

Scientific Calculator v1.2.8

Documentation

By Sam Gleske

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1. Introduction

1.1. Welcome

Welcome to the Scientific Calculator v1.2.8 Help Documentation. Here you will find extensive knowledge and expertise with the function of this calculator, what different buttons do, examples in computing equations, as well as descriptions of menus and their functions.

I hope this will be of great help to you and that you find many uses for my calculator.

1.2. Calculator Info

What is the Scientific Calculator v1.2.8?

It is an advanced calculator that uses JavaScript (not Java) to compute advanced math functions. Type in almost any equation and my calculator can handle it!

Why is the version 1.x.x?

That is the number of times the calculator has had major revisions since its original release November, 2005.

Other Fun Facts:

- It took me 10 hours to make the initial design of the calculator. So when I mean it was created on November 28th, 2005.I literally mean it was created that day!
- The original calculator had the following menus:
 - *File > Exit*
 - *Edit > Copy*
 - *Edit > Paste*
 - *Conv > Bin > Dec*
 - *Conv > Bin > Hex*
 - *Conv > Dec > Bin*
 - *Conv > Dec > Hex*
 - *Conv > Hex > Bin*
 - *Conv > Hex > Dec*
 - *View > Standard*
 - *View > Scientific* (disabled)
 - *Help > Help* (disabled)
 - *Help > About Calculator*
- The original calculator had all of the current buttons as well

What changes have there been?

All code has been entirely rewritten over versions 1.0.x and 1.1.x. It was rewritten to be better optimized, more efficient, and it was even reformatted to a common human readable tabular format across all documents. Even the file structure of the calculator has been changed. More menus have been added such as an Octal conversion and Temperature conversion in the *Conv* menu.

Future Plans?

Eventually I want the calculator to be able to calculate in hexadecimal, octal, and binary modes. This is when the *View > Scientific* menu will be available.

1.3. Compatible Browsers

Scientific Calculator v1.2.8 fully supports the following web browsers on all platforms:

- Firefox
- Internet Explorer 6.0+
- Mozilla 1.7+
- Netscape 9 (Firefox based)
- Opera 9+
- Safari 3+

All other browsers work but are not fully supported with detecting the keystrokes and having shortcut keys. Older versions of those browsers may still work with Scientific Calculator. But I have not tested older versions so there's no guarantee that it will work.

Compatibility Tests

Successfully tested browsers

- Windows 2000/XP
 - Internet Explorer 6.x/7.x
 - Internet Explorer 7.x
 - Firefox 1.0.x/1.5.x/2.0.x
 - Netscape 8.x
 - Opera 9.x
- Linux/UNIX
 - Firefox 1.0.x/1.5.x/2.0.x
 - KDE 3.4.2
 - Mozilla web browser
 - Netscape 7.x
 - Opera 9.x
- MAC OSX
 - Firefox 1.5.x

Untested browsers (planned for testing)

- MAC OSX
 - Internet Explorer 5
 - Safari

Test results

Scientific Calculator v1.2.8 is compatible with the following web browsers on all platforms:

- Internet Explorer 6.0+
- Firefox 1.0+
- KDE 3.4.2+
- Mozilla
- Netscape 7+
- Opera 9+

Note: Older versions of those browsers may still work with Scientific Calculator. But I have not tested older versions so there's no guarantee that it will work.

Compatibility Alert!

Recently I have discovered that the following Firefox extension(s) do not allow the calculator to be sized correctly:

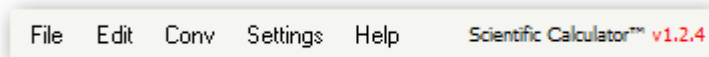
- [1-ClickWeather 1.1.4](#)

I highly recommend you uninstall these extension(s) because they seem to mess with the CSS engine of Firefox which affects all web pages, not just this calculator.

2. Menu Help

2.1. About Menu

What is the menu?



What is a submenu?

A submenu is a branch within the main headers of the menu. Click on the main header *File*. You will notice other menus extend from it (*Reload* and *Close*); these are called submenus.

