

# RARS Environment calls

RARS currently supports system calls that MARS originally supported and system calls compatible with Linux tooling (gcc, [riscv-pk](#), etc). Only a handful are compatible with other education simulators, but it is configurable so the call numbers can be changed with a simple config file.

They can be called by loading the call number into a7, any other arguments into a0-a6 and calling ecall. The following exits the program with the code 42.

```
li a0, 42
li a7, 93
ecall
```

Note: all registers besides the output are guaranteed not to change.

```
.data
str: .string "abc"

.text
li a0 1
li a1 42
ecall    # prints "1" to console

li a0 2
ecall    # prints "" to console (ASCII(42): '*')

la a1 str
li a0 4
ecall    # Prints "abc" to console
```

All supported system calls are shown below.

Name	Call # (a7)	Description	Inputs	Outputs
PrintInt	1	Prints an integer	a0: integer to print	N/A
PrintFloat	2	Prints an floating point number	fa0: float to print	N/A

PrintString	4	Prints a null-terminated string to the console	a0: the address of the string	N/A
ReadInt	5	Read an int from input console	N/A	a0: the int
ReadFloat	6	Read a float from input console	N/A	fa0: the float
ReadString	8	Reads a string from the console	a0: address of input buffer a1: maximum number of characters to read	N/A
Sbrk	9	Allocate heap memory	a0: amount of memory in bytes	a0: address to the allocated block
Exit	10	Exits the program with code 0	N/A	N/A
PrintChar	11	Prints an ascii character	a0: character to print (only lowest byte is considered)	N/A
ReadChar	12	Read a character from input console	N/A	a0: the character
GetCWD	17	Writes the path of the current working directory into a buffer	a0: the buffer to write into a1: the length of the buffer	a0: -1 if the path is longer than the buffer
Time	30	Get the current time (milliseconds since 1 January 1970)	N/A	a0: low order 32 bits high order 32 bits
MidiOut	31	Outputs simulated MIDI tone to sound card (does not wait for sound to end).	See MIDI note below	N/A
Sleep	32	Set the current thread to sleep for a time (not precise)	a0: time to sleep in milliseconds	N/A
MidiOutSync	33	Outputs simulated MIDI tone to sound card, then waits until the sound finishes playing.	See MIDI note below	N/A
PrintIntHex	34	Prints an integer (in hexadecimal format left-padded with zeroes)	a0: integer to print	N/A
PrintIntBinary	35	Prints an integer (in binary format left-padded with zeroes)	a0: integer to print	N/A
PrintIntUnsigned	36	Prints an integer (unsigned)	a0: integer to print	N/A
RandSeed	40	Set seed for the underlying Java pseudorandom number generator	a0: index of pseudorandom number generator a1: the seed	N/A

RandInt	41	Get a random integer	a0: index of pseudorandom number generator	a0: random integer
RandIntRange	42	Get a random bounded integer	a0: index of pseudorandom number generator a1: upper bound for random number	a0: uniformly selectet from [0,bound]
RandFloat	43	Get a random float	a0: index of pseudorandom number generator	fa0: uniformly randomly selected from from [0,1]
ConfirmDialog	50	Service to display a message to user	a0: address of null-terminated string that is the message to user	a0: Yes (0), No (1), or Cancel(2)
InputDialogInt	51	N/A	N/A	N/A
InputDialogFloat	52	N/A	N/A	N/A
InputDialogString	54	N/A	N/A	N/A
MessageDialog	55	Service to display a message to user	a0: address of null-terminated string that is the message to user a1: the type of the message to the user, which is one of: 1: error message 2: information message 3: warning message 4: question message other: plain message	N/A
MessageDialogInt	56	Service to display a message followed by a int to user	a0: address of null-terminated string that is the message to user a1: the int to display	N/A
Close	57	Close a file	a0: the file descriptor to close	N/A
MessageDialogFloat	58	Service to display a message followed by a float to user	a0: address of null-terminated string that is the message to user fa1: the float to display	N/A
MessageDialogString	59	Service to display a message followed by a string to user	a0: address of null-terminated string that is the message to user a1: address of the second string to display	N/A

LSeek	62	Seek to a position in a file	a0: the file descriptor a1: the offset for the base a2 is the beginning of the file (0), the current position (1), or the end of the file (2)}	a0: the selected position from the beginning of the file or -1 is an error occurred
Read	63	Read from a file descriptor into a buffer	a0: the file descriptor a1: address of the buffer a2: maximum length to read	a0: the length read or -1 if error
Write	64	Write to a file descriptor from a buffer	a0: the file descriptor a1: the buffer address a2: the length to write	a0: the number of characters written
Exit2	93	Exits the program with a code	a0: the number to exit with (ignored in the gui)	N/A
Open	1024	Opens a file from a path Only supported flags (a1) are read-only (0), write-only (1) and write-append (9). write-only flag creates file if it does not exist, so it is technically write-create. write-append will start writing at end of existing file.	a0: Null terminated string for the path a1: flags	a0: the file descriptor or -1 if an error occurred