

Gravity well

Be part of phaeno! With your coin you support the phaeno Freundeskreis.



Place a coin in one of the chutes at the edge of the funnel.

Let it go and watch its way down in the funnel.

What is the difference when you use a bigger coin or roll the coins at different speeds?

The coins roll down the funnel in circular or elliptical paths. They gradually spiral inward, get faster and faster until they spin nearly horizontally and finally drop down at the bottom.

The fast rotating coins stay perpendicular to the funnel's surface because of gyro effect.

The funnel's shape makes the coins behave according to the same law which causes the planets orbit around the Sun: The nearer they come to the centre, the more they are attracted. Unlike the real planets the coins lose energy because of friction. That's why the coins tumble into the „Sun“ sooner or later.