



COMPUTER STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

COLLEGIATE COMPUTER RECOMMENDED MINIMUM HARDWARE 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)	16" MacBook Pro 2023 - M2 chip
Screen Size	15.6" display	16" display
Processor	AMD Ryzen 7 6800H 8-core	Apple M2 Pro with 12-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 M2 Pro 19-core GPU
Price and Location	UMN Bookstore - \$1539	UMN Bookstore - \$2299
Tax	Students in an academic program that requires a laptop may purchase tax-free from the UMN Bookstore	
Warranty	Includes ProSupport Plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accidental damage service - 4 yrs • Keep your hard drive - 4 yrs • Next business day onsite - 1 yr • Next business day onsite - 3 yr ext • 7x24 technical support - 4 yrs 	CPS 3-year accidental damage warranty - \$249 (optional but strongly recommended)
Accessories	• 3-button mouse (bluetooth recommended)	

COLLEGE OF DESIGN CLOUD DESKTOP

The CDES Cloud desktop is a Windows 10 based virtual computing resource available to all College of Design students. While this resource is intended to supplement access to certain software titles that are difficult for individual students to license, it is not intended as a stand in for one of our recommended computer options. The Cloud Desktop can be a useful tool for Mac users who need to run PC programs, but a PC is still strongly recommended for certain programs (details above). Find more information about the CDES Cloud Desktop resource at z.umn.edu/cdescloud.

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

All College of Design programs require an appropriate computer, but software requirements may vary across programs. See below for more detail.

PRE-ARCHITECTURE, ARCHITECTURE (BS, BDA) AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (BLA)	APPAREL DESIGN	GRAPHIC DESIGN
<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PC (highly recommended) or Mac*• Adobe Creative Cloud• Microsoft Office (free through UMN) <p>Recommended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revit• 32 GB USB drive <p>Students enrolling in ARCH 3611 are required to purchase or install free EDU of 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>INTERIOR DESIGN</p> <p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PC (recommended) or Mac*• Adobe Creative Cloud• Microsoft Office (free through UMN)• Revit (free EDU license)• Enscape	<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 (free through UMN) <p>PRODUCT DESIGN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PC or Mac*• Adobe Creative Cloud• Microsoft Office (free through UMN)
RETAIL MERCHANDISING		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mac or PC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adobe Creative Cloud	

SUPPORT

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

*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 Windows Arm on Parallels], we cannot guarantee you will be able to run the software without difficulty. The MacBook Pro normally recommended for Architecture, Interior Design, and Product Design utilizes a chip based GPU that may or may not be compatible with College of Design required software. This means that they will not guarantee that the M2 chip will be able to run their software without problems.

It may be true that you can run the software without problems on Mac OS/Parallels, but we cannot guarantee this. You may still choose to run a Mac OS 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)