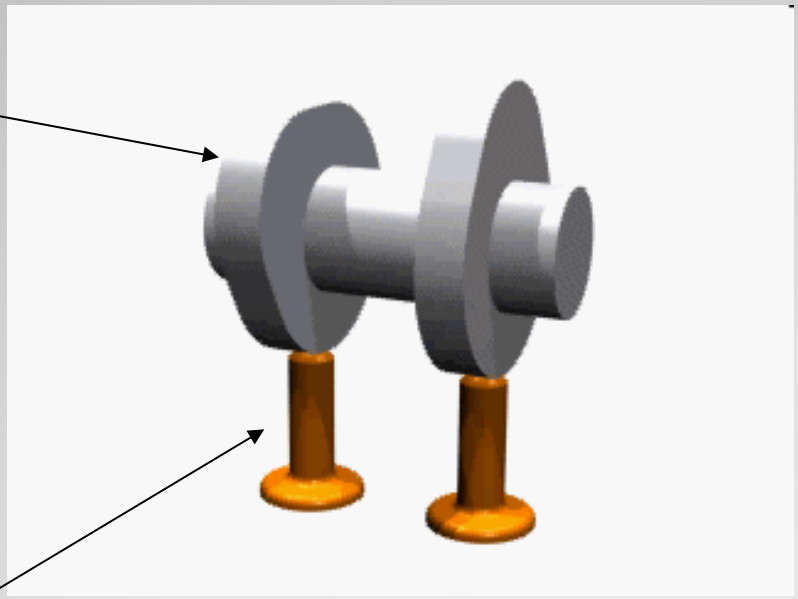
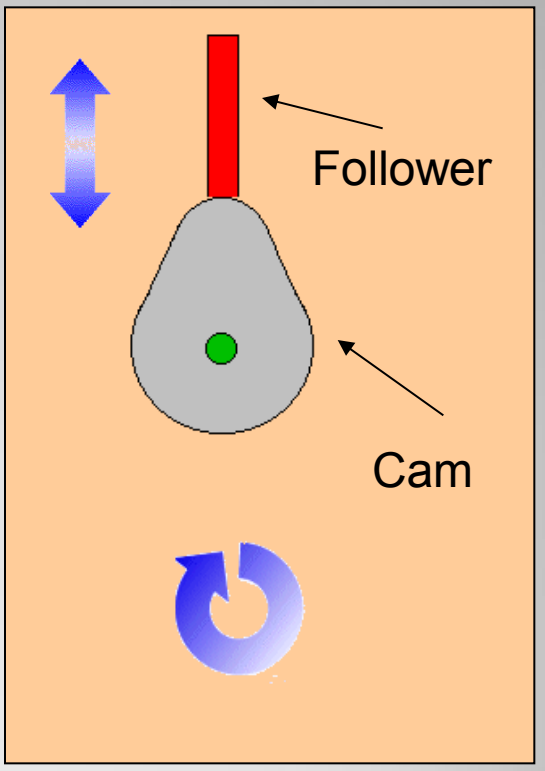
Cam and Follower

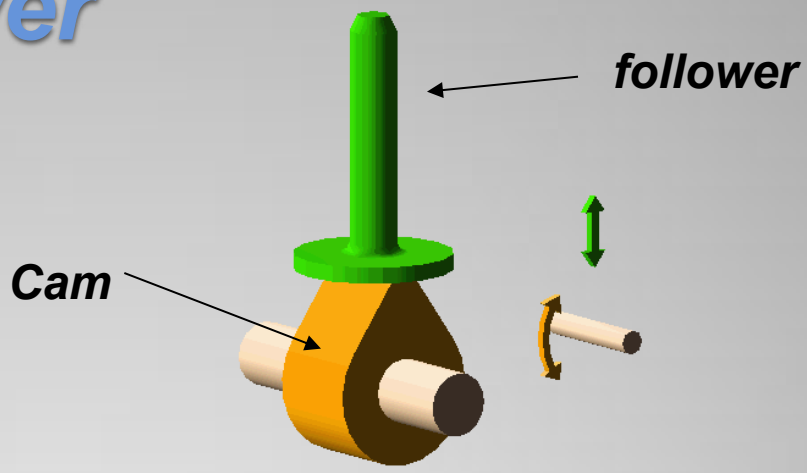
- The ***cam and follower*** is a device which can convert rotary motion (circular motion) into linear motion (movement in a straight line).

