

# The Evolution of Lara Croft

## Tomb Raider I

- Masculine facial features
  - o Sharp, protruding chin
  - o Big cheek bones
  - o Pronounced brow
- Feminine body
  - o Big breasts
  - o Hips

- o A bit more normal

## Tomb Raider II

- Still masculine
- But feminine
  - o New plait of hair
- The Patch
  - o Facial Hair

## Tomb Raider IV

- Rounder, Sexier
  - o New game engine
  - o Smoother skin
- Masculine Space
  - o Increased linear gameplay

## Tomb Raider VI

- The New Lara Croft
  - o The new hip look
- More “Plastic Surgery”

“By investigating the various expressions of Lara Croft and the evolution of her aesthetic character, we are offered a chance to explore the various cultural and sociological aspects of our understanding of gender, especially in relation to videogames [...] In particular, her evolution parallels the different stages of gender exploration that adolescents experience and struggle through.”

Contact Information

Lee-Ming Zen  
leezen@stanford.edu