

## Classroom Response Systems (clickers)

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### What are these systems?

These systems allow you to give quizzes, take attendance, poll students, record individual student results, and display graphs of class results using student-purchased remote controls. (Cost to students: Roughly \$15-\$40 dollars for the remote and registration depending on the system used.) Several of the Welch lecture halls have been outfitted with classroom response systems, and it is often easy to outfit new classrooms quickly.

### How to learn more and get started

Three systems are currently used on campus: CPS, iClicker and Turning Point. iClicker is the most widely used and generally the easiest to use. Let me know if you have any questions about CPS or iClicker. I've used both and I'd be happy to give you my opinion of the two systems and help you get started. The links below have information on the systems and training sessions for using the systems.

<http://ctl.utexas.edu/workshops-and-events/workshops/teaching-with-technology-workshops/>

What if you want to use one of these systems? Let Greg Browning in the Chemistry Undergraduate Course Office (Welch 2.212, 1-1567) know as soon as possible which system you plan to use so he can get make sure the Co-op orders enough remotes and that the department or college can set the system up in your classroom prior to the start of classes.

### CNS iClicker software vs regular iClicker software

For those of you who use iClicker, a CNS program has been developed that can be used in place of the iClicker software that will allow upload of iClicker scores into Quest. This software has been loaded onto the computers in the CNS classrooms. At the end of the session, this CNS program will upload the grades as a percentage. The program differs from the iClicker program in that it does not attempt to grab screen captures of the questions and you cannot use the instructor remote to control PowerPoint slides. More information:

<http://cns.utexas.edu/quest/support/clicker/>

This CNS software shows students a response grid of up to 169 students. For larger classes, it cycles through grids. For questions on this CNS software, please contact Patsy McDonald ([patsymc@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:patsymc@mail.utexas.edu)).

Quest now has a function to upload spreadsheet grades, so if you use the standard iClicker software from the company, grades can be uploaded into Quest. They can also be uploaded into the Blackboard gradebook.

*iClicker software updates:*

<http://www.iclicker.com/dnn/SupportCenter/Downloads/tabid/176/Default.aspx>

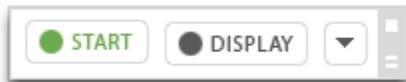
**Figuring out iClicker lost serial numbers (needed for registration of clickers)**

Students can test their iClicker and CPS clickers on receivers located at the ITS Help Desk on the second floor in the Flawn Academic Center (FAC). There is also an iClicker receiver at the Co-Op. Receivers can identify clicker serial numbers to assure proper registration.

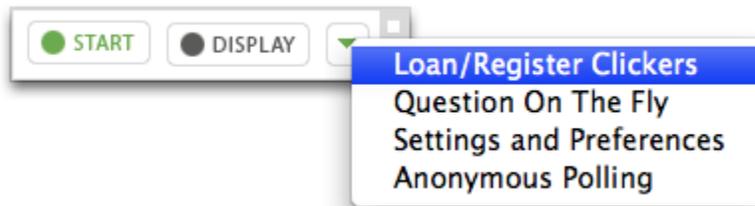
You can also help students figure out their iClicker serial number. Paul McCord has put together the following directions for the easiest way to do this:

**Remember:** ALL iclicker remotes have an 8-digit hexadecimal code. That means only 0-9 and A-F for the characters in the code.

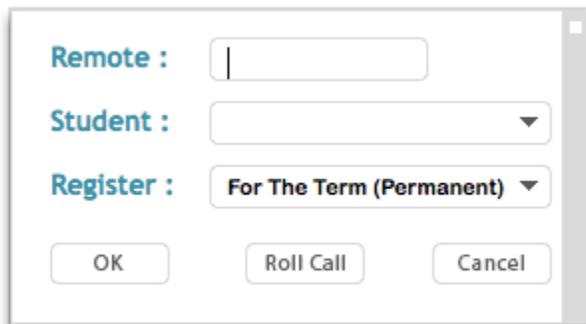
1. First launch a session from the iclicker program. You could even be in the middle of an actual session. You should have the following control panel on your desktop.



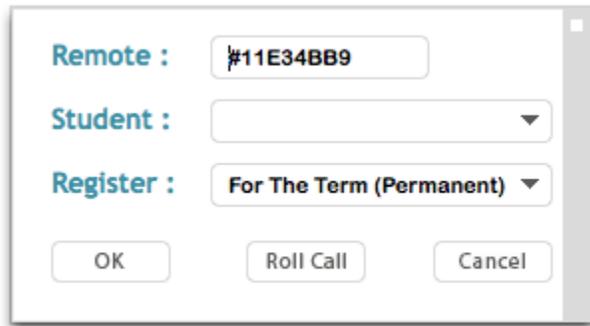
2. From the pulldown menu on the control panel chose "Loan/Register Clickers".



3. Once the loan clicker information panel comes up (see below), take the unknown iclicker and hold the ON button until the power light flashes. Then enter the frequency code - the default is AA.

A screenshot of the loan clicker information panel. It contains three input fields: 'Remote' (a text box), 'Student' (a dropdown menu), and 'Register' (a dropdown menu with 'For The Term (Permanent)' selected). At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'OK', 'Roll Call', and 'Cancel'.

4. As soon as the correct frequency code is entered, the iclicker's ID number will show in the "Remote : " textbox as shown below.



The screenshot shows a dialog box with the following elements:

- Remote :** A text input field containing the alphanumeric code `#11E34BB9`.
- Student :** A dropdown menu that is currently empty.
- Register :** A dropdown menu with the selected option being `For The Term (Permanent)`.
- At the bottom, there are three buttons: `OK`, `Roll Call`, and `Cancel`.

Write the code down and give to the student. Tell the student to **WRITE** the new found ID code **ON** the remote with a permanent marker. Inside the battery cover is a good place that is not likely to rub off.