

Computer Standards for Students 2022—2023 Academic Year

Collegiate Computer Recommendations Hardware Minimum Specs

These recommendations are for technology needs for all students in the College of Design.

	PC	Mac
Laptop	Dell G15 5525 Windows 10 (64 bit)	MacBook Pro with OSX
Screen Size	15.6" Display	16" Display
Processor	AMD Ryzen 7 6800H 8-core	Apple M1 Pro with 10-core CPU
Memory (RAM)	16 GB DDR5	16 GB RAM
Hard Drive	512 GB Solid-state Drive	512 GB Solid-state Drive
Graphics Card	NVIDIA Geforce RTX 3060 6 GB RAM	Apple M1 Pro 16-core GPU
Price & Location	UMN Bookstore – \$1539	UMN Bookstore - \$2299
Tax	Students in an academic program that requires a laptop may purchase it tax-free from the UMN Bookstore	
Warranty	Includes ProSupport Plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accidental Damage Service (4-yr) • Keep Your Hard Drive (4-yr) • Next Business Day Onsite (1-yr) • Next Business Day Onsite (3-yr ext) • 7x24 Technical Support (4-yr) 	CPS 3-Year Accidental Damage Warranty - \$249
Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security Cable (please note that this is not compatible with all Mac models) • Data backup to either external hard drive or cloud storage solution 	

Computer Requirements for Specific Academic Programs

The following academic programs require admitted students to purchase a laptop. Programs not listed below do not require a laptop.

Pre-Architecture, Architecture (BS, BDA) & Landscape Architecture (BLA)	Interior Design	Pre-Graphic Design	
<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC (Highly recommended) or Mac* • Adobe Creative Cloud • Microsoft Office • Rhino <p>Recommended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revit • 32 GB USB Drive 	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC or Mac* • Adobe Creative Cloud • Microsoft Office • Revit (Free EDU License) • Enscape • Elum Tools 	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC or Mac* • Adobe Creative Cloud <p>Recommended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mac • Microsoft Office 	
	Apparel Design	Pre-Product Design	Notes
<p>Students enrolling in ARCH 3611 are required to purchase or install free EDU or trial license</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AutoCAD (Free EDU license) • Rhino (Purchase or free 90 day trial) • Enscape • 3-Button Mouse 	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC or Mac* • Adobe Creative Cloud • Microsoft Office 	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC or Mac* • Adobe Creative Cloud • Microsoft Office 	<p>* See section below "Considerations When Using a Mac Laptop"</p> <p>** Software listed runs on Windows OS only, or a version with reduced functionality is available for MAC OSX.</p>

Considerations When Using a Mac Laptop

Impacts Architecture, Interior Design, Product Design

Does Not Impact Graphic Design

Some software used in the academic programs for Architecture, Interior Design, and Product Design will only run on the Windows Operating System. We highly recommend running Windows on a PC in order to be able to use these software titles.

Although it is possible to run the Windows Operating System on a MacBook [via either BootCamp or Parallels], we cannot guarantee you will be able to run the software without difficulty. The upgraded MacBook Pro normally recommended for Architecture, interior Design, and Product Design is built using a discrete graphics card that has not been validated by the various software companies. This means that they will not guarantee that the graphics card will be able to run their software without problems.

It may be true that you can the software without problems on Mac OSX/BootCamp/Windows 7, 8, or 10, but we cannot guarantee this. You may still choose to run a Mac OSX if you wish.

Software affected by this issue

- AutoDesk
- AutoDesk 3DS Max
- Revit
- Solidworks
- SketchUp (will work with the graphics card, but it is not recommended to run it via BootCamp/Parallels)

Support

- Basic technology help is available via the **UMN Technology Help Line** (612-301-4357; help@umn.edu) and at walk-in help centers. See <http://it.umn.edu/contact-us> for more information.
- The University of Minnesota Bookstore has an Apple Authorized Care Center that will service Macs and well as PCs.
- The College of Design does not offer IT/technical support for student-owned laptops or devices.

Questions?

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