



Student Tool List

Information and Network Technology Program

Notes to in-coming students:

1. You may already own many of these tools. In that case, you will need to buy only those items that you do not already own.
2. You are responsible for making sure that you have all of the tools and supplies on this list in your possession by the **first day of class**. If you have questions about some of the tools, please contact one of the instructors.
3. Please do NOT purchase the cheapest tools you can find. Spend a little more money on Sears Craftsman, Snap-On or another quality brand with a lifetime warranty.

Student Tool List:

1. **USB to RS-232 (Serial) adapter**
2. **USB Drive – also known as a Jump Drive or Pen Drive**
3. **2 medium padlocks – may be combination or key**
4. **Anti-static wrist strap**
5. **Miniature Diagonal Pliers (Wire Cutters), Approx. 5-Inches Long.**
6. **Miniature Long-Nose Pliers, Approx. 5-Inches Long.**
7. **Full-Sized Screwdriver Set.**
 - a. #1 and #2 Phillips screwdrivers, 3/16 and ¼-inch slotted screwdrivers.

Suggested Additions:

1. **T15 Torx screwdriver**
 - a. Many computer manufacturers are converting to T15 Torx screwheads in their computers



STUDENT NOTEBOOK COMPUTER SPECIFICATIONS

Information and Network Technology

Each Information and Network Technology student is required to have a personal notebook computer for use during the time that the student is in school.

The student's notebook computer is expected to at least meet the "Minimum" specification. If the student wishes to spend more money, he or she may elect to purchase a notebook computer that exceeds the "Minimum" specification. The student will need the notebook computer beginning on the **first day of classes**.

When shopping for a new notebook computer keep these things in mind:

A. Stick with a quality, name-brand unit. (Hewlett Packard, Dell, Compaq, Toshiba, IBM, Alien, etc.) MATC cannot make actual brand recommendations. Warranty length, coverage and repair time and convenience should be among your greatest considerations.

B. Shop around. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. A cheap product is rarely a quality product. The Information and Network Technology curriculum is difficult enough without trying to go through minus a computer.

C. If possible, test and compare before purchasing. The quality of the display is one example of an aspect that will vary greatly from model to model.

D. Don't get in too big of a hurry. You will need these for the beginning of class, so plan to purchase (possess) them about 2 to 3 weeks before classes begin. Keep in mind that mail-order time estimates are rarely accurate. Conversely, the longer you wait, the less expensive the computer. So don't buy immediately either.

Specification

1. Processor

MINIMUM

Intel Core 2 Duo processor.

The new AMD processors have not given us problems in the very recent past.

2. Warranty

2 years – Parts and Labor

Many notebook computers come with only a 1-year warranty. Purchase an extended warranty so the computer is covered for the duration of time you will be in class.

OPTION: We highly recommend that you also purchase an additional warranty that includes “**Accidental Damage Protection**”. The terminology may differ between manufacturers but the premise is that this will cover damage that may not be considered a “manufacturer defect”.

Manufacturers are getting very particular of late.

3. Hard Disk Drive

Internal 20GB hard disk drive minimum

4. RAM (Memory)

1 GB

Recommend 2GB for Windows 7/8/10

If you are only buying 1 GB, make sure that you have an empty memory slot for future expansion. Most laptops only have slots for 2 memory modules. Your 1 GB module should take one slot, leaving the other free.

5. Pointing Device

Touch pad

OPTION: Many people elect to use an external mouse instead of the ever prevalent touch pad. You may wish to wait until after class starts before purchasing a mouse so we can discuss options.

6. LAN Adapter

Ethernet 100/1000baseT network adapter

AKA Network Adapter or NIC. This may be integrated into the notebook computer or added by buying a USB LAN adapter.

OPTIONAL: Wireless LAN adapter. If you do elect to get the wireless adapter, you must also have an Ethernet 100/1000baseT adapter.

7. Internet Access

Broadband at home.

A significant portion of the Information and Network Technology curriculum is provided through the Internet and there will rarely be time to complete this material while in the classroom. You will need access to the Internet when away from the classroom.

8. Ports

USB (Universal Serial Bus)

RS-232 Serial Port

It will probably have at least two USB ports and possibly one or two IEEE1394 (FireWire) ports.

You will also need a legacy Serial Port (AKA RS-232, EIA/TIA 232). Many laptops don't include these anymore. If yours does not, you will need to purchase a USB / Serial Port adapter.

These generally cost less than \$35. **Pay attention to Operating System support when purchasing a USB/Serial port adapter.**

9. Power

Battery and AC power

There is no reason to purchase an additional battery

10. Carrying Case

Padded nylon, leather or rigid

I don't recommend getting an extremely large bag, however, you will need something big enough to hold any options you have added to your laptop such as an external mouse, swappable floppy drive, etc. Many people use a high quality book bag instead.

11. Operating System

Windows 10 Professional

12. Application Software

Microsoft Word & Excel

Every student can get a free copy of office through their school email account as we use 365 for email so there is no need to purchase it. Office Online is also a very good, free option. It requires that you simply put your documents into OneDrive, you can then access and edit documents through your browser. Office Online can be used without a .edu email.