



Creating A Wiiboard for less than \$100

John R. Sowash | jrsowash.wikispaces.com/wiiboard

An interactive whiteboard is a device that allows teachers and students to physically interact with projected images. A Wiiboard is an innovative adaption of a Nintendo Wii controller that functions like a commercial interactive whiteboard for a fraction of the cost.

What do I need to make a Wiiboard?

1. Hardware
 - LCD Projector
 - Bluetooth enabled PC or Mac
 - Wiimote (you do NOT need the Wii console)
 - [IR Pen](#)
2. Software
 - Windows XP or later with [Microsoft .net developer framework](#)
 - Mac OS X
 - Interactive Whiteboard Software: [Smoothboard](#), [Pentabulous](#), [Java Whiteboard](#) (Mac)

Setting up your Wiiboard

1. Enable Bluetooth (varies by computer)
2. Connect Wiimote ([video tutorial](#))
3. Run whiteboard program
4. Calibrate screen

Tips and Tricks

1. Wiimote placement is key!
 - The higher the tracking utilization, the better the performance.
 - Aim for 70% or higher
2. Pen Quality is important!
 - [Penteractive.us](#) (\$8/my favorite)
 - [Irpensonline.com](#) (\$30/touch sensitive)
3. Train Students
 - If they understand how the system works, they will be more successful in using it.
4. Consider permanent placement
 - Systems which are permanently fixed (projector & wiimote) work the best.

5. Problems will happen!

- Always setup the wiiboard BEFORE class!
- Try not to run too many programs simultaneously.

10 Wiiboard Activity Ideas

1. [Review Games](#)
2. [Google SketchUp](#)
3. [Google Earth/Maps](#)
4. [Assessments and Review](#)
5. [Virtual Cell](#)
6. [Biggest Brain](#)
7. [Virtual Knee Surgery](#)
8. [Timelines](#)
9. [Concept Maps](#)
10. [Magnetic Words](#)

Essential Software:

Smoothboard: <http://www.smoothboard.net/>

Microsoft .net framework: <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/netframework/default.aspx>

Extending your Wiiboard:

LinkTivity Presenter

- Turns your desktop into a canvas. Allows annotation of anything on the screen. <http://www.linktivity.com/presenter.html>

Zoomit:

- Enlarge any portion of your desktop.
- <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb897434.aspx>

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- Resource Links: www.jrsowash.wikispaces.com/wiiboard
- Blog: <http://electriceducator.blogspot.com/>

Consultation available for Wii interactive whiteboard school wide implementation.



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