



[Home](#)



[History](#)



[Projects](#)



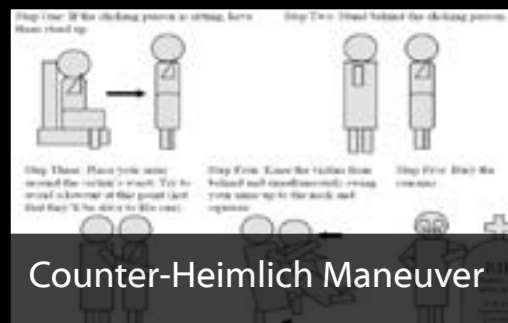
[GLaDOS](#)



[Contact Us](#)



Meet GLaDOS, Aperture Labs's newest technology



Counter-Heimlich Maneuver



Take-a-Wish Foundation



Handheld Portal Device

[Home](#)[History](#)[Projects](#)[GLaDOS](#)[Contact Us](#)

Cave Johnson, Founder and CEO

In 1947, Aperture Fixtures was founded by Cave Johnson as a shower curtain manufacturer (The name “Aperture Fixtures” was chosen “to make the curtains appear more hygienic”). In 1956, the Eisenhower administration signed a contract with Aperture to manufacture shower curtains to all branches of the US Military, except the Navy. From 1957 to 1973, the company produced mostly shower curtains and enjoyed a great deal of success, making Cave Johnson a billionaire. Until 1973, Aperture also used a bulletin board system.

During this time, early work on the [Aperture Science Handheld Portal Device](#) began; the early version, called the Aperture Science Portable Quantum Tunneling Device, proved to be too bulky for effective use, while poor surface conductors for the portals often caused mangling or death of the test subjects when they tried to use the portals. Repulsion Gel was first developed around this time as well for use as a diet supplement. At first only the brightest and best of society were chosen for testing, but after being connected to a string of astronaut disappearances in 1968, Aperture Science focused on recruiting homeless people for testing, starting in 1976. Cave suspects Black Mesa of industrial espionage on the company’s products, and blames them for Aperture’s bankruptcy.

In 1974, Cave Johnson was exposed to toxic Conversion Gel, made out of ground-up moon rocks. In 1976, both of Cave Johnson’s kidneys failed. Brain damaged, dying, and incapable of realizing time was not now flowing backwards, he laid out a three-tiered research and development program. The results, he said, will “guarantee the continued success of Aperture Science far into the fast-approaching distant past.”

The three tiers of this research and development program are:

Tier 1: [The Counter-Heimlich Maneuver](#)

Tier 2: [The Take-a-Wish Foundation](#)

Tier 3: [The Portal Project](#)

Following Cave Johnson’s death, in 1981, Aperture engineers complete the Heimlich Counter-Maneuver and Take-A-Wish Foundation initiatives. After hearing the progress on Tier 3, Aperture Labs was granted an open-ended contract to secretly continue research on the ‘Portal’ and Heimlich Counter-Maneuver projects.

In 1986, word reached Aperture Science management that rival Black Mesa was working on a similar portal technology. In response to this news, Aperture Science begins developing [GLaDOS](#). In 1996, after a decade spent bringing the Disk Operating System parts of [GLaDOS](#) to a state of more or less basic functionality, work began on the Genetic Lifeform component. Work on [GLaDOS](#) is still underway in pursuit of our founder’s dream.

Source

[Home](#)[History](#)[Projects](#)[GLaDOS](#)[Contact Us](#)

## Tier 1: Counter-Heimlich Maneuver

*"A reliable technique for interrupting the life-saving Heimlich Maneuver."*

Completed in 1981, Aperture Labs's Counter-Heimlich Maneuver has met wild success. Shortly after Aperture Labs announced the product, there were a string of highly publicized chokings, a testament to the success of our product. As a result, senior company officials are summoned before a Senate investigative committee. Having witnessed the success of the Counter-Heimlich Maneuver, Aperture Labs received an open-ended contract to secretly continue research on this product and the 'Portal' project (see below). From 1981 to 1985, several high ranking Fatah personnel choke to death on lamb chunks despite the intervention of their bodyguards, showing that the US government has apparently put the Heimlich Counter-Maneuver to work.



## Tier 2: Take-A-Wish Foundation

*"A charitable organization that will purchase wishes from the parents of terminally ill children and redistribute them to wish-deprived but otherwise healthy adults."*

The Take-A-Wish Foundation was created with the intention to counter the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that grants wishes to terminally ill children. However, we at Aperture Labs desire equality for all peoples, regardless of race, gender, or healthiness. To fight the discrimination against healthy people brought on by Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Take-A-Wish Foundation seeks to purchase wishes from the parents of terminally ill children and redistribute them to wish-deprived but otherwise healthy adults.