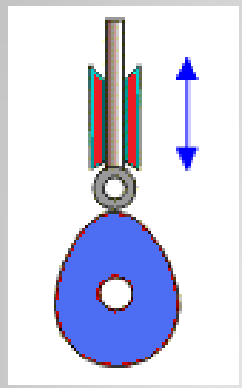




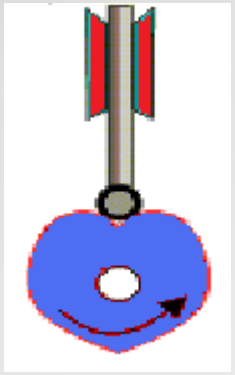
Cam and Follower

- *The cam can have various shapes. These are know as cam profiles.*

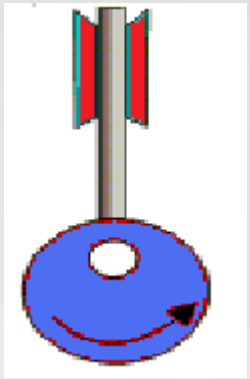




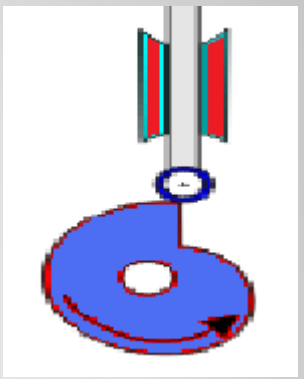
Pear



Heart



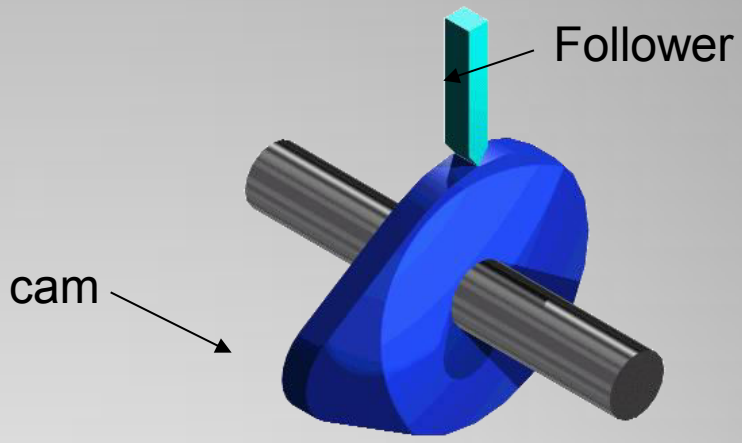
Circular

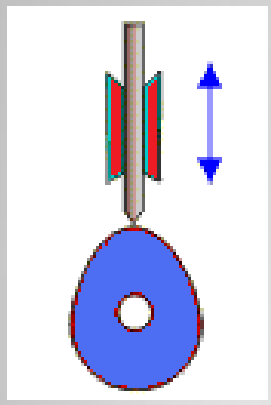


Drop

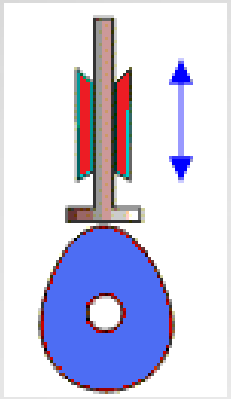
Cam and Follower

- A follower is a component which is designed to move up and down as it follows the edge of the cam.

