

ALTERNATE POINTING DEVICES

There are many different pointing devices on the market in various sizes and shapes. No single pointing device will fit all people properly, so it is important to find the one that fits you best. EHRS does not recommend specific products.

Mice and Trackballs:

Consider the following factors when selecting a mouse or trackball:

1. Size: Mice and trackballs range in size from very small to very large. It is important to consider your hand size when selecting a device. The device should fit the natural curve of your hand, and you should be able to easily reach all buttons and controls.
2. Shape: Mice and trackballs are available in many different shapes. Again, it is important to consider your hand size when selecting a device. Some devices are relatively flat, while others are several inches high. The device should fit the natural curve of your hand. If you plan to use both hands to mouse, you want to select one that is symmetrical.
3. Features: There are optical and roller ball mice available. With roller ball mice styles, the ball may get dirty making it difficult to maneuver the mouse. That is not a concern with optical mice. Mice come in one button, two button and scroll wheel styles. Mice with two buttons (right and left click) and a scroll wheel can minimize the number of movements you need to make.

Both mice and trackballs involve repetitive motions. Mice involve more wrist motion, while trackballs involve more finger motion. To minimize repetitive motions, use shortcut and function keys on the keyboard or alternate hands.

Examples of different mice and trackballs:



Other Pointing Devices

There are many other pointing devices available, including touch pads, light pens, foot pedals, and pointing devices that use eye or head movement. Some of these devices are very expensive and may take time to learn. It is advisable to try these devices before purchasing, when possible.

Examples of other pointing devices

