Student Guide to Using Clickers

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**What is a clicker?**

The clicker is a student response technology that provides you and your professors instant feedback on your response to in-class questions and quizzes.

**Why are clickers being used in class?**

Clickers are used to encourage student engagement and class participation. The information gathered allows the professor to know which topics need greater focus, and for you to identify which areas you may need to spend more time studying.

**How is the clicker used in class?**

The professor presents questions during a polling session and you respond using the clicker. The professor can also use the clicker system to take class attendance.

**What is a polling session?**

During a polling session, the professor poses a question to the class or a group of students and they respond. A poll is opened and closed by the professor or an automatic timer.

**What kind of clicker am I using?**

You are using a Turning Technologies **ResponseCard RF LCD**. This clicker communicates through radio frequency (RF). It is lightweight, compact in size and has a range of 250 feet.
What are the basic functions of this clicker?

This clicker is always in a deep sleep mode. It is activated when a button is pressed.

The clicker has **12 buttons:**

- **10 Answer Buttons:** “1/A – 0/J”
- **1 Channel or Go button,** which allows you to modify the **RF channel**
- **1 “?” button,** used to inform the professor when you have a question during the polling session

There are 82 channels available for transmission. This makes it possible to run different sessions in close proximity without interference. The default clicker channel is **channel 41.** Do not change/reset the channel unless directed to do so by your professor.

The clicker is powered by two coin-cell CR2032 (3.0V) lithium batteries. The average battery life is 6 to 12 months.

Will the clicker channel need changing?

If you submit a response and the clicker LED indicator flashes several times, then displays a red light and the “no channel” icon, the clicker is on the wrong channel. You will need to reprogram the clicker to match your professor’s RF channel.

It’s very important to **notify your professor** if your response is not transmitted, and confirm the correct RF channel for the course if this occurs.

How do I change the clicker channel?

1. Press the **Channel** button
2. Enter the **2 digit channel** (e.g. for 41, press 4, then 1)
3. Press the **Channel** button again

You will see a solid green light confirming the change. If you do not see a green light, repeat steps 1-3.
How can I tell if my clicker is on the right channel?

If you have the ResponseCard RF LCD, you can view the current channel at the top of the display screen.

If you have the ResponseCard RF, your instructor can test to see what channel the students’ clickers are on.

How do I respond to questions with the clicker?

You can respond to questions only during an open poll. To answer a question, press one of the answer buttons during an open polling period. Once a key is pressed, the selected answer is transmitted automatically. The screen will display your answer choice and the LED indicator will display a solid green light to confirm a successful transmission.

Can I change my answer?

Yes. If you need to change a submitted answer and the polling period has not yet ended, just select another answer. This new selection will override the previous answer. The system records the last answer submitted within the open polling session.

What happens to a submitted answer?

All responses are transmitted to the professor’s receiver, which is connected his or her computer.

Following the poll session, the professor may choose to display a chart of the cumulative response data to the class. All response data is stored and can be reviewed by the professor, who may use the data as part of your overall grade.
What should I do if my clicker is not working properly?

You should notify your professor immediately of any issues you are experiencing with your clicker. Then, contact the FITL Center at clickers@nyu.edu and describe the problem you are experiencing.

What should I do if I lose my clicker?

You should notify your professor immediately. In addition, you should contact the FITL Center at clickers@nyu.edu or stop by our office – LC 444, on the upper level of Dibner Library – to order a replacement clicker.

How long will I be using this clicker?

If you are an undergraduate student at the School of Engineering, a clicker fee was added to your student account when you enrolled. You own your clicker, and you should expect to use it for your entire time at NYU. The clicker is a required device for all new students, and your instructors may use the clicker in class at any time.