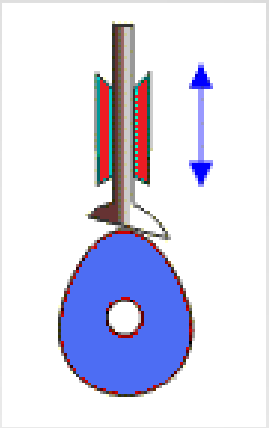




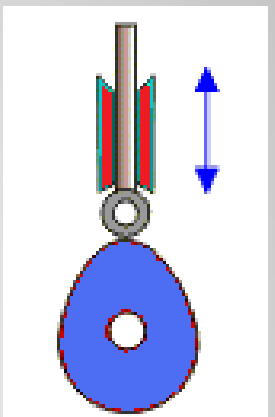
Knife edge Follower



Flat foot follower



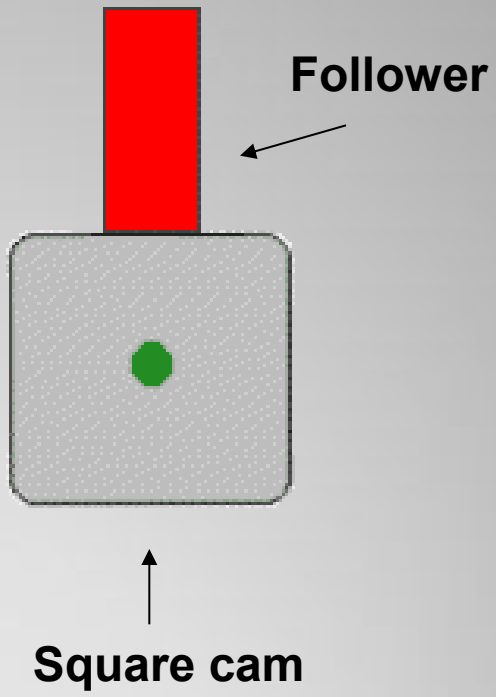
Off set follower

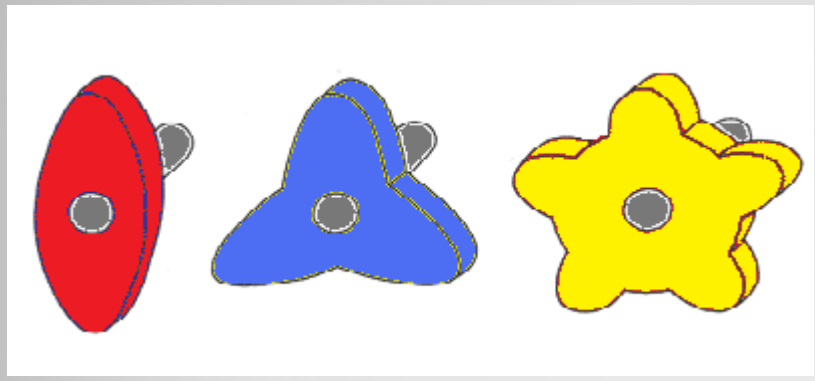


Roller follower

Cam and Follower

- *The 'bumps' on a cam are called lobes.*
- *The square cam illustrated has four lobes, and lifts the follower four times each revolution.*

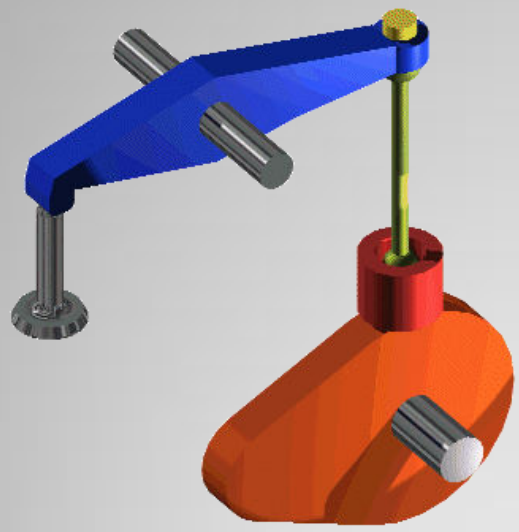




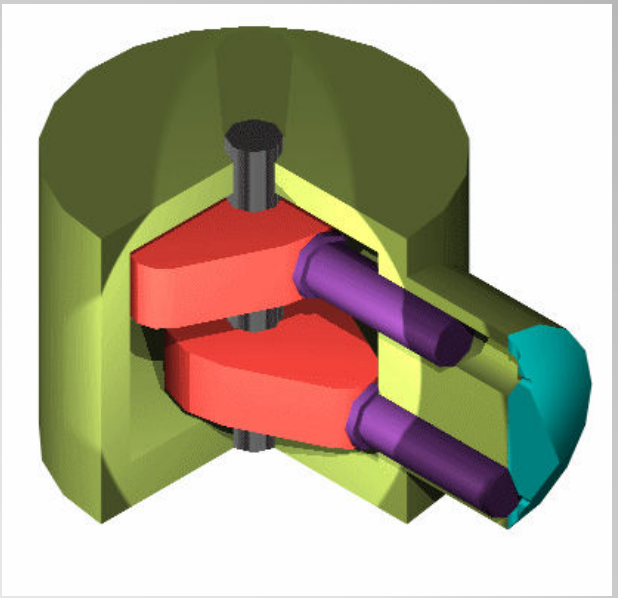
Examples of other rotary cam profiles.

