

Computer Requirement : School of Architecture + Design: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Industrial Design, and Interior Design Programs

The School of Architecture + Design: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Industrial Design, and Interior Design Programs **do not have a Platform preference and requires the Laptop Format (tablet is not acceptable).**

Students who purchase or bring a Macintosh computer must have a dual operating system as there are specific software packages required which will only run on a PC. If you choose to purchase a Macintosh, you must also run Windows in Boot Camp or as a Virtual Machine in Parallels or VMWare Fusion.

Systems purchased today should meet requirements to last throughout the length of the program and the expected life of the system. The specifications here are based on the previous growth trends of the major software packages used on the systems. Four of the components that drive the usability of the system are:

- 1) the processor
- 2) RAM
- 3) video processor and video RAM
- 4) the speed of the hard drive

Due to the significant usage of the system resources by the software packages, higher amounts are recommended. The two we would start with beyond the University recommendations is an Intel Core i7 and a Solid State Drive (SSD) hard drive.

When considering printing needs, we do not recommend the purchase of printers. The School of Architecture + Design has low cost print labs available to the students.

Minimum System Requirements

Platform	PC	Mac
Operating System	Windows 10 (64-Bit)	Mac OS 10.13 (or higher)
Processor Speed	Laptop: Core i-7 (2.3 GHz or higher)	Core i-7 (2.3 GHz or higher)
Memory (RAM)	16 GB or higher	16 GB or higher
Hard Disk Drive	250 GB or higher Hybrid Drive or Solid State Drive (SSD)	250 GB or higher Hybrid Drive or Solid State Drive (SSD)
Wireless Card and NIC/Ethernet Card	Wireless - 802.11ac NIC/Ethernet – (Optional) 10/100/1000 Ethernet Card See the section on <i>NIC/Ethernet Cards</i> for more information.	Wireless - 802.11ac NIC/Ethernet – (Optional) 10/100/1000 Ethernet Card See the section on <i>NIC/Ethernet Cards</i> for more information.
Warranty	3-year on-site service support with accident damage coverage (4-year is highly recommended)	3-year on-site service support (AppleCare) (4-year is highly recommended - Available through certain vendors).
Software	Software Suite: Students are required to purchase the Incoming Undergraduate Software Bundle through the Virginia Tech Software Service Center. More information can be found at <i>Student Software Center</i> . Students are required to purchase the School of Architecture Software Suite from the Virginia Tech Software Service Center and should not purchase any software before arriving at Virginia Tech. All incoming first year students will be required to purchase this software and will be billed by the University. Prices obtained for the software suite are lower than available from any retailer. You should acquire antivirus security software through the University. Also, some courses may require an additional purchase of software that is course	Software Suite: Students are required to purchase the Incoming Undergraduate Software Bundle through the Virginia Tech Software Service Center. More information can be found at <i>Student Software Center</i> . Students are required to purchase the School of Architecture Software Suite from the Virginia Tech Software Service Center and should not purchase any software before arriving at Virginia Tech. All incoming first year students will be required to purchase this software and will be billed by the University. Prices obtained for the software suite are lower than available from any retailer. You should acquire antivirus security software through the University. Also, some courses may require an additional purchase of

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2 Factor Authentication	Learn more about 2-Factor Authentication at Virginia Tech and register at least one device that you plan to bring with you. See the section on <u>2 Factor Authentication</u> for more information.	Learn more about 2-Factor Authentication at Virginia Tech and register at least one device that you plan to bring with you. See the section on <u>2 Factor Authentication</u> for more information.
Additional Requirements	Video RAM: Nvidia or AMD graphics with 2GB of video RAM or more	Video RAM: Nvidia or AMD graphics with 2GB of video RAM or more
Suggested Back-up	Any backup method of choice including cloud based services like Google Drive.	Any backup method of choice including cloud based services like Google Drive.
Additional Suggestions		

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