

STUDENT COMPUTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Pittsburg State
UNIVERSITY



2021-2022 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1** Before purchasing a computer, check the college/department computer requirements for your field of study. You can find contact information to Academic Departments in our [University Directory](#).

If you are looking for a midline machine and don't need a specific machine tightly connected to your major, please see the following recommendations.



Save on your computer purchase by ordering through [PSU's Pitt Start Page!](#)

**Questions?
Contact the Gorilla Geeks
620.235.4600 or
geeks@pittstate.edu or
109 Whitesitt Hall**

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Decide on your Operating System (OS). The most commonly used OS's at PSU are Windows and Macintosh.

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Our Recommendations on the details:

Operating system:

Windows 10 (Professional, Education, Enterprise, or Home) OR
Mac OS X 10.12 or newer

Processor:

Laptop: Intel Core i5 / AMD A6 processor or better.

Desktop: Intel Core i5 / AMD A8 or better.

Monitor and video card:

Laptop: LCD 1280x800 resolution or higher.

Desktop: 19" or greater monitor, dual-monitor capable video card. If doing a lot of 3D rendering or other graphic processing-intensive tasks, dedicated video memory is recommended.

Hard drive: 256 gigabytes or larger for solid-state drives. Microsoft Office 365 includes 1TB of cloud storage.

Memory: (RAM) 8 gigabytes or more for typical use. 16 gigabytes or more for AutoCAD, Adobe Creative Suite applications, and other graphic and video-intensive applications.

Multimedia: Speakers, microphone, and webcam.

Microsoft Office/Office 365: There is no need to purchase this. As a student, you will receive FREE local installs of Office and a login to Office 365. Learn more at our Office 365 page.



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More Key Recommendations:

Netbooks and tablet computing devices (like Chromebooks, iPads, etc.) do not have the computing power of a normal laptop or desktop computer. For this reason, these tools are not recommended for use as a primary computer at Pittsburg State.

Anti Virus Software: Be sure to install Anti Virus software. The most common issue that we see at the PSU Help Desk could be resolved if updated AV software was installed on student-owned machines. Pittsburg State students, faculty, and staff are responsible for protecting their computers and data against increasing threats and vulnerabilities. This also protects the university's network and resources, as well as other Gorillas.

Browsers: Web applications occasionally do not work well with all browsers. Individuals are encouraged to install an alternative browser such as Google Chrome, in addition to the default browsers provided with the operating system.

Backup: Use a backup program like Windows Backup or Mac OS Time Machine, with an external hard drive, to ensure file recovery in the event of a system malfunction.



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More Key Recommendations (continued):

Warranty: Add an extended warranty to cover the length of your academic use of the computer. Check with your homeowner's or renter's insurance to see if your computer is covered for damages or theft and get additional coverage if needed.

Security: Consider adding security hardware, such as a security cable or software.

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Key Purchasing Tips:

Get Your Media: When purchasing a computer, make sure it includes copies of all media disks or download links (operating system, drivers, and applications) and bring copies of these disks/links with you.

Double-check price quotes as sometimes prices don't include a keyboard, mouse, monitor, or the recommended operating system.

Printers are usually sold separately. Inkjet and laser printers provide high-quality printing. Before you buy, compare prices, features, and cartridge replacement costs. Wireless printers are not permitted in the dorms. Dorm print stations are provided. Learn more about Student Housing technology in the PSU [Housing Move-In Guides!](#)

Cables: Ensure you have everything needed to connect and use your systems, including power cables and USB cables.

Cost: The estimated cost for a midline machine, with the basics, ranges from \$1,000 - \$1,500. Again, check out [PSU student discounts!](#)

