University of Houston Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design

Tools/Media List

REQUIRED / RECOMMENDED

ARCH 1500 / 6600 COMPUTER HARDWARE

It is required that you have a functioning computer while attending the College of Architecture and Design. Ideally the computer you buy for Freshman Year will last for your whole program. If you purchase a laptop with the recommended specifications, this will be more likely to be possible. Each new version of software requires higher performing hardware.

For more information on these specifications in relation to some of the software use at the College, please see these links:

Autodesk Revit Recommendions

Lumion Recommendations

Rhino Computer Recommendations

Solidworks Computer Recommendations

	Minimum System Specifications Estimated Cost = \$1600	Recommended System Specifications Estimated Cost = \$2000 - \$3000	Notes
Operating System	Windows 10 64-bit	Windows 10 64-bit	Apple computers are not recommended as many of the primary applications used in the field do not run on MacOS.
Screen Size	15"	15" with touchscreen	If you have or purchase a tablet in addition to the laptop, there is no need for the touchscreen on the laptop.
Processor	i7 Intel Processor	i9 Intel Processor	9th or 10th Generation Intel processors or AMD equivalent are recommended. More cores are generally better.
Memory	16 GB	32 GB or more	
Hard Drive	500 GB SSD (Solid State Drive)	1 TB SSD (Solid State Drive)	
Graphics Card	NVIDIA or AMD with 4 GB RAM	NVIDIA or AMD with 6 GB RAM or more	Look up the graphics card on Passmark. A score of 6000 is the minimum needed to run Lumion while 10,000 - 16,000 is recommended. See <u>here</u> for more info.
Warranty and Insurance	3-year warranty Theft and Damage insurance	3-year warranty Theft and Damage insurance	
Accessories	Mouse, Data backup to cloud service and/or external SSD, Camera, External monitor, Security cable, Padded Sleeve	Mouse, Data backup to cloud service and/or external SSD, Camera, External monitor, Security cable, Padded Sleeve	