What are clickers and how do they work?

Clickers are an interactive technology that enables instructors to pose questions to students and immediately collect and view the responses of the entire class. This is how clickers work:

1. Instructors present multiple-choice questions (verbally or with presentation software or with the i>clicker software).
2. Students click in their answers using i>clicker remote transmitters, available at the bookstore.
3. The system instantly collects and tabulates the results, which instructors can view, save, and (if they wish) display anonymously for the entire class to see.

Purchase your i>clicker student remote at the Campus Bookstore.

The cost of a new remote is $37.50. A limited number of pre-owned remotes may also be available each semester at a discounted rate. We recommend that you keep your i>clicker remote for use in future classes as long as you are student at Carnegie Mellon.

Register your i>clicker remote.

If your instructor is using i>clicker for graded items, make sure you get credit for your responses by registering your i>clicker remote. Until your remote is registered, your responses are tied to your remote ID (located on the back of it), rather than to your name. Your recorded responses will be tied to your name in the instructor’s i>clicker roster once your remote is registered. Ask your instructor for specifics on how to register your i>clicker remote ID.

Use the i>clicker remote.

1. The remote uses 3 AAA batteries. i>clicker recommends using Energizer brand batteries, because batteries from other manufacturers are often short to make contact with the metal strips in the battery compartment.
2. Turn on the clicker by pressing the “On/Off” button. A blue “Power” light will appear at the top of the remote.
3. When asked a question in class, select A, B, C, D, or E to respond.
4. Check your “Vote Status” Light to make sure your vote was received.
   - Green light = your vote was sent AND received.
   - Red flashing light = vote not received; you need to vote again.
   - Not sure you saw the light? Just vote again.
   - Want to change your vote? You can vote again as long as the timer displayed on the projection screen is still running.