

Hey, I'm Sybe de Oude, 23 years young. For my bachelor I studied Technical Computer Science (TCS) here at the University of Twente. I like to play chess, table tennis, and to meet up with friends.



This is my usual workplace: Behind my desk, behind my laptop.

I added some attributes that could relate to tinkering. First of all, there are some snacks, a coffee cup, and a bottle of water to survive long tinkering sessions. At the right, I have a cool garbage bin shaped pencil box. At the far right there is a notebook to write down ideas. There are some brain-breaker puzzles that represent the strategic thinking and problem-solving required for tinkering. Next to that, these pieces also requires hands on thinking or simply trial and error to get to the solution. Lastly, on the left, there is a self-made top hat made out of cardboard and fabric.

Realistically, I'm mostly 'tinkering' behind my laptop. That is, if you see tinkering as an attempt to repair or improve something. For instance, some time ago, I found out about an app called Tic-Tac-Chess. The game is played on a 3x3 board and the goal of this simple game is to get three in a row, while preventing your opponent from doing so.

Instead of circles and crosses, a knight, queen and rook are used, which can move along the 3x3 grid to free squares. I could not win from the hardest difficulty AI, and couldn't find any solution online. So, I recreated the game myself and attempted to solve it using my programming knowledge.

The above example however, is not so much of a hands-on tinkering experience. The top hat is a better example where some design and physical crafting is needed. I made this hat myself for a house party. Another physical example of 'tinkering' I have recently done is tightening my bicycle chain. This goes along with the definition of repairing something. Not a lot of creativity was needed for this though.

I have two items on my wish-list to expand my tinkering space. First of all, I would want more Lego, as playing with Lego is fun. Secondly, I would want a more extensive tool kit, so I can take on more projects with the correct tools, without having to leave my room.