



Software

## Reviewer Checklist for Computer Software

This checklist is provided to suggest some of the factors you should consider in your software review. If you return your review by email, you do not need to return this form.

Reviewer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Submission Number : \_\_\_\_\_

Computer(s) used: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the spaces before the items to which the program fully complies. Many questions apply only to traditional software submissions. If an item does not apply to the submission under review, write N/A. A separate Standard Reviewer's Form is included for your written comments.

- \_\_\_\_\_ It is clear from included printed documentation, Read Me! files, or on-screen help what hardware and software are required, how to start the program and how to begin using the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Additional printed documentation providing the details of program operation may be helpful, but is not needed to operate the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A title screen or About the Program screen that includes the name of the program and the name(s) of the author(s) is included.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Credit to any utilities, photographs, movies, music, etc. employed by the author(s) that the author(s) did not write should be included in the title screen, about the program or credits screen, or on the closing screen.
- \_\_\_\_\_ At least one introduction or help screen that explains what the program does and what it expects of the user is available at the start of the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chemical formulas and exponents are displayed with the proper use of upper and lower case letters and properly positioned subscripts and superscripts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ It is clear when input is expected and what the input should be. Prompts for input are clear, concise, and unambiguous.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The program provides notification, such as a cursor change, during pauses in execution that no action is expected. If the pause is sufficiently long, an estimate of the length of the wait is displayed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Errors are anticipated and handled correctly. Under no circumstances does the program abort and return to the system prompt due to an error.
- \_\_\_\_\_ If questions are asked, the program allows one to continue after several unsuccessful attempts to provide an answer. The program provides appropriate assistance so that the user does not become frustrated by the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ If numerical questions are asked, the program allows for slight calculation inconsistencies between itself and answers provided by the user.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The program displays numbers with the proper number of significant figures and properly handles number of significant figures in numerical questions (if any).
- \_\_\_\_\_ A proper exit from the program is available from all or most screens.

\_\_\_\_\_ If an attempt to exit the program is made without necessary tasks being accomplished (e. g., saving data), the program provides a warning and allows those tasks to be completed before exiting.

\_\_\_\_\_ It is clear when the program is ending. The program confirms exit to the operating system before ending.

## Reviewer Evaluation of Computer Software

For each item below place an X on the line at the position that corresponds to your opinion.

Overall

The overall quality of this program is

low \_\_\_\_\_ high  
0                      25                      50                      75                      100

Content

**Interest.** This program is of broad, general interest to the majority of our patrons.

\_\_\_\_\_

Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Specific interest.** While not of broad general interest, this program is of interest to a specialized audience.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Usefulness.** This program would be very useful to that portion of the audience for whom it is intended.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Originality.** The material is novel and/or original. I have not seen any programs like this one.

\_\_\_\_\_

Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Accuracy.** The material presented is accurate in all respects.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Level.** The subject is explained at a level suitable for its intended audience.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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## Interface and Presentation

**Interface Standards.** The program complies with system interface guidelines (Mac OS or Windows). All buttons, menu items, and other program elements behave as a user of that operating system would expect.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Credits.** Utilities, Graphics, music, etc. used by the author that were not written by the author are given the proper credit. References to any external documents upon which the program relies are cited.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Length.** The length of the program is appropriate.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Ease of Use.** The directions are clear and the user prompts are unambiguous. It is clear to the user what input is expected. A novice computer user would have little trouble using this program.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Graphics and other effects.** The graphics and other effects (e.g., animations) illustrate the topic and convey the information with maximum effectiveness.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**Suitability to medium.** The program presents information in a way that is unique to the computer and that cannot be done as well or better by other media (e.g., print, slides, overheads, video, etc.).

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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**User Directions or On-screen Help.** The directions for using the program are clear and correct. The directions are suitable for even the novice user.

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Totally Disagree	Neutral	Totally Agree	N/A or Don't know
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