DIESELROIDS

A TRIBUTE TO THE 1979 ARCADE CLASSIC

OPERATION MANUAL

FOR ONE PLAYER

SKILL LEVEL: EXPERT

CABINET TYPE: VECTOR DISPLAY

https://dieselinc.github.io/dieselroids/

THE LEGEND

In 1979, Atari released ASTEROIDS in arcades worldwide.

The vector graphics, the physics, the addictive gameplay -
it defined a generation of gamers.

DIESELROIDS is a tribute to those memories. To the hours
spent in dimly lit arcade halls, pockets full of quarters,
chasing that elusive high score. To the sound of the
heartbeat getting faster as asteroids closed in.

This version was created in 2025 as a love letter to
the golden age of arcade gaming. Every line of vector
graphics, every synthesized sound effect, every mechanic -
faithful to the original experience.

No microtransactions. No ads. No bullshit.
Just pure, unfiltered arcade action.

Like it was meant to be.

DEDICATED TO EVERY KID WHO EVER
STOOD IN FRONT OF AN ARCADE CABINET

INSTALLATION

DESKTOP (Mac/Windows/Linux)

1. Visit: https://dieselinc.github.io/dieselroids/
2. Click anywhere to start music
3. Press SPACE to begin
4. Press F11 for fullscreen (Fn+F11 on Mac)
5. Bookmark the page (Ctrl+D / Cmd+D)

The game runs entirely in your browser - no download
or installation required.

MOBILE (iPad/Tablet - Recommended)

1. Open Safari (iOS) or Chrome (Android)
2. Visit: https://dieselinc.github.io/dieselroids/
3. Tap 'Share' → 'Add to Home Screen'
4. An app icon appears on your home screen
5. Launch like any other app!

Touch controls appear automatically:
    Left side: FIRE & HYPERSPACE buttons
    Right side: Rotation & THRUST controls

NOTE

DIESELROIDS works best on desktop and iPad.
Small phone screens are playable but not optimal.

SHIP CONTROLS

← LEFT ARROW   ROTATE COUNTERCLOCKWISE

→ RIGHT ARROW   ROTATE CLOCKWISE

↑ UP ARROW   THRUST (ACCELERATE)

↓ DOWN ARROW   BRAKE / REVERSE THRUST

SPACE   FIRE PHOTON TORPEDOES

SHIFT   HYPERSPACE (EMERGENCY TELEPORT)

WARNING

HYPERSPACE HAS 30% CHANCE OF

INSTANT DESTRUCTION!

THREATS & SCORING

ASTEROIDS

LARGE ASTEROID..............20 PTS (SPLITS INTO 2 MEDIUM)

MEDIUM ASTEROID............50 PTS (SPLITS INTO 2 SMALL)

SMALL ASTEROID.............100 PTS (DESTROYED)

UFO ENEMIES

LARGE UFO..................200 PTS (SLOW, RANDOM SHOTS)

SMALL UFO.................1000 PTS (FAST, AIMS AT YOU!)

BONUS LIFE

EARN EXTRA SHIP AT 10,000 POINTS

WAVE SYSTEM

Wave 1: 4 asteroids
Wave 2: 6 asteroids
Wave 3: 8 asteroids
Wave 4+: 10 asteroids (maximum difficulty!)

SOUND CUES

HEARTBEAT SOUND..........SPEEDS UP AS DANGER INCREASES
UFO WARNING SOUND........HIGH PITCH = SMALL UFO
THRUST SOUND.............INDICATES ACCELERATION

SURVIVAL TACTICS

1. SHOOT LARGE ASTEROIDS FROM A DISTANCE
   Splitting them up close is suicide.

2. CLEAR ONE SIDE OF THE SCREEN FIRST
   Create a safe zone to retreat to.

3. KEEP MOVING
   Momentum is life. A stationary ship is dead.

4. LISTEN TO THE HEARTBEAT
   Faster beat = fewer asteroids = more danger.

5. SMALL UFO = PRIORITY TARGET
   It aims at you. Take it out immediately.

6. HYPERSPACE IS NOT A STRATEGY
   30% death chance makes it pure desperation.

7. DON'T PANIC FIRE
   Only 4 shots on screen at once.

8. SCREEN WRAP IS YOUR FRIEND
   Use edges to escape tight situations.

9. EARLY GAME: CONSERVE LIVES
   Late game: Take risks for high score.

10. THE 10K BONUS SHIP KEEPS YOU ALIVE
    Play smart to reach it.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

VECTOR GRAPHICS: White lines on black
RESOLUTION: Responsive (adapts to display)
REFRESH RATE: 60 FPS
LINE WIDTH: 1px (authentic 1979 look)

AUDIO SYSTEM

SYNTHESIS: Web Audio API
START MUSIC: Moonlight Sonata (12-bar, synthesized)
EFFECTS: Laser, explosion, thrust, UFO
100% procedurally generated

COMPATIBILITY

BROWSERS: Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Edge
PLATFORMS: Windows, macOS, Linux, iOS
REQUIREMENTS: Modern browser (2020+)
INTERNET: Required for first load

OPEN SOURCE

View the source code at:
https://github.com/dieselinc/dieselroids

CREDITS

ORIGINAL ASTEROIDS (1979)

DESIGNED BY: Ed Logg & Lyle Rains
PUBLISHED BY: Atari Inc.

DIESELROIDS (2025)

CONCEPT & VISION: DIESEL INC.
PROGRAMMING: Claude (Anthropic)
IMPLEMENTATION: HTML5 Canvas + Web Audio
MUSIC: Moonlight Sonata (synthesized)
TESTING: Countless late nights

SPECIAL THANKS

To everyone who remembers the arcade days.
To Ed Logg for creating perfection in 1979.
To the quarter-munching machines that
taught us persistence, skill, and the
value of one more try.