

CalCAP - Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get out of the program once it's started? At the first data entry screen you can exit the program by pressing Alt-X (the Alt key and the X key at the same time). This instruction will appear at the bottom of the screen.

At the beginning of each task or practice task you can exit the program by pressing [Esc] [Backspace] (the escape key followed by the backspace key) whenever the message "Press the space bar twice" appears at the bottom of the screen.

In the middle of a task you can exit the program by pressing the [Esc] key once, waiting for a beep, and then pressing the [Backspace] key. It may take several seconds for the program to respond after you press the [Esc] key.

The program runs too fast on my computer. How do I slow it down? or The program stops working after it gets to the "Initializing ..."

screen. The CalCAP program automatically calibrates itself every time you start the program. This method ensures that the program will run at exactly the same speed on any standard computer. If the program is running too fast on your computer or if it appears to stop working at the "Initializing ..." screen it is probably because you are using a laptop computer that is automatically adjusting the speed of its CPU to save energy. Some laptops run at their fastest speeds while plugged in, but others switch speeds even when plugged in. For this reason, the safest option would be to run the CalCAP on a standard desktop computer. If your application requires the use of a laptop computer, you may be able to permanently set your clock speed through the laptop BIOS or SpeedSwitchXP Software (<http://www.diefer.de/speedswitchxp/index.html>). You may also be able to change the Power settings on your laptop to always set the computer for maximum performance.

The program runs too slowly (or too quickly) in Windows. The CalCAP is a DOS program that is running within a DOS virtual machine in Windows. In order to configure the CalCAP correctly for Windows, you must download the Windows-compatible version. The original DOS version of the CalCAP will not run correctly under Windows.

I can't get my printer to work with the CalCAP. How do I get the printer to print? Since the CalCAP is a DOS-based program, it is not necessarily compatible with printers that are designed to work only under Microsoft Windows. While you can sometimes configure these printers to work correctly by instructing them to capture output sent to the printer port LPT1, there are other printers that just will not work. As a workaround, you can now send an ASCII text file directly to disk (REVIEW.TXT). This file can be read by any Windows or DOS-based word processor. This ASCII file is created by pressing "D" for disk instead of "P" for print when you are viewing the test results.

I can't get the Classic version of the REVIEW program (used from 1986-1998) to show me the (outcome codes / z-scores / percentile ranks). How do I change the codes that are displayed (or printed)? (Note: only applies to versions of the REVIEW program prior to 9/1/98)

The right-hand side of the screen can display outcome codes, z-scores or percentile ranks, but can only display one set of information at a time. To toggle between these different codes, press the Z key while you are reviewing the exam results.

The results that are printed are the results that are displayed on the screen. If you need a hard copy of, for example, both z-scores and percentile ranks, you will need to: (1) display z-scores, (2) print out the results, (3) display percentile ranks, and (4) print out the results a second time.

The lines on the final tables don't print correctly on my printer. How do I fix the output? The CalCAP is configured to print graphs using the standard PC character set. Some printers, such as Hewlett-Packard LaserJet models, are configured at the factory to use non-standard character sets and must be specifically configured to use the PC character set. Also, users of Microsoft Windows may find that the operating system resets the default character set used by their printer.

Because of these potential problems with printing the graphs, there is now a procedure for displaying the graphs using a less visually attractive ASCII character set that should be standard across all printers. If you are having difficulty printing the graphical section of the CalCAP reports, try the following procedures:

- (1) Make sure that your printer is set to use the PC-8 character set and that the default font is 10-pt Courier.
- (2) Reset your printer

If you are still having problems, you can switch between the two CalCAP printing procedures by using the FIXPRINT command included with the CalCAP program. To use FIXPRINT, switch to the DOS prompt in your CalCAP subdirectory, type FIXPRINT, and try printing the results again using the REVIEW program. (The commands that you type are shown in bold face. Be sure to press [Enter] at the end of each line.):

```
fixprint  
review
```

FIXPRINT toggles the default printing procedure back and forth between the PC-8 character set and the 127-character ASCII character set.

How do I know which version of the CalCAP program is on my computer? To find out the version number of your CalCAP program, make sure that you are in the CalCAP subdirectory, then type the word "RTCONFIG" at the DOS prompt. The

version numbers of the CalCAP routines will be shown in the middle of the screen.

How do I turn off the music? To turn off the music permanently, you need to change the batch file that starts the CalCAP program so that the option “/NM” (for no music) appears on the command line. For example, the batch file might look like this:

```
ERASE *.000  
RT0296 /FEED /NM /ECTL0291.RT
```

Alternatively, you can turn off the music for a particular testing session by starting the program with the “/NM” option. For example:

```
RT /NM
```

If you need to turn off the music while the program is running, wait until you see the message to “Press the space bar twice” at the bottom of the screen. Then, press the number “0” (zero) twice instead of pressing the space bar twice. You can turn the music on by pressing the number “1” (one) twice.