# Game Off (2021)

Theme: **BUG**

Deadline: **1 December**

Requirements:

* Mostly new code/art/ideas for jam
* Put whole project on GitHub (open source)

Soft requirements:

* Single player mode available => most people won’t be able to test with multiple
* Web build available => just way easier and platform-independent

## Idea

**Everyone is a *spider* stuck on a (cob)web.**

This means you can only move over the current lines in the web. Obviously, you can *change* this web by shooting new lines or breaking old ones.

Is it **competitive** or **cooperative?**

* If competitive, it might be hard to create a solo player variant.
* If cooperative, it might be hard to find a good common goal.
* It’s also possible to make it a puzzle game … but do I really want that? (Could also try both … )

## Movement

You can point in all directions. The system will find the line closest to your chosen angle and move along that.

If you press jump, you jump in the direction you aim, landing on the first line within reach.

* If you have resources ( = silk), this creates a *new* line. (From your starting position + the point where you landed.)
* If there is no other side, or it’s too far away, you will fall off the web and die?

Resources spawn all over the place. (Sometimes on the web, but usually, on purpose, some distance away.)

* Silk => needed for players
* Bugs => points for objective
* Powerups => in one form or another (keep it themed)
* Predators =>
  + Other spiders (Black Widow)
  + <https://romneypestcontrol.com/what-eats-spiders/>

The map also contains many “fixed points”. These can be used to attach lines, but are also a special location (such as a safe resting place, the default spawn for a predator, etcetera)

**IDEA:** A *water* map, where the *points* that connect the lines drift and float with the water. (And landing somewhere sends a shockwave around you.)

**IDEA:** A wind/dust map that can blow you off the web at certain points, causing you to react quickly or die?

**IDEA:** To “catch (certain bugs” you simply need to trap them in the spiderweb. They will fly freely, but if they encounter a line of the web, they turn around. They have limited stamina, so if you’re able to trap them for X time, they become tired and will run into your web.

**IDEA:** Other bugs simply appear on the web immediately. (The “easy ones”.)

**IDEA:** Other bugs can be caught by jumping at them.

# Collision Layers

These are the collision layers used by physics in the game

1. Spider web (points and edges)
2. Players
3. Collectibles

# Ownership rules

When you create a new line, it becomes *yours*.

How does ownership work? Some ideas:

* You *can* travel over other colors, but it costs 1 silk each time.
* The owner wears off after a while.
* Lines only become yours if *the jump is big enough*
* Lines only become yours *if a certain powerup is active*.

(Team members can also travel over your lines, of course.)

# Entities

Obviously, the players themselves are entities (which can receive input + walk over the web).

**IDEA:** Something that only moves over unowned silk.

**IDEA:** Something that never backtracks (where it’s already been). Or, conversely, something that always backtracks (and just moves up/down)

**Longer list:**

* Crickets
* Grasshoppers
* Roaches
* Flies
* Beetles
* Butterflies
* Earwigs
* Mosquitos
* Moths
* Fleas
* Ants
* Locusts
* Silverfish
* Bees
* Wasp
* Hornets
* Gnats
* Flightless Fruit Flies
* Mealworms
* Small Caterpillars

**What are predators for spiders?**

* Birds (Great Tits)
* Lizards (Geckos, Chameleons)
* Frogs
* Toads
* Tarantula Hawks (insect, not a bird)
* Spider wasps
* Monkeys
* Centipedes
* Scorpions
* Other spiders. (Mainly female spiders eat the male, if it’s smaller than them.)
* Fish
* Bats
* Shrews

# Silk types

Some ideas for silk types.

## Movement

* **Regular**
* **Speedup =>** you move faster over it
* **Slowdown** => you move slower over it
* **Ice** => you keep sliding (even when you stop moving) and have trouble turning around (quickly)

## Web/Jumping

* **Sticky** => you cannot jump from it
* **Cheap** => jumping is much cheaper ( = costs less silk)
* **Expensive** => jumping is more expensive ( = costs more silk)
* **Fragile** => once somebody leaves it, it breaks
  + **Timebomb** => after X steps on it, or entities spending Y time on it, it breaks
* **Unsteady/Featherlight** => the more weight you put on this strand ( = more entities on there), the more it *moves*

## Collecting

* **Worthless** => collecting something here *does nothing*. (Just removes it. Takes it away from anyone else.)
* **Doubler** => collecting something here gives you *double* its value.

# To do

**Entities:** invent many different types of bugs and their properties (visual, movement, silk type, specialty)

**IDEA:** The players can create their own bugs as well. (Offspring?)

**IDEA:** Levels might have fixed “spawn points” for bugs. (Like a home base.) They can destroy this, but doing so too soon isn’t smart?

**IDEA:** If players get big enough, they might even be able to *eat other players*.

**IDEA:** The “fungus” / “virus” idea => it starts somewhere on the web, and then just grows and grows, unless you’re able to stop it. (Cut off the edge, or use some powerup against it.)

**Web:**

* Off-web spawning can result in things inside the bounds (or off-screen). Prevent this?
* Check for *orphan points* upon removal. (Once an edge is removed, check if the point attached has *no other edges left*. If so, remove it as well.)

**Effects:**

* When jumping, make the new line appear *gradually* (out of our butt :p)
* When removing lines, do the opposite and make them disappear gradually
* Dying animation and feedback
* Item pop-up and removal tween
* Silk change tween
* Feedback

## Optional

**Spider animation (Improved!):**

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6Gjhr1IP6w>
  + Yes, interpolated movement
  + *Start* the legs in a zigzag movement
  + Only move a leg if the others (“supporting ones”) are grounded.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNidsMesxSE>
  + GDC talk about it, might be interesting in any case
* Do a *intersection check* to find any surfaces near that area, then reset to a point on them?
* *Interpolate* the resetting (instead of making it instant)?
* How to ensure legs go in alternating patterns?
  + Maybe *queue* resets. Each frame, check the queued resets. We only allow it to continue, if the surrounding legs are in the right position.
  + Example: a leg wants to reset. Then the legs before and after it should be reasonably far forward (low distance). The leg on the other side should be reasonably far forward as well.

**Web** (shooting/management/etc.)

* Sometimes it does nothing when jumping from a point? (Or is that just my input?)
* Now it doesn’t allow jumps that are too short … is that even a good idea?

**Manual starting levels (instead of randomized)**

* Or build all levels from the “shoot line” principle.
  + In the editor, create Line2D nodes.
  + Upon load, convert their end points to actual points. (Snap to existing ones, so I can be imprecise.)
  + And then connect the edges.