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# **MULTI-MAZE SYSTEM**

Cat. No. 41500

Spatial memory is the ability to create a mental geographical map of the surroundings and to navigate the environment accordingly (Ref). In humans, for example, spatial memory allows one to easily find the way to the right office in a large building.

While the definitions of working and reference memory may be subtle and can be debated among scholars, briefly, working memory is the ability to keep track of which offices we have already visited while looking for someone, while reference memory allows us to remember which of the many rooms is Mary's office.

In rodent studies, spatial memory can be tested by placing animals in mazes composed of 3 or more radially arranged walkways (arms) and observing either spontaneous exploratory behavior or reward-based navigation.

The new **MULTI-MAZE** Cat. No. **41500**, for mouse or rat, will help the researcher to conduct fully automated memory experiments such as:

- Assessing spatial memory
- Testing basic working memory
- Discriminating working from reference memory
- Evaluating impairments in the working memory

The electronic unit features USB interface, 8 independent TTL inputs and integration with videotracking software.

The proprietary sliding doors retract in the maze floor, ensuring unobstructed animal tracking, while guaranteeing smooth, silent, totally automated up/down movements.

All the animal mazes manufactured by Ugo Basile, feature high-contrast colors and non-reflective coatings, providing optimal results with any videotracking software.

Surface texture was selected for best rodent's comfort.

Our mazes are constructed of sturdy, easy to clean materials, making them the most reliable mazes on the market.



# VERSATILE MULTI-MAZE FULLY CONFIGURABLE AS:

- Y-Maze
- T-Maze
- 8-Arm Radial Maze

**Optimized for Video-Tracking** 

Ideal for Optogenetics tests

**Easily customizable** 

FOR MOUSE OR RAT



#### **Main Features**

- New proprietary modular system
- Doors slide underneath the floor
- Smooth and silent operation
- Easily cleanable

- Manual or PC-driven operation modes (via TTL or USB connection)
- Interchangeable walls for egocentric or allocentric spatial memory tests (low profile walls are optional)
- Different colors or textures available on request
- Different arm length available on request

## **System Description**

The new **MULTI-MAZE 41500** is a modular system, enabling the user to set-up an electronically controlled maze, by combining one of the different arenas provided, and the required number of arms, in one of the following configurations:

- Mouse Y-Maze
- Mouse T-Maze
- Mouse 8-Arm Radial Maze

This feature is facilitated by the new door-controlling kinematics; the motor for each section is actually an integral part of the arm itself, positioned below the door area, while a control unit, positioned below the central arena, consolidates the motor control board, the interface with the external electronic unit, and the interface with the video-tracking software (ANY-maze, not included).

The corridor side walls, made of plastic material, are easily removable, for cleaning purposes. Moreover, it will be easy to switch from high profile to low profile wall (optional), according to the research needs.

#### **Arm dimensions:**

		Mouse	Rat
•	Length		60cm (**)
•	Width	5cm	10cm
•	Height	12cm	30cm

An automated door is provided on each arm, at the central arena end.

# **System Configurations**

### Y-Maze Configurations

41503 41513 Mouse Rat

• 1 41500-001 41510-001 Central Control Arena

• 3 **41500-002 41500-012** Arm with automated door

1 41153-010 41153-010 Electronic Unit (8 TTL outputs)



#### **T-Maze Configurations**

41504 41514 Mouse Rat

• 1 **41500-001 41510-001** Central Control Arena

• 3 41500-002 41500-012 Arm with automated door

- 1 **41153-010 41153-010** Electronic Unit (8 TTL outputs)
- 1 41500-003 41500-013 "Start" compartment



An automated door is provided on each arm, at the central arena end; the "start" compartment with automated door, attached to the end of the stem-arm, completes the T-Maze.

The 41504/41514 configurations also enable the Y-maze test to be carried out, without any extra accessories.

#### 8-Arm Radial Maze (see front picture)

41508	41518	
Mouse	Rat	
41500-001	41510-001	Central Control Arena
41500-002	41500-012	Arm with automated door
41153-010	41153-010	Electronic Unit (8 TTL outputs)

The 41508/41518 configurations also enable the Y-maze test to be carried out without any extra accessories, and the T-maze with the addition of the Start compartment only.

#### **Ordering Information**

#### **Components**

Mouse Rat

41500-001 41510-001 Central Control Arena, incorporating motor drive & interface to external unit

**41500-002 41500-012 Standard Arm**, provided with automated door, and high profile walls\*

**41500-003 41500-013 "Start" Compartment** for T-maze, with automated door & high profile walls\*

# **41153-010 41153-010 Electronic Unit** (8 TTL outputs)

Configurations

**41503 41513 3-Arm configuration,** for Y-maze test, high profile walls, automated doors, Y & T arenas

**41504 41514 3-Arm configuration**, and "Start" Compartment, for T-maze test, high profile walls, automated doors, Y & T arenas

**41508 41518 8-Arm configuration**, for Radial-Maze, high profile walls, automated doors; 8-arm, Y & T arenas

#### Custom accessories/configurations are available on request:

- low profile walls (\*) for allocentric memory
- longer arms (\*\*)
- custom made set-ups