# Planning

**07 January** =

* **Essential bug fixing + feature addition all around**
* **Soundtrack**

**08 January** =

* **BG music trailer**
* **Some easy marketing items (favicon, header, etc.)**
* Any extra content I can manage (and think is worthwhile) => write the rest as a future to do.

**?? =>** playtest, cut to trailer/GIFs/screenshots, completely finish

# To Do

## Bugs

* Items should be on a layer *behind* the tutorials!
* Make the (definitive) game over a bit more … bombastic. (Now people might even miss that the game is over. So do an animation like: “Game Over!” => “Player <color/shape> won!”)
* The wolf should be slightly *less* fast and stuff. Because now it’s just a bomb that’s chaotic and unstoppable.

**BUG/IMPROVEMENT:** Sometimes there are still really tiny gaps to move through, otherwise you just can’t progress.

* It’d be best to eliminate them.
* But another solution is providing an *active* way to shrink yourself?

**BUG (?):** Something weird going on with controls in “Reversed Controls” section?

**IMPROVEMENT:** Don’t feel like the spiderman item really does something useful now? Maybe, when placing it, place *loads* of it? **A *magnet* or something would feel more logical?** (Could be a circular one, or the beam I was thinking about.)

**IMPROVEMENT:** Forbid a lock immediately after teleporting?

**IMPROVEMENT:** Transferring coins to the biggest shape when you collide with yourself is … unnecessary and not really helpful. Would be more helpful if it just divided them evenly among you.

**IN FACT, the endless particle effects are a very bad thing.**

**IMPROVEMENT:** Solo mode =>

* Automatically shrink? More items specifically useful in *solo mode*?
* What’s the point in slicing now (in solo mode)? => Maybe each destroyed body of yours resets your shape to a triangle?
* **At least add items that GROW/SHRINK you** => would be useful in every case

## Map Improvements

**FILL ROOM Algorithm:** Add a variation where we’re allowed to place tiles *against the walls*, but *not in the center*. (By default, we only place away from walls, in the center.)

**Problem?** Should find a way to ensure that connections to other rooms stay open.

(Before placing, check if this tile connects to a different room. If so, don’t allow it.)

(When placing a new room, also recheck the tiles on the previous room?)

**Tutorial generation:**

* Randomly remove slopes at the *top* (or bottom, for that matter) to allow for bigger and cleaner openings

Find **“annoying patterns”** and fix them in varied ways.

* Example: a tile that’s open on 3 sides, closed at bottom. Either remove it, or replace with a magnetic passthrough tile, or add a different ramp.

**QUESTION:**

* Have I implemented some code to grow/shrink players when rounding? Seems like it. (I think I did that to compensate for area differences between shapes … but it gives feedback for it now, which isn’t great.)
* Is it even *fun* to have your body sliced into multiple parts? Does the wolf even do anything for the game?
* Should we push us more into the terrain by default (the spiderman way)? It *really* helps with rolling. So maybe add a slight force in normal situations, and increase probability of spiderman being in level.

**Special Tiles/Items:**

Think of more fun stuff that plays with **blocking players doing really well + physics variation**

* Create platforming sections (with ramps, moving platforms, etcetera)
* Create other inner gates. (Like the laser/cannon.)
* **IDEA:** Some beam/magnet that attracts *across the whole column*. (Shoots across the room like the laser.)
* **IDEA (related):** A fan that blows ( = repels) *across the whole column*.

**Lock:** **Shop**. (If I figure out a good way to do it.)

**Add *special tiles* that do something with coins!** (And once we’ve done that, add an area to bodies, which lights up the coin interface when such a “coin\_related” tile is in range.)

## Polishing

* Play with generation parameters => I feel big rooms should be *slightly* less filled (or have more varied filling), maps should *flow* a bit more (with slopes, rooms that are not *too* different in size/displacement)
  + “Preferred” displacement would be something that does NOT create a bump in the line. So either it stays flat at the ceiling, or it stays flat/falls down on the ground.
* **Extra rule:** When one of your bodies does something or gets something, this is copied to ALL your bodies.
* Add different control scheme for controllers: joystick to roll left/right, any button to jump/float.
  + (Make this default? Or can players configure it themselves?)
* Don’t forget to turn on the **fog** again + test if it’s even an addition anymore

# Future To Do

**Simple Generation mode (used in tutorial course):** Add more control over first few rooms. (Keep flat, ensure a jump is needed, etcetera.)

**Better labels** => somehow, ensure they are placed *within the room* and without *overlapping important stuff*.

**Magnet particle/visual =>** create white circle moving inward?

**Shape change particle/visual?**

~~When you are a non-standard shape, make the timers (for rounding/malforming) a bit~~ *~~longer~~*~~, so you stay in that form for a while.~~ => probably a bad idea, as it’s hard enough as it is, and it would just frustrate players with no way out

# Trailer

Parody of “Rolling in the Deep” (by Adele).