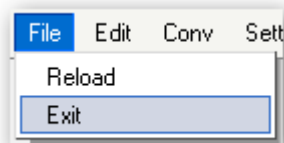
What are submenu notations?

A submenu notation is similar to a webpage breadcrumb menu.

For example if you were specified to click *File* and then click *Reload*, then the menu notation would be "select Reload under *File > Reload*".

2.2. File Menu

What is the File Menu?

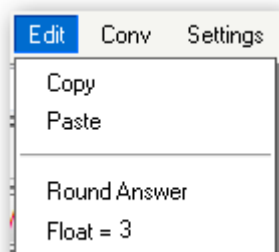


Functions of the File Menu:

- Under *File > Reload*: This submenu resets all settings of the calculator
- Under *File > Exit*: This submenu closes the calculator

2.3. Edit Menu

What is the Edit Menu?



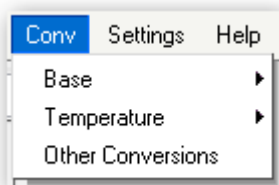
Functions of the Edit Menu:

- *Edit > Copy* Copies the displayed equation
- *Edit > Paste* Pastes contents of clipboard into the current equation
- *Edit > Round Answer* Rounds the current answer/equation to the decimal places specified
- *Edit > Float* Specifies the number of decimal places to be rounded

Note: *Copy* and *Paste* menus only show up in Internet Explorer where clipboard access by JavaScript is allowed. It won't work in any other browser so therefore it only shows up in IE.

2.4. Conv Menu

What is the Conv Menu?



What does Conv mean?

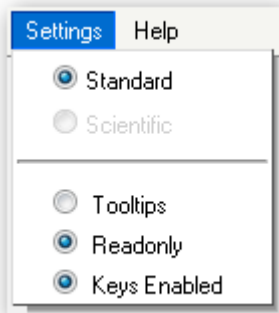
Conv is abbreviated for Convert. Its purpose is to convert between number types

Functions of the Conv Menu:

- *Conv > Base* Converts the equation between Binary, Decimal, Hexadecimal, and Octal bases.
- *Conv > Temperature* Converts the equation between Celsius, Fahrenheit, Rankine, and Reaumur temperatures.
- *Conv > Other Conversions* is a link to onlineconversion.com where there is an extensive list of units to convert from.

2.5. Settings Menu

What is the Settings Menu?



What does the Settings Menu do?

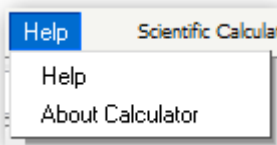
Adjusts different settings of the calculator so the user can simplify or make easier their experience with the Scientific Calculator.

Functions of the Settings Menu:

- *Settings > Standard/Scientific* Toggles between the Standard view and the Scientific view. The Standard view is only available at the moment.
- *Settings > Tooltips* Toggles whether or not a small description is shown when a mouse is over a button.
- *Settings > Readonly* Toggles the state of the display to be read only or editable. This is for browsers that can't have key detection to write out the equations. This is basically for any browser other than Internet Explorer or Firefox. The calculator usually detects this but if the detection fails then the user can at least depend on this menu.
- *Settings > Keys Enabled* Toggles the shortcut keys on/off. This way if the user is using an unsupported browser (not IE, Firefox, or Mozilla 1.7) then they can at least turn it on to see if it works.

2.6. Help Menu

What is the Help Menu?



Functions of the Help Menu:

- *Help > Help* Displays the help database (this entire help guide).
- *Help > About* Displays a quick information dialog about this calculator.

