

Top 10 things you should know about LabVIEW:

10. LabVIEW lives on the right click... so should you!

Nearly all of LabVIEW functions are accessible via the right click - function palette. Right click on the terminal of a block to create a control or indicator; LabVIEW automatically assigns the correct data type. Right click on a block to drop other blocks located in the same family...

9. Know the wire code... it's your duty!

The thicker the wire, the more "bits" of data it represents.

8. Use LabVIEW Project Files for all your tasks.

LabVIEW project files are an easy way to keep track of all your custom VI's when performing a task.

7. Tack down your function palette.

It has a tendency to disappear with overactive mouse movements. Until block locations are engrained in your subconscious thought, keep the palette grounded.

6. Know your Controls... Ctrl's that is.

Ctrl + B -- Remove broken wires.

Ctrl + E -- Switch between Block Diagram and Front Panel or vice versa.

Ctrl + H -- LabVIEW Context Help Window

Ctrl + (Left Click → Drag → Release) -- Copy blocks to another location.

5. Messy VI's spells disaster for operator-software relationships.

Be neat and save yourself the headaches and four-letter words when your VI doesn't work because you mistakenly did not connect a terminal.

4. Keep it on one screen.

Try to use Sub VI's whenever possible. Make your work *modular*. It is easier to pick up on mistakes and also easier to use pieces of code for other projects too.

3. LabVIEW is a programming language.

Therefore, the standard rule applies: garbage in = garbage out!

2. Save early, save often, Save ALL.

Loosing your work is never fun. Make sure to save VI's and project files using the Save All feature under the File menu.

1. Ctrl + H is your new best friend.

LabVIEW Help: It's friendly, it's dynamic, it's easy to use. No excuses -- use it.

