

Engineering Design Research Laboratory

Computer

Acceptable Use Guidelines

Revised: October 5, 1995

Policies

The Caltech Honor System is embodied in the phrase:

“No member shall take unfair advantage of any member of the Caltech community.”

Given the shared and freely accessible nature of the computing resources made available to the researchers in the design lab, the use, mis-use, and abuse of this computing system will be subject to the provisions of the Caltech Honor Code.

Because we use the Honor System as our guide to the acceptable usage of design lab resources, we have attempted to keep the number of explicitly stated rules and regulations to a minimum. Cases of possible abuse or misuse of design lab resources may occur where no written rule is in place that specifically proscribes said activity - it is for these cases that we use the Honor System as our framework for determining acceptable use.

If you have a question or comment about any of the rules listed below, please feel free to contact the design lab faculty.

General Design Lab Resource Usage Guidelines

Design lab resources should not be used for consulting or profit-making endeavors or for any other commercial or non-Caltech purposes, unless authorized in advance by the design lab faculty.

Design Lab Computer Cluster

The Design Lab computer cluster consists of networked multi-user computers. All users must obtain an account to use the design lab computers.

Account Guidelines

- Do not share your account with others.
- Select “non-guessable” passwords (e.g., passwords should not be a word or anything related to your name or account name).
- Do not attempt to break into the accounts of others (this includes, but is not limited to, running “crack” or similar programs against the password file of any computer on the network). Do not attempt to examine the contents of the directories and/or files of another user unless given explicit permission to do so.
- Accounts idle for more than six months may be subject to deletion.
- Accounts of those no longer affiliated with the design laboratory will be deleted.

Resource Usage

- Please be aware that there are many people using the design lab computer cluster - do not run programs that use an inordinate amount of system resources (e.g., disk space, memory, CPU time, etc.). If you have any questions about what is or is not acceptable, please contact the design lab faculty.

Lab

In order to maintain the design lab computers for the benefit of all users, the follow guidelines exist:

- No eating, smoking, or drinking is allowed in the design lab.
- Please be aware of the shared nature of the design lab. Do not display on the computers or printers images, sounds or messages that could reasonably be expected to create an atmosphere of discomfort or harassment for others.
- Do not use the design printers for duplication of output. Use a photocopying machine if you need duplicates.
- Yield to users with higher priority. If you are using an design lab computer and are asked to give up your seat, or stop your computing process, by someone with a higher priority, please be cooperative and do so.
- Do not use more than one computer at a time.
- Do not park bicycles in the lab.

E-mail

- Do not perpetuate e-mail “chain letters.”
- Do not send harassing e-mail.