## Footage

**Record footage from playtest.** Accompany background with footage that complements what’s being sung.

* Under 90 seconds
* Start with one attention-grabbing, supercool intro. (During intro of song, with just the drum. Or maybe even before the song starts.)
  + Start with your best joke, end with your strongest material.
* Then go slower, and build it up again, until the final climax.
* Use (animated) text and titles that fit the game.
* **Make sure they can easily be cut into cool GIFs => spread those as much as possible.**
* **Record footage *without* BG, so sound FX come in the trailer.**
* Make first 2 lines of YouTube description the best => those will appear in search results

Game trailer templates

* **Tell, Show, Repeat:** use title cards/narration to tell a thing … then show the thing. Repeat. It’s best to call out what you *do* in the game or what your *goals* are. (Don’t call out *raw features*.)
* **Music Video Montage:** Take fun gameplay and cut it to the beat of the music. Best used for games which are *very simple to understand from just watching*. Can also sequence gameplay so the *simplest shots* are at the beginning and you slowly build.
* **Chronological Order:** record footage of gameplay, then simply keep them in that order but cut them in some exciting way. Many games are structured like that: introduce ideas, then explore some twists on the idea, then test player’s ability to understand them. So keep that sequence to entice the player.
* **Just Explain The Game:** some games are really hard to understand at a glance. So just use text/title cards/narration to explain the game in a linear fashion. (Then use good music and editing to make that exciting.) Mostly works for games with visuals that are hard to parse/understand in a fast-cut trailer.
* **In A World …:** story trailer. Say in this order: 1) this is the world/premise; 2) this is the *person* in that world; 3) this is the *problem* that person faces; 4) this is how they *confront* the problem; 5) these are the *obstacles*

Make sure footage is **clear:** no HUD or UI, or just compose shots to have a clear focal point (or limited number of things on-screen).

Retention of knowledge/information is far more important than quantity of content.

## Lyrics

### Verse

There’s a strange folk

They are called the Sheepe

Weird shapes and biting wolves

They roll and jump and leap

There’s a game

For 1-6 players

Roll to the finish first

Before your sheep gets hurt

### Pre-Chorus

The world is always

Different every game

To keep you thinking:

Boy, when have we seen it all?

You only need to know

Two buttons total

No time for blinking

### Chorus

You could just win it aaaaaaaallll

Rolling in the Sheeeeeepe

Enjoy the game with aaaaalll of your heart

Now go play, go play it, it is cheap

**Not mentioned in lyrics =** local multiplayer

## Discarded Lyrics

There’s a game

Two buttons to learn

Roll left and roll right

But don’t take the wrong turn

# Done

## Annoyances

**ANNOYANCE:** When you jump with your head against the ceiling, your *rotating* movement actually pushes you in the wrong direction. Which is just … annoying? (Yes, you can learn it, and use it for stuff, but … not great.)

* Solution #0: Make ceilings frictionless => can’t do it, as they’re part of the tilemap, which has *one* physics material.
* Solution #1: Always cling to ceilings => possible (check if cling vector is opposite to gravity vector)
* Solution #2: Make jumping less powerful
* Solution #3: *Hold* both buttons to *float* or *steady yourself*. (So when you hold both, your Y-velocity becomes 0. But your X-velocity continues.)

## Basic Bodies

**Step 1:** Generate a random polygon

* <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/8997099/algorithm-to-generate-random-2d-polygon> => basically, create a circle, but allow each point to vary in radius/angle
* <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/59287928/algorithm-to-create-a-polygon-from-points> => draw a point cloud first, order by angle, then draw through it

**Step 2:** Calculate its centroid. Place a smiley face there. Then center the polygon around it.

**Step 3:** Turn it into a physics body + draw it each frame.

**Step 4:** When given input, roll in a certain direction. (Check if this actually works for movement.)

## Body slicing

**Step 1:** Write the slicing algorithm I scribbled on paper.

* <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/563198/how-do-you-detect-where-two-line-segments-intersect> => detect intersection point of two lines
* The rest of the algorithm is just:
  + Loop through shape.
  + Detect first intersection point. Add it to the shape. (Between the start/end vertices of the edge it intersects.)
  + Continue until second intersection point. Add it to the shape.
  + Now *extract* the part between the two points: shape 2. *Remove* the part you extracted from the original shape: shape 1.
  + Now recreate the *bodies* + *draw/move scripts* for each.

**Step 2:** Allow testing by drawing with the mouse. (Or clicking twice. Or pressing a key and testing a predefined line.)

**Step 3:** If successful, allow applying dynamically.

# Discarded

The old idea with “placing precreated rooms”

## Rooms & Routes

**Issue 1:** How do we allow *rotating* rooms?

* Translate everything to anchor center
* Rotate the thing
* Translate everything back => DOESN’T WORK, because the “position” property is still local, so translating back would just *follow the new orientation*
* Now recalculate opening values

**Issue 2:** What if a single side has *multiple* openings?

* We should be able to match any of them
* But *not* necessarily close the others when filling gaps

**Issue 3:** Now we have ugly *double walls* between rooms.