

The history of the Frisbee



William Russell Frisbie, a baker from Connecticut, had a clever marketing idea in the 1870s. He put the family name Frisbie on the bottom of the light tin pans in which his homemade *pies* were sold. The pans could be reused. So every time someone started to bake a *pie*, they would see the name Frisbie. And they thought: "It would be much easier to buy one than to make it myself." So Mr. Frisbie's pies were a real success and they sold throughout the whole state.

In the 1940s, students from Yale University began sailing the pie tins through the air and catching them. The Frisbee was born. In 1955, Walter Frederick Morrison designed a disk that looked like a saucer to play the game 'catch'. Morrison says that the original idea came to him from throwing a popcorn can *lid* to his girlfriend. But the lid very soon had a hole and they discovered that cake pans flew better. This flying disk was later produced by the company Wham-O and renamed Frisbee. The name was probably a planned misspelling of the Frisbie Pie Company name to *avoid any legal problems*.

<u>pie</u>	<u>Torte</u>
<u>lid</u>	<u>Deckel</u>
<u>avoid</u>	<u>vermeiden</u>
<u>legal problems</u>	<u>rechtliche Probleme</u>

The inventor of the Frisbee

Modern Frisbees were developed from the *Flying Saucer*. It was invented by Erich Drafahl and developed and financed by Warren Franscioni in 1948. This first Frisbee was not at all successful.



Warren Franscioni

Walter Frederick Morrison made the first successful model called the Pluto Platter in 1955. This model was bought by the company Wham-O in 1957 and was the first model to be sold under the name Frisbee.

Further development

Nowadays you can buy a lot of different Frisbees.



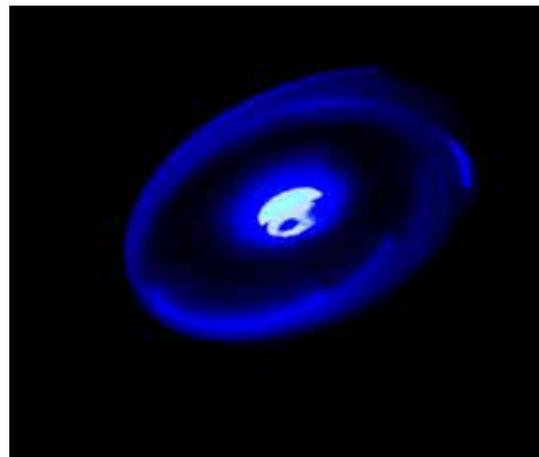
Disc golf Frisbees are smaller and thicker.



Dogs enjoy chasing slow moving discs. So special discs were made for dogs. They are softer and resist a dog's bite better. Disc competitions for dogs, in which people judge the dog's skills at catching discs, are quite popular.



Aerobies are discs that look like one of Saturn's rings. They fly much farther than other flying discs.



Flashlight discs make it possible to play in the evening or at night.