

ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL LEARNING STYLES: PERCEPTUAL MEMORY TASK (PMT)

The PMT was designed to provide a standardized, quantitative method of assessing focused attending and perceptual memory skills essential for human learning and performance. The PMT measures an individual's perception and memory for spatial relationships; visual and auditory sequential memory; intermediate term memory; and discrimination of detail.

The PMT components include:

Memory for spatial relations — Cubes are used to reconstruct printed cube patterns ordered in a simple-to-complex progression

Visual recognition and sequential memory — Multi-colored design blocks are used to match a sequence of visually presented designs from memory

Auditory recognition and sequential memory — Basic color blocks are used to match a sequence of orally presented colors

Intermediate term memory and visual discrimination — Duplications of the stimulus designs and cube patterns mixed with similar distractor materials are used for discrimination recall

Supplementary procedures are included for testing individuals with hearing and visual impairments. Information processing skills dependent on right and left cerebral functioning may be assessed.

The PMT Manual includes chapters on purpose and development; reliability and validity; administration, scoring and tables of norms from 4 years of age through adults.

Administration of the PMT is individual and requires approximately 30-45 minutes in a formal test setting. Standardized instructions for administration and scoring are well detailed in the manual.

There is an optional computer program, the PMT Computer Report, which provides a time-saving method of scoring and interpreting test results.

The PMT provides for behavioral observations of focused attention, cognitive flexibility, sequential organization and depth perception.

In addition to the Individual Profile of Perceptual-Memory Skills on the PMT scoring form, the PMT manual provides interpretive guidelines for determining level and type of memory dysfunction as well as relationship between PMT scores and educational, vocational and residential programs.

Norms are available for ages four years through adults. Objective and reliable data ($r = .92$) are obtained on the individual's learning modalities (auditory and visual); amount of information which can be processed on direct recall; and perceptual organization. Test-retest and split-half reliability results are presented in the manual along with a number of validity studies (content, criterion-related and construct).

The PMT can be used in educational, vocational and neuropsychological assessment with special education and rehabilitation populations at any level of intellectual functioning and with disabilities in one or more of the following areas: physical, mental, emotional or functional behavior. It is applicable to a wide range of handicapping conditions including learning disabilities, emotionally disturbance, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, closed head injury and social/cultural disadvantage.



McCarron-Dial Systems, Inc.
P.O. Box 35285 • Dallas, TX 75235
(214) 634-2863