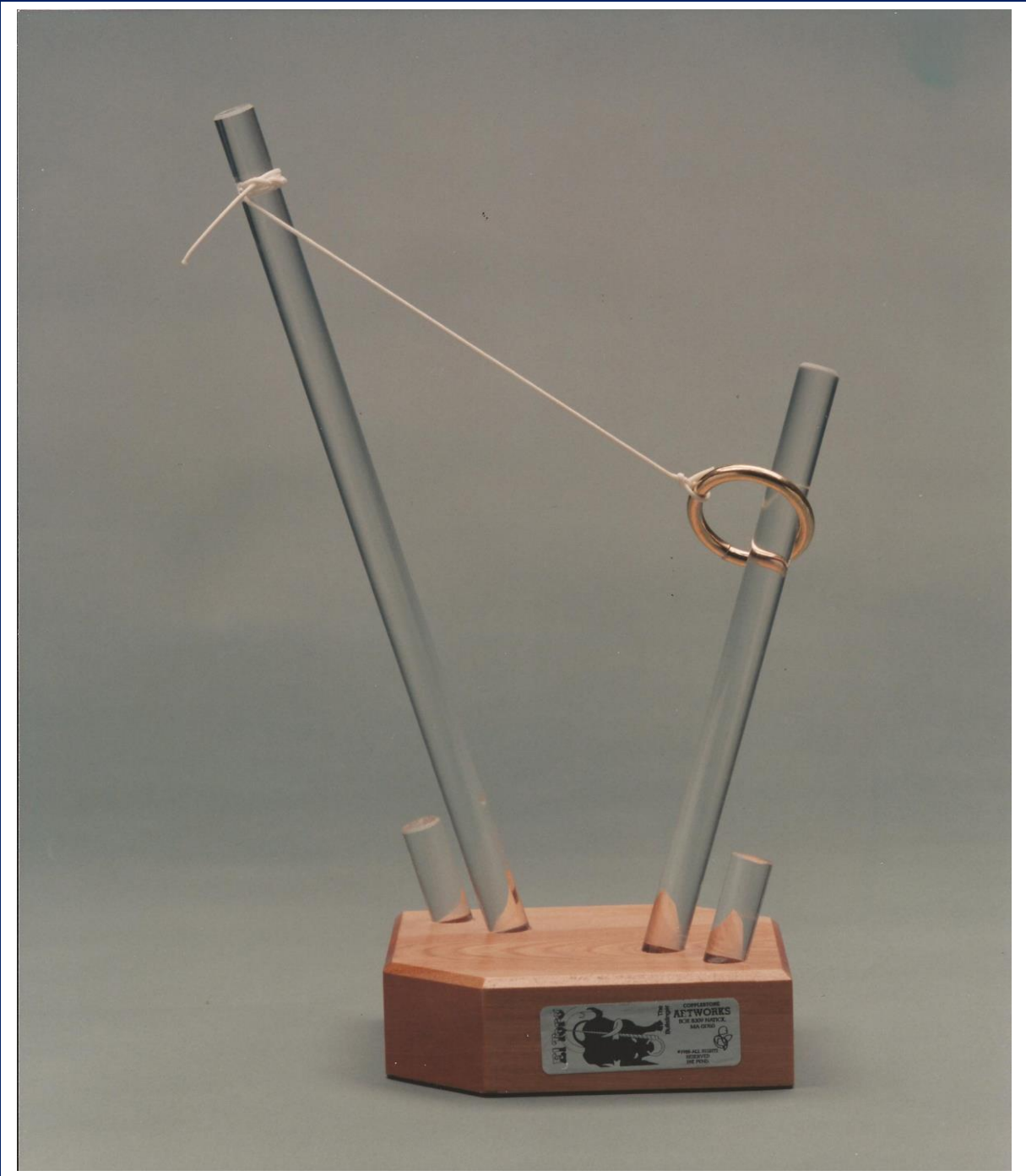


14" Tall Orbiter

10" Tall Orbiter 2011



# El Toro™ / Orbiter™ 360



**Classic Ring Toss**  
**Interactive Art In Motion Game**



1. 1980 sailing trip to the Caribbean where I saw a version of the Ring the Bulls Nose ring toss game at the Admirals Inn in Antigua.



Ring the Bulls Nose 1980

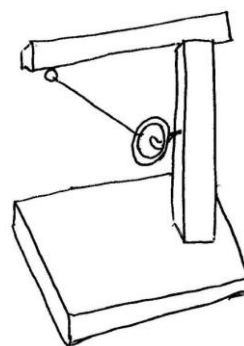
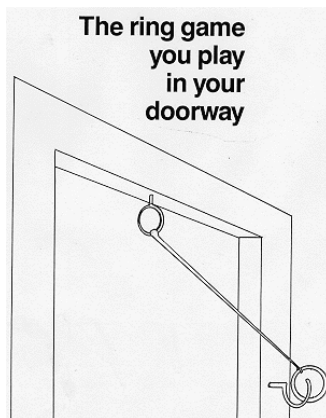


8' Stainless Steel Orbiter 2011

2. 1981 I return home with the goal to make a portable, desk top version of the ring toss game. I made a ring toss game for any doorway titled El Toro and a 12" upside down L shaped version are made that year.



1981

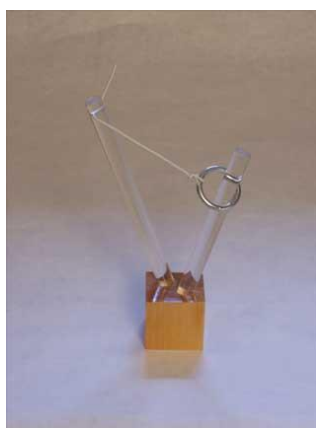


1981

3. 1988 "POSTS" the ah ha moment when the idea of using angled posts, string, and a ring instead of an eye hook, string, ring and a hook occurred. The first posts model took form using a six-inch base with a 14-inch post a 10-inch post and a 2" ring and I called it The Pier.



The Pier 1988



7" Orbiter



sold as El Toro at Boston Gift Show 1990



9" Orbiter



9" Hockey Puck Orbiter



10" Bell & Ball Orbiter



14" Orbiter



36" Orbiter 1991



14" Orbiter Ball



Basketball



Football



Hockey



Baseball 1992



Golf 1992



Beer Bottle 1992 Promotion



## The Original 14" Orbiter

1988 By David Copplestone