3. Button Help

3.1. Overview

This section is to teach you how to use the different buttons of the Scientific Calculator. You will learn the names of the function of each button as well as how to use them. The buttons are split into sections:

- Deletion Buttons (Backspace, CE, AC)
- Basic Equation Buttons (0-9, /, *, +, -, +/-, ., =)
- Memory Buttons (MC, MR, MS, M+)
- Button Shortcuts
- Power Functions (sqrt, x^y , x^2 , x^3)
- Trigonometric Functions (exp, ln, cos, sin, tan)
- Miscellaneous (remaining buttons not covered in other sections)

Quick note before you proceed:

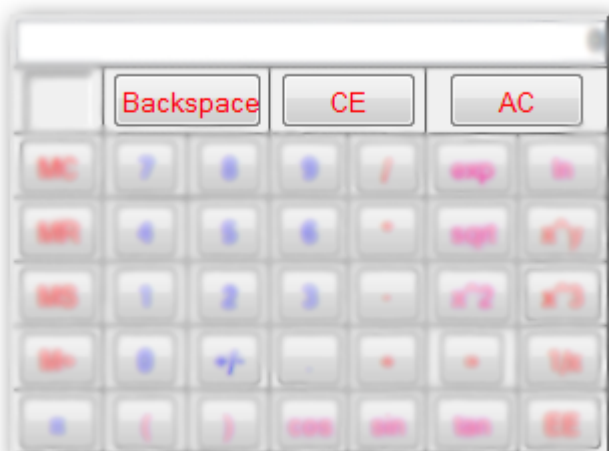
The display below will be called a few things.



Display, Equation Display, Current Equation, the Equation

3.2. Deletion Buttons

There are several ways to remove variables or entire equations from the display or memory of the Scientific Calculator.



- The indicator on the far left is known as the memory state. It "indicates" if it has memory stored by showing an "M" in its center.
- The next button to the right, "Backspace", deletes a value from the Equation Display from right to left.
- The next button to the right is the CE button or better known as the Clear Equation button. It gets rid of any contents within the Display and sets it back to its default value "0".
- The AC button or All Clear button clears both the memory (by getting rid of the "M" along with the stored data) as well as the Display (sets back to "0")

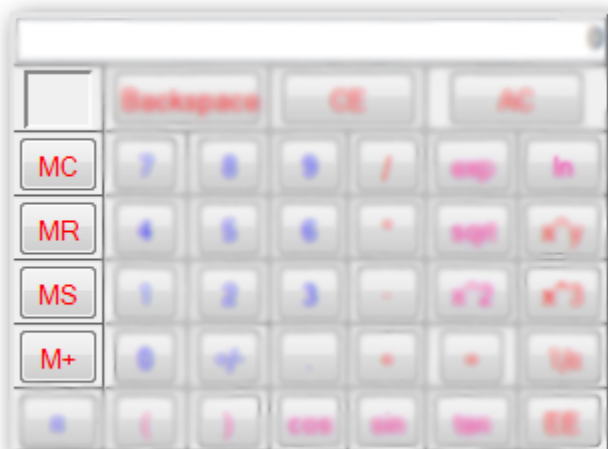
3.3. Basic Equations



Above are the basic calculator buttons found on every calculator.

Rules: There has to be a symbol in between any two algebraic functions. For example $(8)(2)=16$ algebraically. But that has to be inputted into the calculator as $(8)*(2)=16$.

3.4. Memory Buttons

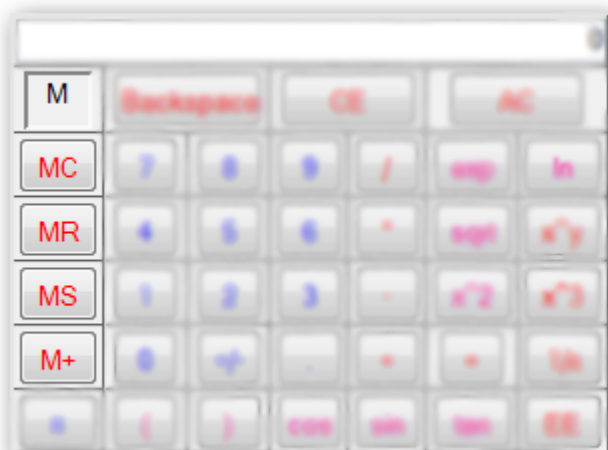


In this help topic you will learn how to use the memory functions of the Scientific Calculator. At the top you should recognize the memory indicator (see Deletion Buttons). Click on the word memory indicator to see its definition. Now before you can use the memory functions you must learn what its buttons mean. Look below for explanations:

- MC (Memory Clear) Clears the memory and takes the "M" out of the memory indicator
- MR (Memory Recall) Takes the equation out of memory and adds on to the value of the Display
**See examples for a better explanation
- MS (Memory Store) Copies the current equation into memory to be later recalled. Also a large "M" will appear inside of the memory indicator.
- M+ (Memory Plus) Takes the equation stored in memory, takes the currently Displayed equation, and adds them both together while storing the answer once again into memory.

