



How to make your Visor a Data Collector

Introducing the DataGet® RS232 cartridge

Did you know the Visor® only supports 3 of the 9 pins on a standard RS232 port? The truth is most handhelds have limited serial ports. And for the life of me, I can't figure out why every new handheld needs a different connector!

Frustrated clients are always sending me new devices they want to connect to their handhelds. I decided if the handheld companies were not going to give you what you need, I would.

Get a Real serial port for your Visor.

The DataGet RS232 cartridge lets you collect data on the go. With the power of a full serial port, the DataGet system is so convenient you might stop using your laptop altogether.

Scales, pH meters, pressure gauges, voltmeters and other equipment connect to the RS232 cartridge. Its DB9 plug fits your existing cables. All 9 pins work as they should.

RS232 devices have hundreds of different protocols and DataGet software guides you to the correct one for your device.

If you wear your Visor on a belt clip have DataGet software monitor the serial port even when the handheld is off. The AutoWake™ technology will turn your Visor back on as soon as new data arrives.

DataGet software converts the raw text from your device into separate measurements. You can save measurements in different variables. Press one button to transfer your data back to the PC in Microsoft Excel®, Access® or text format.

Some devices need a signal before they send data. DataGet software can send a request string or change the status of a pin on the RS232 cartridge. Just press the notepad button on the Visor to read a measurement.

I know some of you will want to write your own software. To accommodate you, a driver is available for accessing all of the features of the RS232 cartridge.

To keep things simple, the cartridge uses the internal Visor batteries. If you leave the RS232 port on all the time, even when the Visor is turned off, your batteries will still last about a week.

Parasitic RS232 devices are supported, but they drain your batteries faster. For high drain devices, I recommend a Visor with rechargeable batteries.

The RS232 cartridge has an on board memory buffer to off load work from the Visor. You can connect at up to 115.2kps without hardware handshaking.

As you would expect all the pins are driven to standard RS232 voltages, but the inputs tolerate swings of +/-25V for compatibility with older devices.

ESD protection shields the cartridge from static shocks. To protect your Visor and DataGet cartridges from physical shocks, see our GummiGuard™ cases.

How to connect your device in 6 easy steps



Picture 1

1 If a similar device is already defined, select it from the list (picture 1). DataGet software will use those settings as the defaults for your new setup. Now tap Next.



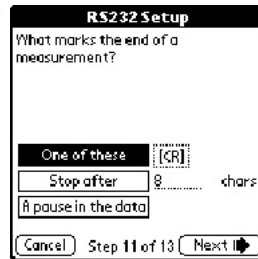
Picture 4

4 To check everything is configured correctly DataGet software will test your setup (picture 4). If everything looks fine tap Next.



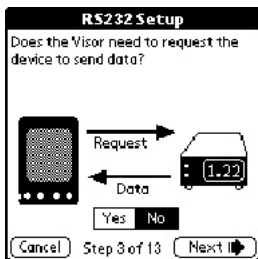
Picture 2

2 Check your device manual for the correct RS232 settings. You might find the settings written in a format like 19200, 8, N, 1, which means 19200 baud, a data length of 8, no parity and 1 stop bit. Some devices allow you to change the default settings. As a rule I recommend you stick with their defaults. Go ahead and configure DataGet software with the correct settings (picture 2) and tap Next.



Picture 5

5 DataGet software expects your device to send back ASCII characters. The program offers 3 different methods for detecting the end of a measurement (picture 5). In this case I am using the delimiter [CR] or carriage return.



Picture 3

3 If you want the Visor to request data from the device select Yes (picture 3). A lot of devices don't support this capability yet. Now tap Next. I have found some battery powered devices have their RS232 ports turned off by default. Make sure you turn it on before sending data.



Picture 6

6 Finally you can name this setup for future reference (picture 6). You can save the setups to the PC, and download them to other Visors.

Congratulations you are now ready to start collecting data.

DataGet RS232 cartridge Specifications

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Connector | DB9 |
| Max speed* (baud) | 230.4kbps |
| Max speed DataGet software | 57.6kbps |
| Max speed no handshaking* | 115.2kbps |
| Typical power consumption | 2mA |
| Power consumption off | 150mA |
| Max input signal | +/-25V |
| Typical output signal | +/-8V |
| Max current for parasitic devices | 10mA |
| Supported pins | TXD,RXD,CTS,RTS DTR,DSR,RI,CD,GND |
| ESD protection | +/-10kV |
| On board buffer | 128 bytes |
| Data length* | 5,6,7,8 |
| Stop bits* | 1,1½,2 |
| Parity* | none,even,odd,one,zero |
| Flow control* | hardware/software |
| *Not all settings available in DataGet software | |

DataGet Software Specifications

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Max measurements per variable | 2,000 |
| Significant digits per measurement | 6 |
| Range of measurement | +/-20,000.0 |
| Max measurements on 2MB Visor | 50,000 |
| Max variables per part | 100 |
| Max identifiers per part | 9 |
| Max parts | 100 |
| Max RS232 setups | 100 |
| Max calibrations | 100 |

Please visit our website for the latest prices and information on ordering.

www.dataget.com