

DirectRT v2008, © 2007 Empirisoft Corporation
Please visit us at <http://support.empirisoft.com>

System Requirements

DirectRT will run well on most computers running Windows 95, 98, ME, 2000 or XP. DirectRT will not run on Windows NT because NT does not support DirectX beyond version 4 (7 or later is required). It is recommended that systems running DirectRT have at least 64mb of memory, a high quality graphics card with at least 16mb of video memory and a processor speed of at least 500mhz. The log files that DirectRT produces will show you whether or not the computer in question can handle your experimental design.

You can tell which version of DirectX is installed on your machine by typing "dxdiag" from the run command on the Start menu. If DirectX is installed, doing this will tell you which version you are currently running. If you have version 7 or later installed, you can click on the "Display" tab to ensure that there are no problems or warnings given with regard to the compatibility between DirectX and your display adaptor (video card). If there are no warnings, then all should be ok. If you'll be using sound with DirectRT, you can do the same with the "Sound" tab.

Finally, it is also necessary to have a spreadsheet application installed (e.g., Excel) if you plan to edit or view the DirectRT input and output files on that machine--or if you plan to try the DirectRT on-line tutorials. All input and output files are created and saved in .CSV format which is editable from any standard spreadsheet application. See File Format for more details. You do NOT have to have a spreadsheet application installed simply to run the experiments and gather data. Note that users in a few countries may have to set their "Regional Settings" in the Windows Control Panel to that of the United States in order to correctly view and edit .csv files in Excel.

Backward Compatibility

If you are accustomed to using a previous version of DirectRT (v2000-v2006), you should be able to continue using v2008 without having to learn anything new. v2008 is backward compatible so that DirectRT experiments from all previous versions should run the same as they always have without requiring modification. In fact, the final release of DirectRT v2006 (v2006.2.28) served as the beta release of v2008. Of course, be sure to confirm compatibility for yourself with any old experiments prior to scheduling participants. As we continue to update v2008 with new fixes and features, we will post the changes on our support site at:

<http://www.empirisoft.com/Support/forumdisplay.php?f=19>

Installation

To install DirectRT, double-click on the downloaded file "drt2008.x.x" (where x.x indicates the current release). The installation program will guide you through the set-up procedure. After the setup is complete, follow the security instructions below to gain authorization for each workstation to run DirectRT. Note that we periodically release updated packages, so feel free to check for and download newer releases at any time from www.empirisoft.com/download.aspx.

Security

To help control unauthorized distribution and use of DirectRT, it has been secured with ATX™ software protection. DirectRT will not run on any machine until this security has been disabled. To disable the security follow these steps:

- Install and run DirectRT.
- You will receive a message that the current workstation requires authorization to use the software, and a code number will be displayed.
- Email the code that appears to sales@empirisoft.com. If you are an authorized user, you will receive a translation of this code which will be a registration number unique for the machine on which you have installed DirectRT (usually the same day). DirectRT should now be fully functional. If you are not yet an authorized user, you may still request a code which will allow you to use and evaluate DirectRT for up to 21 days. Important: ATX™ codes are unique to every machine. Be sure to get authorization for each machine that will be using the software. If you have any difficulty at all with this procedure, please contact us for assistance.

The Ultimate in Convenience.

If you belong to an organization that has purchased a site license then we can hard code your department's IP patterns into our software so that ANY machine conforming to that pattern (e.g., 123.123.123.*) will start up right away. Ask sales@empirisoft.com for details.

System Settings

The following are two suggestions for your general system set-up.

True colors. To allow for the full range of colors usable by DirectRT, it is recommended that you use 16, 24, or 32 bit color. Many systems are set by default to 8 bit , which provides for only 256 colors (colors or color ranges may appear as dots, patterns, or solid regions). To set this option, right click anywhere on the desktop and then select properties. Choose settings, and then select the highest color range possible. 24 and 32 bit color ranges are both capable of displaying close to the full range of colors detectable by the human eye.

Show file extensions. DirectRT frequently makes use of file extensions. These are the three-letters following the period on file names (e.g., .txt, .csv, .bmp). For this reason, it is advisable that you don't instruct Windows to hide these from you. To set this as a default:

- In Windows98, open any folder and select View from the pull down menu. Select Folder Options, and then View again. Deselect the option to have Windows Hide File Extensions. It is also useful to have Windows Display the Full Path in Title Bar, as well as Smooth Edges of Screen Fonts.
- In WindowsME/2000/XP, open any folder and select Tools from the pull down menu. Select Folder Options, and then View. Deselect the option to have Windows Hide File Extensions. It is also useful to have Windows Display the Full Path in Title Bar as well as Smooth Edges of Screen Fonts. The latter setting can be found in Control Panel > Display > Effects in Windows ME, NT, 2000 and XP