



# Crunchypotato

Sacramento, CA

**OT05: Can you tell me a little about how you got started making Arduinoboy's?**

CP: Arduinoboy is a project I first heard about around 2016 or 2017. I ordered a kit that included the PCB and all the components. I built it and used it a few times. In 2023, while digging through some of my old stuff, I found that old Arduinoboy. This sparked my interest in making my own version. I went through several prototypes before settling on a shape and size that I liked. I was constantly ordering PCB revisions back when I first started, mostly because I was new to KiCad and PCB design, and I still am.

**OT05: Does Sacramento have much of a chiptune scene?**

CP: I am not aware of any chiptune scene in Sacramento; if there is one, it isn't advertising itself. I might attempt to start one.

**OT05: Since you've started making Arduinoboy's, correct me if I'm wrong, you've built upon the original design, and have expanded its capabilities. What can you tell me about the different versions of Arduinoboy's offered by Hobby Chop?**

CP: I haven't altered the original design too much. Timothy Lamb aka Trash80 already did most of the work for this project, and it's a solid universal design for the code. If I had any contributions, they would be in the form factor. The edge connector idea came from the Catskull design. I want to assemble these myself and make them serviceable for the user while keeping the size small. So the main challenge for me was the layout of the components to keep the size reasonable.

**OT05: Aside from making Arduinoboy's, you've been working with other projects. You've found out, and shared, how to replace the break/sample on Amenizer, and have officially collaborated with the creator of CHORD. I've not had a chance to check out the new CHORD or the resampled Amenizer carts (REDRUM and DRUM & BASS II) what can you tell me about them?**

CP: I've been having fun discovering old gems of chiptune hacks, such as the Amenizer ROM, and how one can switch out the Amen sample for another sample. I built a web application using Python so that everyone, regardless of programming skill, can modify their own Amenizer ROMs. Similarly, I created a web tool for changing the waveform presets of mGB. DMT from Discord has created a web tool and an mGB ROM that can have its waveform changed on the fly, and he has made significant improvements to the Arduinoboy code, which I am still currently testing.

I've been wanting another synth ROM so that mGB isn't the only option. Humbletone did an amazing job converting his Chord ROM into something that can be used with an Arduinoboy. There have been a few developers over the last year that I have sent an Arduinoboy to in hopes that they might create something and make it MIDI-compatible in some way.

**OT05: How is the video game publishing aspect of Hobby Chop going?**

CP: So far, it is going well. The group includes five developers, all working on their own games. I occasionally test the games and provide feedback. My role is primarily creating the physical cartridge, so there isn't much I need to do before the game is finished. I've been enjoying it, and it allows me to offer some cool, unique items in the shop.

**OT05: Do you have any interest in developing a handheld instrument, like the Dirty Wave M8 or the Nanoloop q?**

CP: I think about that a lot. I haven't come up with an idea for any niche that needs to be filled yet.

**OT05: Do you have any intention of releasing a collection of music?**

CP: It could happen.

**OT05: Your chip music and homebrew shop can be found at [Etsy.com/shop/HobbyChop](https://etsy.com/shop/HobbyChop) and [Youtube.com/@Chiptune-Anamnesis](https://youtube.com/@Chiptune-Anamnesis) hosts some music and videos. Do you have any more sites or projects that you would like to promote?**

CP: My YouTube channel is primarily for hosting videos so that I can share them on Discord or as examples for people who want to see or hear certain setups. Maybe in the future, I'll set up a more "professional" YouTube channel. For now, there is already a ton of chiptune content available on YouTube. LabRatWarfare on YouTube has been using some of the modified Amenizer ROMs and has done some really cool stuff with them.

