

Buying a PC

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What you WANT

- Determine Your Needs and Wants
- Be Sure That You Really Need A PC
- Prioritize Requirements Factors
- Decide On A Desktop Or Notebook
- Decide On Building Or Buying
- Determine Your Budget

What do you want the PC FOR

- Web
- Writing Text
- Graphics
- Games
- Videos
- Editing Graphics/Videos

Be Sure That You Really Need A PC

- Do you need a windows PC
- U could need a Mac
- U could put Linux (Xubuntu) on that old machine, and use it for just internet and word

Prioritize Requirements Factors

- This goes back to what you want to do and how badly you want to do it.
- I need this machine for internet and text work and I don't play games.
- I need this machine for games.

Decide On A Desktop Or Notebook

- Will I be moving or not moving
- Desktops can be a cheaper option
- Desktops are easier fix, they used standard components
- Laptops use propriety components (own brand) this means that you have to get the right component, This means expensive.

Decide On Building Or Buying

- Building
 - Good for a high speck machine
 - You get the system you want
 - Gamers normally build to get what they want
- Buying
 - You get a tested machine
 - You get a guarantee for the whole machine
 - You get to take the machine back

Determine Your Budget

- Cash is king
- Where do you skimp
- Think strategy (what does this mean)
 - Is there a new OS coming out e.g. Vista
 - Is there a new standard of communication coming out, e.g. USB 3
 - Should I wait for above to come out.
 - Should I wait and buy the lower spec machine so that I will get a good deal (holding stock for a computer shop costs money)
 - Can I upgrade it
 - As in
 - Memory
 - Hard drive
 - Expansion cards

What to look for

- Memory
- Motherboard Bus speed
- CPU
- Graphics card
- Minimum hard drive size (always remember you can add a USB hard drive)

Performance

- What they tell you / or read in the shop may or may not be the case.
- Look at magazines before you buy
- PC world
- Computer shopper

Task

- Go Buy a PC on the net
- I just want the speck of the machine that you are going to buy
- Don't actually buy it!!