Example 1 (Storing in Memory):

1. Type in 45
2. Hit MS
3. Your memory indicator should have an "M" like the one below



Example 2 (Recalling Memory):

1. Type in 45
2. Hit MS
3. Now type in + (your Display should look like "45+")
4. Hit MR
5. You should get 45+45
6. Hit Enter (Return) and your answer should be 90

Note: If you did not type in the + symbol then you would have gotten 4545. So don't forget to put an equation symbol before hitting MR

Example 3 (Adding to Memory and then Clearing it):

1. Type in 45
2. Hit MS
3. This time hit M+
4. Now type in + (your Display should look like "45+")
5. Hit MR
6. You should get 45+90
7. Now hit MC to clear the memory and your memory indicator should be empty like the picture below



3.5. Button Shortcuts

- All the Basic Equation Keys work
- MC press C key
- MR press R key
- MS press S key
- M+ press M key
- pi press P key
- () press () keys
- comma press ',' key (button not listed)
- Backspace press BACKSPACE key
- CE press DELETE key

- = press Enter (Return) key
- EE press E key

I did not make a comma button because it would throw off the symmetry of the calculator and make it look ugly. Besides, the only place it is used is with the power function $\text{pow}(x,y)$. Now that I exposed you to that small detail let's talk about power functions in the next section

3.6. Power Functions

Now we discuss power functions. Look at the picture below for a list of the power function buttons:



The first power function we shall go over is most likely the hardest to comprehend for a new user at first. It is the x^y button. Some may get confused as to how this works because when they click it what appears in the Display is "^". This is actually just an easy way for you to write an equation.

Examples of " x^y " functions:

x^y is the same thing as X^Y .

$2^3=8$ is the same as $2^3=8$

Putting it in a more complex equation is no problem either:

$4(2^3+4)=48$ which is like $4*(2^3+4)$

Don't forget the a symbol goes between 2 algebraic functions like $(8)(8)$*

Also all parenthesis have to be closed in order for any function to work

Moving on...

After learning that understanding the rest is no problem.

sqrt takes the square route of the current Equation which is basically $x^{(1/2)}$

x^2 squares the current Equation

and **x^3** cubes the current Equation

3.7. Trigonometric Functions

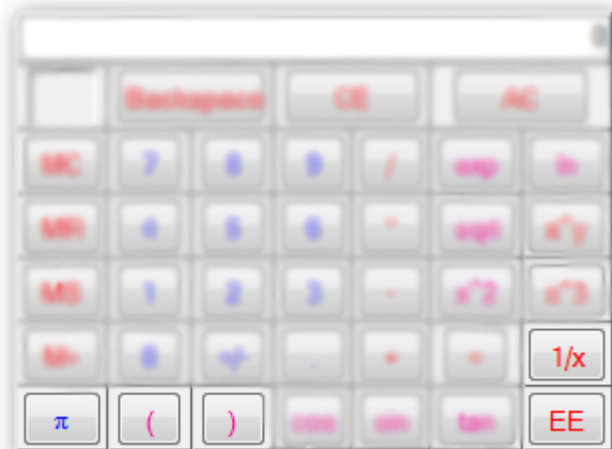


exp and **ln** are inverse of each other meaning $\exp^{\ln}=1$

- **exp** (exponential) takes the exponential of the current equation
- **ln** (natural log) takes the natural log of the current equation
- **sin** takes the sin of the current equation
- **cos** takes the cos of the current equation
- **tan** takes the tan of the current equation

3.8. Miscellaneous

The rest of the button functions of the Scientific Calculator fall into this category. After you read this you will be scott free and on your way to being a calculator expert!!!



