Read Me

Thank you for purchasing the Vex Curriculum.

It contains a wealth of science, math, and engineering content, centered around a comprehensive robotics curriculum. It is our hope that this product will prove to be a valuable educational resource for you and your students.

This disk was designed for operation with computers that can process a significant amount of data rapidly. It will operate on "slower, older" computers and dated operating systems, but its performance is reduced and some features will not work at all. You'll find more information about operating the Vex Curriculum on the DVD itself.

Please note whether you bought the Vex Curriculum CD or the Vex Curriculum DVD.

In order to use the Vex Curriculum DVD, you will have to have a computer that has a DVD drive. Make sure your computer can read DVDs before ordering the Vex Curriculum DVD. DVD drives on many computers are marked with the letters "DVD." To run the Vex Curriculum DVD, insert the DVD into your computer's DVD drive. You can either run the disk directly from the drive, or copy it onto your computer's hard drive. Most computers with DVD drives will run the Vex Curriculum DVD adequately from their DVD drive.

If you purchased the Vex Curriculum in CD form, use the following procedure:

1. Insert Disk A in your computer's CD drive.
2. Right click on "My Computer", select "Explore" from the drop down menu, and browse to the CD drive in your computer.
3. Copy the entire contents of Disk A.
4. Create a folder marked "Vex Curriculum" somewhere convenient on your desktop.
5. Paste the contents of Disk A there. At the top level of the folder "Vex Curriculum," you should now see a folder named "Content." Within that folder there should be a folder named "programming."
6. Remove Disk A from your CD drive.
7. Insert Disk B in your computer's CD drive.
8. Disk B will automatically open a licensing agreement. Click through the licensing agreement.
9. Right click on "My Computer", select "Explore" from the drop down menu, and browse to the CD drive in your computer.
10. Copy the entire contents of Disk B.
11. Browse to the folder "Vex Curriculum". MAKE SURE YOU ARE AT THE TOP LEVEL of the folder you created; you should see a folder named "Content" NOT a folder named "programming."
12. Paste the contents of Disk B there. You should see an alert box asking whether you should overwrite the folder "Content." Click "Yes to All."
13. You should now be able to run the Vex Curriculum from the folder "Vex Curriculum" that you created on your computer.

Read Me *continued*

How to Use the Vex Curriculum

The Vex Curriculum is designed to provide both guided curricula for new teachers (one for those who have the starter kit only, and one for those who have the starter kit and the programming kit), and a "toolkit" with largely self-contained materials for more experienced teachers, or teachers who wish to develop their own curricula. Teachers may also wish to combine the two approaches, using a curriculum we provide as a starting point, but modifying it to use different parts of the toolkit.

We recommend you click the button marked "START HERE" and review the materials on the ensuing page. Note that there are two curricula provided: "Starter Kit Only" and "Starter Kit plus Programming Kit." Click the button which matches which kit(s) you have. Please note that the programming kit option assumes that you have also purchased the four different sensor kits available: light sensor, line follower, ultrasonic rangefinder, and optical shaft encoder. However, if you have not done so, you will find that you will not need any of them for the great majority of the material.

The curricula we provide are meant to be a guide for new teachers. We recommend
that you modify the curriculum to best suit your needs. We also recommend that you examine the rest of the Vex Curriculum closely, as there are a wide variety of lessons, videos, resources and other materials you may wish to use, which were not all included
in either curricula.

Please note: The Vex Curriculum will run only on PCs, not on Macs.

Vex Curriculum

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1. Windows 98 or later (Windows 98, ME, XP, NT, 2000)

2. Internet Explorer 5.0 or later OR Netscape Version 6.0 or later (free downloads of the latest browser versions are available on the internet)

3. Javascript enabled (the default setting on new browsers)

4. Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 (the Reader and installation instructions are provided, as well as a means for determining whether you need to install it.)

5. Macromedia Flash Player 6.0 (the Player and installation instructions are
provided, as well as a means for determining whether you need to install it.)

6. All "Pop-up Blockers" must be disabled.

POP UP BLOCKERS

The Vex Curriculum is designed to operate within your web browser (such as Internet Explorer). Pop-up blockers work in the background while you browse: when they detect a pop-up window, they automatically close the window. If you or someone who uses your computer has taken steps to block pop-up ads in your browser, it will disable some key javascript functionality in this DVD. Many pop-up blocker (or pop-up killer) programs will let you temporarily disable them. Some require that you remove them. You will have to review your own system and software to find out whether the program can be disabled or must be removed.

Read Me *continued*

SCREEN OR DISPLAY RESOLUTION

Screen resolution of 1024 X 768 is recommended.

800 x 600 can also be used, but some material near the bottom may be hidden. On a PC, press the "F11" key to maximize and center the Vex Curriculum on your monitor. On a Mac, click the small green button at the upper left corner of your browser window.

A 640 x 480 screen setting will hide some of the content near the bottom. Other sizes may render the interface too small and less legible. Test your own system if you prefer to work at a different screen setting.