

Interior Design Program Laptop Requirements

Students are required to obtain a PC (**not Mac**) laptop for their studio courses. We will begin using them in the IDES 110 studio fall semester. With challenges students had during COVID where design work was completed at home and not in computer labs, we are updating the specifications to address not only AutoCAD but REVIT and CET used in upper-level studios.

This needs to be a PC – many brands will work. Specifications are suggested:

CPU: Intel i7-9XXX or i7-7XXX series (the i9 series is newer and fine, but not "better" enough to justify the increased cost)

RAM: 16 GB (32 GB wouldn't hurt, but may not be worth the additional cost)

Storage: 256 GB SSD (512 GB or greater preferred)

Graphics: GeForce RTX ideally 3060/3070/3080

Warranty: 3 years and includes accidental damage coverage (a college student with a laptop is basically the ONLY time I would suggest an extended warranty)

The rest of the details are user-preference (display size, as it generally relates to weight and someone may want a lighter 13" model – but overall image of drawings may be compartmented on a small screen). All will typically have wi-fi, Bluetooth, and a webcam).

NOTE: A Mac laptop DOES NOT run AutoCAD and other required software. While MACs can have installed a "PC" option where one can go to run AutoCAD, this is VERY slow on a laptop. Performance issues make it ill-advised. Most professional design offices that use AutoCAD and Revit, use PC's. The ID labs use PC's; so it's best to get acquainted with them sooner rather than later.

Because the laptop is required, the Office of Financial Aid will modify your aid package to include purchase of equipment and software. Consult their staff.