


# Introduction to SAS

## 1. Access SAS Software and Setup Practice Files

### Step 1: Access SAS Software for this course


You can use **SAS OnDemand for Academics**, a learning version of SAS, to do the practices and activities in this course. There is no software to download. All you need is a web browser and an Internet connection to access the software. Note that there might be periodic outages for software maintenance.

To register for a free account:


1. Go to <https://welcome.oda.sas.com/> 
  2. If you don't have a SAS Profile, click **Don't have a SAS Profile**. In the message window click **Create Profile**. Follow the instructions to create a SAS profile and then follow the instructions in the verification email to activate your profile.
  3. After you have a SAS profile, you can register for SAS OnDemand for Academics.
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### Step 2: Data Setup Instructions for SAS OnDemand for Academics: SAS Studio

These instructions assume that you have an active SAS OnDemand for Academics account.

1. Download and Open [this zip file](#) and extract it to any location on your computer. The unzip process creates a folder named **Learning\_Resources** that includes one SAS program: **CreateDataFiles.sas**.
2. Start SAS Studio from your [SAS OnDemand for Academics Dashboard](#).
3. At the top of the **Server Files and Folders** panel, click **New**  


and select **Folder**.

4. In the **Name** box, type **Learning\_Resources** in uppercase exactly as shown. Click **Save**.
5. If necessary, expand **Files(HOME)** and verify that the **Learning\_Resources** folder was created.
6. Select the **Learning\_Resources** folder and click **Upload**  

7. In the Upload Files window, click **Choose Files**. Browse to the **Learning\_Resources** folder on your computer, select **CreateDataFiles.sas**, and click **Open**. Click **Upload**. The program is added to the **Learning\_Resources** folder on the server.
8. In SAS Studio, double-click **CreateDataFiles.sas** to open the program.
9. Click **Run**



or press **F3** to run the program. This program creates all the SAS files and data you need for this course. After the program runs, a list of SAS tables is displayed in the **Results** tab.

10. In the **Server Files and Folders** panel, scroll up to the **Learning\_Resources** folder and collapse each subfolder. You should have five subfolders: **activities**, **data**, **demos**, **output**, and **practices**.

When you are asked to provide a file path to a data file, you can use `~/Learning_Resources/data` as a shortcut to your files. To see the full path, right-click the **data** folder and select **Properties**.