

READ ME : Exerciser Revision Tool: March2009 (V356)

This distribution contains:

1. The Exerciser Revision Tool
2. Questions for use with the Exerciser tool
3. Instructions for using the Exerciser tool
4. A questionnaire
5. This READ ME document

To install/uninstall the Exerciser Revision Tool software

For Windows PCs

either: double click on the file, Exerciser.msi,
or : right-click on the file, Exerciser.msi, and select Install

For Macintosh or Linux machines

Unzip the file, Exerciser.zip, to a folder of your own choice.

The contents of the installation

Running the installer or extracting the files from the zip file will place the
following in a folder of your choice:

Java application:

ERDrawingExerciserV356.jar

Data folder:

QuestionSets

(A folder of questions and solutions required by the Exerciser tool)

Documentation:

How to Use the Exerciser

A questionnaire (to be completed after using the tool)

READ ME

To complete the installation

If you do not already have the Java Runtime Environment installed on your
computer,
visit the site www.java.com and install it.

To run the software

If you have the Java Runtime Environment installed on your computer:

either: double-click on ERDrawingExerciserV356.jar

or : open a command prompt window - [Start][Programs][Accessories][Command
Prompt]

navigate to the folder containing the file ERDrawingExerciserV356.jar
then type:

java -jar ERDrawingExerciserV356.jar

This will launch the Exerciser Revision Tool.

How to use the Exerciser Revision Tool

The tool has two uses:

1. To draw ER diagrams without reference to any of the built-in questions.
(Select 'Drawing' in the pull-down menu on the tool bar)
2. To practice drawing ER diagrams by attempting typical questions.
(Select 'Revision' in the pull-down menu on the tool bar, then
Click on the 'Question' button to select a question)

Information about how to draw a diagram, mark a diagram and generally use the tool can be found in the [Help] menu.

Feedback

Once you have used the tool we would be very grateful if you would fill in the brief questionnaire downloaded with the tool and return it to:

mcs-diagrams@open.ac.uk

Notes

The Exerciser Revision Tool expects to find questions in a folder named QuestionSets contained in the same folder as the tool is located.

In use, the tool creates two additional (small) files named ExerciserOptions.txt and Report.txt.

Please do not remove or edit any of these files.

Bug fixes

This release fixes two problems:

1. It checks whether the QuestionSets folder exists and whether the folder has the correct structure. A missing or incorrectly structured QuestionSets folder will cause the application to either hang or abort.
2. The application will now save a diagram in jpg format.