

Track Ball

Imagine you are guiding the screen cursor through a maze. You have to be able to advance the cursor and direct it through the passages as they twist and turn. The trackball is designed for this type of problem. The trackball uses a sphere the size of a billiard ball that you roll in the palm of the hand. As the ball rolls, the object moves in the same direction giving you complete and immediate control. Inside the device are two wheels set at right angles, which rub against the ball. As you roll the ball in the palm of the hand one wheel picks up the vertical part of the motion and the other the horizontal. The computer unites the two signals to recreate the movement.