π which is known as pi in the equation Display is = 3.141592653589793

It is a Greek constant for finding properties of circles such as the area and circumference.

The (and) buttons insert left and right parenthesis into the equation. This is for completing the **pow(** function.

1/x flips the equation by dividing it into 1.

EE is the same thing as $\times 10^x$ for example $1 \times 10^3 = 1e3 = 1000$ (It is NOT an exponential [exp]).

4. License Information

4.1. Disclaimer

Warning!

I do my best to make sure all the calculations and conversions are accurate and correct. But there is always the possibility that they are still inaccurate or incorrect. Here are some points I would like to bring to your attention.

1. **Do not assume** any calculation/conversion this calculator makes is accurate and correct.
2. **Do not use** the Scientific Calculator where loss of life, money, or property could result from inaccurate or incorrect conversions and/or calculations.
3. **Rounding Errors:** Often times, converting/calculating between large and small units causes rounding errors.
 1. *Rounding errors are cause by different:* browser types (even separate versions of the same type), operating systems, versions of JavaScript, and other factors. For example, you will sometimes see 999.9999999 or 1000.0000001 instead of 1000.

Please keep these key points in mind when using the Scientific Calculator.

The above warnings were modified from the onlineconversion.com license.

4.2. License

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5. The Author

5.1. Contributors

The following are contributors who helped this calculator along the way:

- name - year contributed
- Kyle Winters - 2005
- Chad Carreras - 2005,2007
- Shriram Raghue - 2008

5.2. About the Author

Hello! My name is Sam Gleske. I am 21 years old and do JavaScript programming as a hobby. I am a Computer Engineering student at Drexel University. Other hobbies include community activities such as being involved with Boy Scouts (now as a role model rather than a scout). I also enjoy rebuilding racing motors of motocross bikes (I race and am my own mechanic) and tuning the overall performance of the bike for track conditions. I love to work with my hands on any type of project and am motivated to achieve greatness.

I have a couple of nationally recognized certifications for diagnosing and fixing personal computers as well as an extended knowledge of implemented network structures.

My programming experience includes the following languages: AutoCAD, CSS, C++, C#, DHTML, HTML, Java, JavaScript, Labview, Linux Shell, Maple, Neuron C, NSIS, UPMACS, Windows Batch, XHTML, XML.

5.3. Other Developments

By Sam Gleske

Base64 Encrypt/Decrypt Plugin for IE (not released) (completed)

Initial helped develop [Pioneer Linux](#).

FolderView UI (not released yet)

FolderView UI Special Edition for Help Systems (not released yet)

JS Editor (not released).An attempt at a web-based version of Microsoft Word.

[UHARC CMD](#) which can be found on my homepage.

5.4. Technologies Used

This section discusses the technologies that were used to create the calculator and this help system.

First of all, the web languages CSS 2.0, HTML 4.01 Transitional, and JavaScript were programmed according to W3C standards and were validated successfully at validator.w3.org and jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator

Programs used during development:

- **Aptana**: Replaced Notepad++ as my JavaScript IDE because of autocompletion.
- **GIMP**: Used for advanced graphic editing using layers. Better than Adobe Photoshop in my opinion because it's free. This is how I blurred portions of my sample images and gave them background shadows.
- **Notepad++**: Used for syntax highlighting in HTML, CSS, and JavaScript documents. It also provided a useful function list for navigating JavaScript files.
- **OpenOffice.org**: Used to draft PDF format of documentation using OO Writer.
- **Zoom Search Engine**: This is a nice little piece of software that gave my help documentation search functionality. It is free for small websites and is a handy and useful tool for my end users.

5.5. *Contact the Author*

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<http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~sag47/>

5.6. *Resume Request*

If you would like to see my resume then you must request it because I don't post it on-line. You can simply email me (my email is in the contacts section). Enter "Resume Request" as the subject header.