

How to Buy...a Computer

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal lines of varying lengths and colors (teal, light blue, and white) extending from the right side of the title area across the top of the slide.

What do I want to buy?

- What do I want?...
 - A desktop or a mobile computer (notebook or tablet)
- What is the purpose?
- Where am I going to use it?

Desktop vs. Mobile

- Do I work in one place all the time or do I move around and need my computer?
- Desktops:
 - Give more performance for the money
 - Have bright colors and stylish displays
- Mobiles have:
 - The same if not better hard drive speed, processor speed and graphic capabilities as desktops

What am I going to use it for?

- Need to know a general idea of how you are going to use computer
- Do not need to know specific software
- Will the software be Windows or Mac?
- Does it need its own operating system?
- Are you going to need the computer in small places? (small phone or PDA)

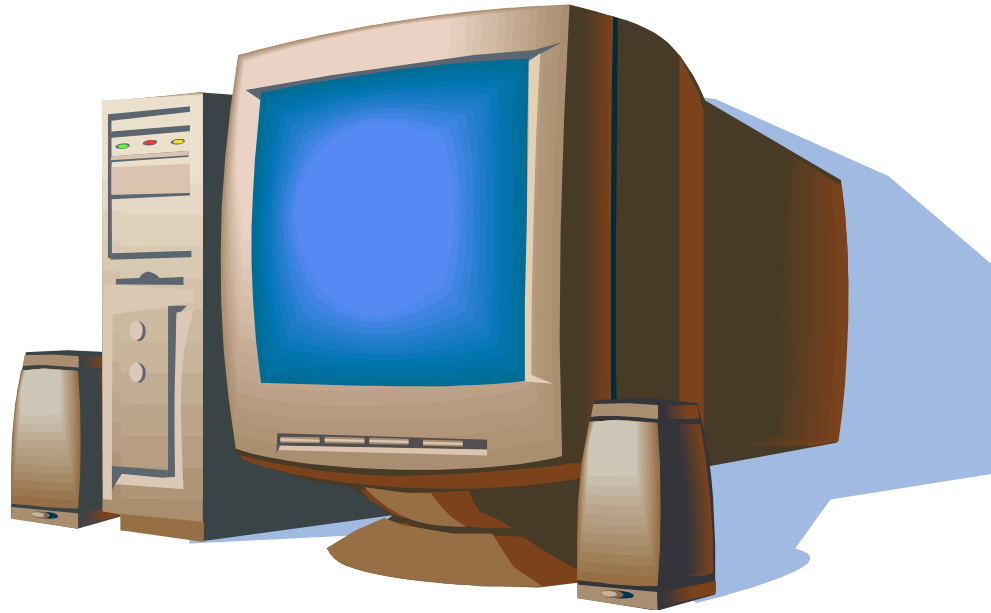
Where am I using a computer?

- Should the computer be compatible to school or work computers?
 - Am I going to be using the computer to do work at home or away?
 - What software will I need?
- Will I be able to connect to computers at school or work?

Now What?



What Desktop?



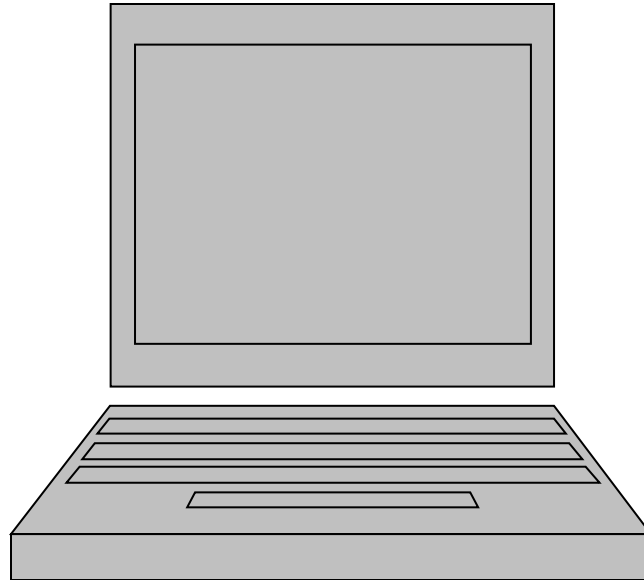
Questions to Ask yourself...

- What software is going to be used?
- What are the system requirements?
- Is there bundled software?
- Is this the most powerful computer available?
- Should I upgrade the peripheral devices?
- How will I be connected to the Internet?
- Which ISP or OSP will I choose?
- How do the computers compare (use a worksheet)?

Questions continued

- Where will I buy my computer?
- Which name brand should I choose?
- Can I sell or trade my old computer?
- What are the hidden costs?
- Are there any restocking fees?
- Can I use a credit card?
- Is there any extended warranty or service plans?

Laptops



Questions to Ask?

- What are my computer needs?
- Is there a large screen with this machine?
- How do the devices work with this machine?
- Does the machine have a CD or DVD drive?
- Are there any upgrades that I can get at time of purchase?
- How many built in ports and slots are available?

- How will you be using this machine?
- Is there a built-in wireless network connection?
- Will you need a second battery?
- Does it come with a carrying case?
- Will the computer be compatible to video projector?
- Is there a fingerprint reader available, if needed?
- Are there docking capabilities for a Tablet?

Are you ready to buy NOW?