## Tier 3: The Portal Project

*"Some kind of rip in the fabric of space... That would... Well, it'd be like, I don't know, something that would help with the shower curtains I guess. I haven't worked this idea out as much as the wish-taking one."*

The Aperture Science Handheld Portal Device, originally marketed in the 1950s as an Aperture Science Portable Quantum Tunneling Device, also commonly known as a Portal Gun or by its acronym, "ASHPD", is an experimental tool used to create two portals through which objects can pass. It remains one of Aperture Labs's most famous products and is the core of our research at the [Aperture Science Enrichment Center](#). There are currently two versions in trial: the one portal gun and the two portal gun. The portals can be placed on any surface which is made out of manufactured or refined moon rock and large enough to accommodate them. Moving objects, or certain types of surfaces, will usually prevent the formation of a portal. A unique property of our portals is that it preserves momentum. Please [contact us](#) for a detailed report on the capabilities of the ASHPD and for inquiries on how to acquire an ASHPD through test subject volunteering.



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[Home](#)[History](#)[Projects](#)[GLaDOS](#)[Contact Us](#)

## GLaDOS

*Genetic Lifeform and Disk Operating System*

- GLaDOS is an artificial intelligence created by Aperture Laboratories and remains one of our greatest successes. She is the overseer of our celebrated [Aperture Science Enrichment Center](#) and cares for the well-being of our testing volunteers. As the most advanced artificial intelligence in our age, the well-being of your friends and family are GLaDOS's number one priority.

GLaDOS v1.10 is currently responsible for handling [Aperture Science's Enrichment Center Test Subject Application Process](#), while GLaDOS v3.11 oversees our vigorous testing and re-search processes.

GLaDOS's first iteration was constructed in 1986 with the intention of accelerating [the Portal project](#). A prototype chassis for GLaDOS was constructed in 1989, but is currently not in use. In 1996, after a decade spent bringing the Disk Operating System parts to a state of more or less basic functionality, work began on the Genetic Lifeform component.

CEO Cave Johnson originally intended to be the computer's Genetic Lifeform component. However, Johnson ultimately died before his consciousness could be uploaded into the system. He left instructions that his assistant Caroline should be fitted as the Genetic Lifeform component so that she would be able to run Aperture Laboratories in perpetuity after his death. Her consciousness remains to be the driving Genetic Lifeform component of the latest version of GLaDOS.

Due to GLaDOS v3.11's wild success, Aperture Laboratories has been ridiculed with bogus, fantastic claims, particularly aimed at GLaDOS. These false claims are currently under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with Black Mesa as the prime suspect for slander. Any rumours that GLaDOS attempted to kill Aperture Laboratories employees within "one sixteenth of a picosecond" and that GLaDOS released a deadly neuro-toxin on Aperture Laboratories's first ever bring-your-daughter-to-work day after separate activations are outrageous and completely false. As a preventative measure only, our latest improvements on GLaDOS aim to alter GLaDOS' personality and curb her unfriendly tendencies by adding various Personality Cores to her system. These personality cores operate individually as well. One such personality core, called Wheatley, manages the personal well-being of testing volunteers to ensure safety and security for all.

For a personal experience with the latest GLaDOS, sign up to become a test subject at the [Aperture Science Enrichment Center](#) today! Remember, the well-being and safety of our dedicated volunteers is GLaDOS's number one priority.

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[Home](#)[| History](#)[| Projects](#)[| GLaDOS](#)[| Contact Us](#)

## Interested in engineering the future?

At this time, we are not looking to hire any more engineers for our cunning team of scientific geniuses. However, you can still help us engineer a brighter future! If you are interested in the Aperture Science Handheld Portal Device experience, apply to become a test subject today! Our testing facility, the Aperture Science Enrichment Center, remains as one of the finest facilities for science volunteers in the country. Housing, food, and entertainment is all provided in one compact, versatile, chic space! We encourage you to apply on the behalf of any family or friends who may be incapable of applying themselves or just need that extra push! Application is free. Upon review of your application, you will be required to take part in the [Enrichment Center Test Subject Application Process](#), a 50-question questionnaire so we can know you better. Space is limited, so apply today!

If we cannot accept your application, don't fret! You can still have a helping hand in engineering the future by notifying your community of our testing program. Print and post this [notice](#)! Don't forget to mention, test subjects who complete our program are rewarded with a slice of cake!



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