Cam and Follower

Examples of a Rotary cams in operation.



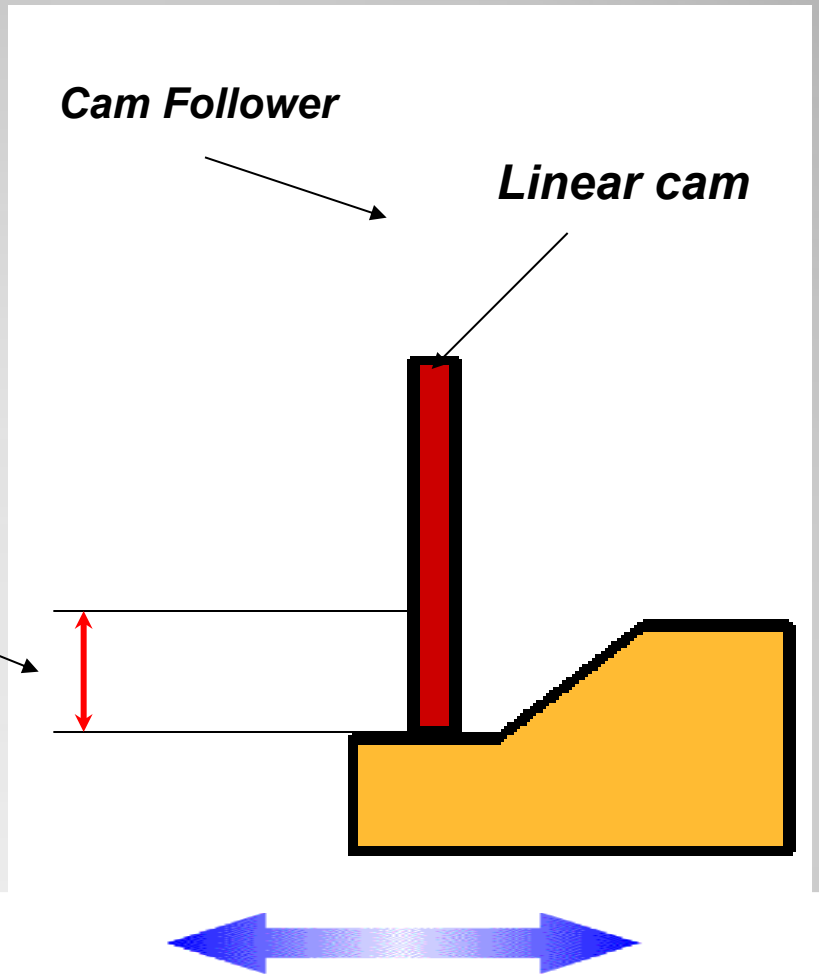
Control the movement of the engine valves.



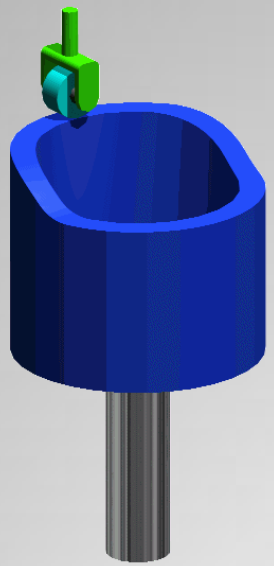
Cams used in a pump.

Cam and Follower

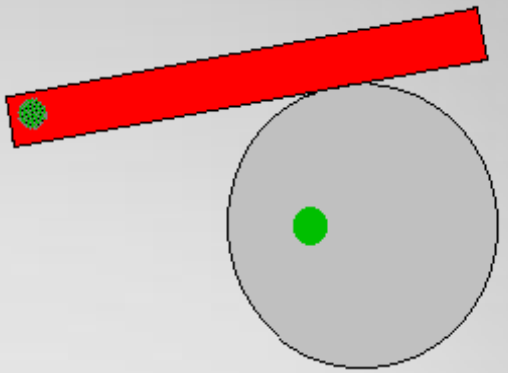
- ***The linear cam moves backwards and forwards in a reciprocating motion.***



Cam and Follower



- *Cams can also be cylindrical in shape*
- *Below a cylindrical cam and roller follower.*



- *The cam follower does not have to move up and down - it can be an oscillating lever as shown above.*

Cam rise and Fall