

PREFACE

This *Minitab Guide* accompanies *The Basic Practice of Statistics* (BPS) by David S. Moore. The manual is intended to be used with the statistical software package called Minitab. Minitab was originally developed in 1972 to help professors teach basic statistics. The software is now used in more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world. More students have learned statistics using Minitab than any other package.

In addition to its comprehensive statistical capabilities, Minitab offers high-resolution graphics that enable students to produce a comprehensive array of graphs. Minitab also offers powerful data management capabilities, allowing users to import data from other versions of Minitab, spreadsheets, databases and text files. Minitab relieves students of tedious statistical calculations and allows them to better understand statistical concepts. Minitab is also the tool of choice for businesses of all sizes. It is used in 80 countries throughout the world; from start-ups to the Fortune 500 companies, including Ford Motor Company, 3M, Honeywell International, Samsung, and leading Six Sigma consultants.

This book is based on a Release 15 for Windows, the most recent version of Minitab available. If you are using a version different from Release 15, there may be slight differences in the menu interfaces. For further information about the software, contact

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This *Minitab Guide* parallels the BPS. The *Minitab Manual* contains an introduction to Minitab plus a chapter corresponding to each chapter in BPS. In each chapter, we show how Minitab menu commands can be used to perform the statistical techniques described in BPS. Examples are similar to the examples in BPS. Data files for the examples are available from <http://www.whfreeman.com/bps5e/>. The Appendix describes session commands and provides a list by topic of the Minitab session commands and menu equivalents that are referred to in this guide.

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