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Squeeze with Ease: A Toothpaste Dispenser for Stroke Victims and Amputees

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\$1 Minimum Pledge

\$3,203

Pledged of \$5,000 goal

112

Backers

5

Days to go

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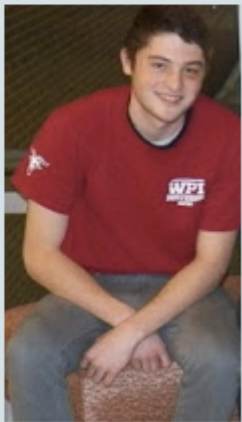
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We've devised a toothpaste dispenser for people suffering from upper limb loss or arm paralysis, empowering them to perform everyday tasks.

OUR STORY:

An Assignment Becomes More Meaningful



Hi, I'm Alex Silk, the co-inventor of Squeeze with Ease, the first toothpaste dispenser designed to be assembled and used using one hand.

As engineering students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, my classmates and I are challenged to identify and design simple, elegant solutions to everyday problems. For an assignment, we were required to design a portable and water-resistant device that enables people with one functioning arm to unscrew and empty a tube of toothpaste. After extensive research, several blueprints and prototypes, we created the Squeeze with Ease.

During our research, we discovered that few toothpaste dispensers met the needs of those with loss of mobility in one arm. The products that were available either cost between \$200-\$300, required two arms to setup, or were poorly constructed. In contrast, the design for our assignment was durable, could always be operated with one hand, and could be produced for under \$20.

My classmates and I soon realized that this was our opportunity to turn the knowledge gained here at WPI into tangible results. Although brushing your teeth may seem trivial, imagine unscrewing toothpaste and holding the brush stable while

WHY YOUR PLEDGE MATTERS

105,000

Americans suffer from upper limb loss.

3 Million

in the USA have disabilities in their hands or forearms due to injury, congenital defects, or paralysis.

700,000

people experience strokes annually.

40%

of these stroke victims experience severe to moderate impairments requiring special care.

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OUR PRODUCT

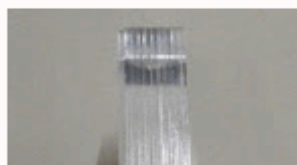
The Squeeze with Ease fosters independence by enabling people with limited arm mobility to use any toothpaste. By securing the tube of toothpaste, users can uncap and apply toothpaste with one hand.

Our product is ideal for people suffering from strokes, upper-limb loss, broken arms, Parkinson's disease, arthritis, and paralysis of the arm.

Unlike other toothpaste dispensers currently available, which can run up to \$300, the Squeeze with Ease is durable, American made and under \$20.



The innovative, yet beautifully simple dispenser is made of clear acrylic. This durable and waterproof material allows the dispenser to accommodate any standard tube of toothpaste while minimizing its weight. Weighing a mere two pounds, the product can be lifted with one hand effortlessly.



hand function. We will express our appreciation by listing you as a contributor to our project.

In addition to being listed as a contributor...

Pledge \$5 or more

You will receive a Squeeze with Ease bumper sticker for your generous contribution.

Pledge \$15 or more

As a token of our gratitude, you will receive a fitted Squeeze with Ease t-shirt. Shirts are available in men's and women's sizes XS-XXL.

Pledge \$20 or more

We will give you our fitted t-shirt and two Squeeze with Ease bumper stickers.

Pledge \$50 or more

At this reward level you will receive the Squeeze with Ease before the dispenser is available on the market.

CHALLENGES