

S

kateboarding

Skateboarding is one of the most incomparable, enjoyable, and physically demanding sports in the world. Like baseball, basketball and football, skateboarding has permitted many changes and fluctuations in popularity, and has emerged as one of the

most diverting and rewarding activities enjoyed by both today's youth and its adults. The goal of this paper is to inform about the history, evolution and present state of skateboarding.

The idea of skateboarding was invented in the 1950s when surfers from California wanted to try their surfing techniques on land. All over California,

surfers and teenagers began constructing their own “land surfboards” by attaching roller skate wheels to wooden crates. The surfers would then ride down steep hills while in the crates, performing surfing moves as they went down. This idea, however, was a painful one. Wooden crates did not provide the necessary range of motion to equate to surfing and, accordingly,

many surfers were injured while experimenting with their new creation. As a result, wooden surfboard-shaped boards were constructed. A pair of roller skate wheels were attached eight inches indwelling to either end of the board to add firmness while riding.

One day, a young man named Alan Gelfand revolutionized skateboarding. While

riding, he pushed downward with his back foot, causing the front of the board to rise. He then jumped with the board. This caused the board, and Alan, to lift off into the air about five inches off the ground. This method became known as the "ollie", after Alan "Ollie" Gelfand. This was a significant occurrence in past times of skateboarding.

Before Alan's revelation, skateboarding was nothing more than land surfing. The cognition to ollie marked the transition between land surfing and skateboarding. Now that people could leave the ground with their board, a brand-new sport was whelped, and skateboarding became a sport of it's own. Now that skateboarders could jump into the air, a whole new

world was opened to them.
All across America kids
were constructing their
own boards.

Skateboarding became a
discovery sport. Everyone
was discovering new ways
to spin and flip their board
and land back on it.

Skateboarders were
jumping down stairs, over
gaps and onto handrails.
Skateboarding was
booming.

The detonation of

skateboarding was noticed not only by kids, but by enterprising entrepreneurs. Pioneering businessmen saw a possible market in skateboarding, and acted on it. Skateboards became mass-produced, allowing kids to buy a board, rather than build one. The market boomed, and skateboarding became an industry.

The skateboard itself

has undergone an development of it's own. Skateboard decks were primitively just pieces of wood. Slowly, the decks took on a rectangular shape, with the two smaller sides rounded off. A "nose" and "tail", curvatures on the ends of the board, were made to help a skateboarder ollie. Griptape, a coarse sandpaper-like tape, was added to the top of the

board to help skateboarders stay on their boards. Skateboard decks are now made by compressing multiple layers of wood together to make the board stronger. The skateboard wheel has also undergone a transmutation.

Skateboard wheels were originally just metal roller skate wheels. Rubber wheels were made to make riding on the

skateboard smoother.

Finally, urethane wheels were invented to make the wheels smoother, lighter, and cheaper to produce.

Skateboarding is now one of the fastest-growing sports markets in the United States and Europe. Every year there are more than 350 million dollars is spent on skateboarding-related products. Everything from wheels and kneepads, to

shoes and clothing items are produced and purchased. Skateboard parks are opening up all across the country.

Skateboarding is currently at the height of its popularity.

Skateboarding as a sport in the 2000s has taken on an identity of it's own.

Skateboarders see the sport as the consummate activity. Skateboarding has no bias. It accepts

anyone, regardless of race, gender, age, or creed. The unofficial skateboarding motto is 'If you carry a board, you are my friend'.

One reward to skateboarding is that skateboarders can do it anywhere: skate parks, garages, streets, parks, basketball courts, parking lots or back alleys.

Skateboarders don't need a field to practice in. They just need their

skateboards.

Skateboarding teaches purpose. It teaches you how to set goals, and what it takes to achieve them.

Skateboarding teaches you persistence. No matter how hard you fall, no matter how many bruises you get or bones you break, you always hop back up and try the same trick again. No other sport offers you that .

Skateboarding has

undergone many changes,
but its
unequalled disposition to
take anyone to try it will
keep it fashionable for
years to come, and the
love of the sport will keep
it alive forever.