

Cyberball Online

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Using Cyberball

Cyberball is a psychological research game that is meant to test participants in simulated social scenarios. The game can be interacted with in two primary ways: the native website and Qualtrics. The native website is used to build game configurations, which are used to dictate how any given game will behave. A configured game can then be embedded into a Qualtrics survey, where it can automatically record test data. This data can be exported from Qualtrics, as will be discussed later.

Native Website

The native website is meant to be a straightforward way to build game configurations, preview a game, and export the settings. From the landing page, you can begin building a configuration from scratch or load a preset to use or edit. Once a preset is selected, or upon clicking the ‘Start from Scratch’ button, you will be taken to the configuration builder.

Configuration Builder

This is the primary way of setting up a custom Cyberball game. The configuration builder features a central configuration panel above a preview of the game as it is currently set.

This preview must be refreshed using the ‘Refresh Iframe’ button whenever settings are changed to correctly represent the current game setup.

The configuration panel can be navigated using the arrows on the sides to navigate between human (research participant) settings, CPU settings, general gameplay settings, and export options – in that order.

On all pages except the export page, click the ‘?’ buttons to better understand a setting.

On the export page, you can:

- Preview Game – open the current game in a new window
- The Clipboard – copy the URL for the current game configuration
- Save Preset – save the current configuration on your browser
(see next section for accessing saved presets)
- Download – save the current configuration as a file on your device
(see next section for uploading config files)
- Copy Embed Code – copy the HTML used to embed the game into Qualtrics
(see ‘Qualtrics’ section for how to embed and run a game)