Activity Overview

The Press-to-Test feature allows you to quickly prepare student handhelds for exams by temporarily disabling folders, documents, and select features and commands. This activity explains how to enable and disable Press-to-Test, using a computer with the TI-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software or TI-Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software.

Materials

- TI-Nspire™ handheld-to-computer USB connection cable
- TI-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software or TI-Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software

(If your configuration is not listed, please contact your local TI Representative)

Press-to-Test can be enabled on multiple devices using the TI-Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software or TI-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software. Individual restrictions can be marked, or unmarked, then enabled on all connected handhelds.

Step 1:

Open the TI-Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software or TI-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software.

Step 2:

Connect multiple TI-Nspire™ handhelds by using multiple USB ports, USB hubs, TI-Nspire™ Docking Stations or wireless network adapters. If multiple handhelds are connected, they will appear in the Connected Handhelds panel.

Step 3:

Press the Prepare Handhelds icon.

Step 4:

Choose Enter Press-to-Test…
Step 5:
A window will open allowing you to choose specific restrictions to enable or disable. By default, Press-to-Test disables pre-existing Scratchpad data, documents, and folders as well as many other functionalities of the handheld. The angle settings can be changed by selecting the arrow in the Angle Setting menu. For TI-Nspire™ CX CAS handhelds, the CAS mode must be turned off.

Only three restrictions must be selected to meet the criteria of the TEA Calculator Policy for the TAKS and EOC assessment programs for Spring 2020 and beyond: “Limit geometry functions”, “Disable inequality graphing”, and “Disable implicit graphing”.

Step 6:
Click to Unselect All at once.

Step 7:
Select “Limit geometry functions”, “Disable inequality graphing” and “Disable implicit graphing, conic templates, conic analysis, and geometric conics”.
Step 8:

Select **Save** in order to save the selected configuration. You will be prompted to enter a name for this configuration. Then select **Save**. This saved configuration will be available to choose any time calculators need to be prepared for EOC testing.

Step 9:
Once configurations have been selected, press **Enter Press-to-Test**.

Step 10:
Progress of all connected handhelds will appear.

Step 11:
Press **Done** when all connected handhelds are configured.

Step 12:
Once the handhelds are in Press-to-Test mode, they will reboot. A dialog box on each handheld confirms that the handheld is in Press-to-Test mode and the restrictions from step 7 are listed. Click “OK” on the handheld.

When in Press-to-Test mode, the LED at the top of each handheld blinks. Green indicates that all restrictions are selected and Press-to-Test must be exited according to step 7 and re-entered according to steps 2 through 9, while yellow indicates that one or more restrictions are unselected. During the initial reboot, the LED on each handheld alternates between red and, depending on the restrictions, green or yellow.
Step 13:
TO RESET THE PRESS-TO-TEST MODE BETWEEN TEST ADMINISTRATIONS, BETWEEN DIFFERENT STUDENTS, AND FOR TEST SECURITY AFTER TESTING IS COMPLETED

Complete steps 2–9 again, or if the appropriate test configuration has been saved, complete steps 2 – 4, select the saved configuration, then enter Press-to-Test.

Exiting Press-to-Test using the TI Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software or Ti-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software.

Press-to-Test can be disabled on multiple devices using the TI Nspire™ CX Navigator™ Teacher Software or Ti-Nspire™ CX Premium Teacher Software.

Step 14:
Press the Prepare Handhelds icon.

Step 15:
Choose Exit Press-to-Test…

Step 16:
A dialogue box will open to explain how the connected handhelds will be restored.

The following actions are performed on all connected handhelds when you exit Press-to-Test.
- All data and files created while in Press-to-Test will be deleted.
- Files and system settings are restored to what they were before Press-to-Test was enabled.

Step 17:
Click Exit Press-to-Test

Step 18:
Progress of all connected handhelds will appear.
Step 19:

Press Done when all connected handhelds are configured.

Notes:

- **TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF POTENTIAL TEST INFRACTIONS, REMOVE ALL WIRELESS NETWORK ADAPTERS, AND STORE THEM WITH THEIR CORRESPONDING ACCESS POINT BEFORE STUDENTS TEST!**

- Remember that, even though calculators may have been placed in Press-to-Test mode previously, if **ANYTHING** is typed in a calculator before the exam, that calculator must have Press-to-Test reset. Also, if calculators are used on one subject area test on a certain day, and then those same calculators are used again for other exams, those calculators **must** have Press-to-Test reset before any students use those calculators for subsequent exams.

- **To maintain test security after testing, be sure to either reset Press-to-Test on all calculators or take all calculators out of Press-to-Test mode.**