

# Count down, have a blast: Patch entry in running for Toy of Year award

By HILLARY GAVAN Senior staff writer | Posted: Thursday, December 10, 2015 4:00 pm

BELOIT — Want to keep the kids off their electronic devices, but entertained for hours?

You might try Patch Products' game Chrono Bomb, a super-secret spy mission where kids use clamps and 27.5 feet of cord to create a laser field to crawl through. Acting as CIA Mission Impossible-style heroes or FBI or SWAT team specialists, kids get to wriggle their way toward saving the day, according to Sally May Baker, Patch Products public relations coordinator.

“Getting off the couch is huge. It gets them (kids) away from their video games. It’s about being the hero,” Baker said. “It’s an active play that allows kids to get up and move around. It’s for ages 7 and up.”

As kids race to get through the cords, a toy bomb is counting down. When cords get bumped, the time bomb ticks down faster.

Chrono Bomb was such a hit at last year’s national toy fair, the game is a finalist in the 2016 Toy of the Year Awards in the Game of the Year Category.

“We blew up at the toy fair, pun intended,” joked Baker.

The Toy of the Year Awards recognize the top toys available this holiday season. Finalists have been nominated from within the industry and are being voted on by toy companies, toy retailers and consumers.

As there are only six nominees for each category, the nomination is an honor. Baker said the Toy of the Year awards are frequently referred to as the “Oscars” of the industry.



## Chrono Bomb up for award

Sally May Baker of Patch Products kneels in a "laser" field made of cord to show how the new game Chrono Bomb is played. The game, which features a toy bomb counting down, has been nominated for the 2016 Toy of the Year Award for Game of the Year.

Between now and Jan. 17, voting will be held with the winners to be announced at the annual Toy Fair in New York on Feb. 12. People can vote at [toyawards.org](http://toyawards.org).

One of the advantages of the game, Baker said, is how adaptable it is. Because kids get to set up the laser string, they can make it easy or difficult. Players can also determine how long they will set the ticking time bomb for, up to 10 minutes.

The game can also be used as a toy so a child can play alone.

“They could booby trap their bedroom,” Baker added.

The game could also be played outdoors with clips attached to trees or bushes or in any size space indoors. In addition to the instructions inside the box, Patch’s YouTube video shows how to set it up and play it.

To make the game more challenging, kids can play with gear cards which feature items ranging from night vision goggles to flashlights. Kids can hide the cards and force players to find them before the bomb goes off, or can make players find a particular card.

The mission cards, with additional games and challenges, can be scanned on a Smart Phone after a free app is downloaded. The apps allow kids to take the game on the road, enabling them to play in the car.

Chrono Bomb is available at Target, Farm & Fleet, Shopko, Toys “R” US, and specialty toy stores.

Patch Products LLC is a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of games, children’s puzzles, infant/toddler toys, creative activities and teaching tools, with a focus on innovation and growth of brands and categories.

For more information on Patch Products and Chrono Bomb, visit [patchproducts.com](http://patchproducts.com).