

# Frequently Asked Questions

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**Q: Does Symbolic SPICE™ replace SPICE?**

**A:** Symbolic SPICE does not contain a copy of SPICE. It was designed to enhance your SPICE work by performing the .AC analysis option symbolically.

**Q: How do I run Symbolic SPICE?**

**A:** There are many ways of running Symbolic SPICE. The simplest is to place all of the files you wish to run in a directory and do the steps described below:

With Windows Explorer, locate the SymbolicSPICE directory. By double clicking on the file SymbolicSPICE.exe you will get the prompts shown in the User Manual and the on-line Application Notes. When finished, close the window by hitting any key. You can open your output files with a word processor and print

**Q: I am using the demo version of Symbolic SPICE and have a circuit with 3 inductors and 4 nodes. Why does this exceed the capacity of the Demo Version?**

**A:** Symbolic SPICE internally models all elements. Sometimes this modeling adds an extra node in the circuit. For each inductor there is one extra node. In your case the total node count is 7 and this exceeds the Demo Version by one.

In the User Manual pp 24-25, there is a table listing the node count for all Symbolic SPICE elements. It is worth noting that for some elements there is no change or an actual decrease in the node count.

**Q: In running examples on Symbolic SPICE there is a message to ignore nodes. Why?**

**A:** Symbolic SPICE models all elements internally. This is done so that the nodal equations can be formed using an inspection algorithm. Symbolic SPICE always picks any extra nodes larger than any node in the user's circuit.

**Q: I noticed in the User Manual that the examples have the nodes numbered sequentially. Is this necessary?**

**A:** No, Symbolic SPICE allows you to use any numbering you wish, except that 0 is reserved for ground (same as in SPICE). However Symbolic SPICE will run slightly slower if huge gaps exist between numbers, for example, fifty or more.

**Q: I ran an example where I used letters instead of numbers for the nodes except ground and I got an error message. Why?**

**A:** Symbolic SPICE only accepts numbers for nodes.