



**computer requirements**

The School of Architecture requires the laptop format (tablet is not acceptable). Systems purchased 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:

- + the processor
- + RAM
- + video processor and video RAM
- + 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 has low cost print labs available to the students.

**minimum system requirements**

<b>platform</b>	PC
<b>operating system</b>	Windows 10 (64-Bit)
<b>processor speed</b>	Intel i-Series (i7 or i9) or AMD Ryzen (2.5GHz or higher)
<b>memory (RAM)</b>	16 GB or higher
<b>hard disk drive</b>	500 GB or higher Solid State Drive (SSD)
<b>wireless card</b>	Wireless - 802.11 ac Wi-Fi
<b>webcam</b>	Built-in or external with built in microphone (headset/earbuds recommended)
<b>warranty</b>	3-year on-site service support with accident damage coverage (4-year is highly recommended).
<b>software</b>	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 the Student Software Center. 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 specific - information is provided in the course syllabus.
<b>2 factor authentication</b>	Learn more about 2-Factor Authentication at Virginia Tech and register at least one device that you plan to bring with you.
<b>additional requirements</b>	Video RAM: Nvidia or AMD graphics with 4GB of video RAM or more
<b>suggested backup</b>	Any backup method of choice including cloud based services like Google Drive.

**contact**

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