

Desktop Buyer's Guide Today, desktop manufacturers emphasize desktop style by offering bright colors, trendy displays, and theme based towers so that the computer looks attractive if it is in an area of high visibility. If you have decided that a desktop is most suited to your technology needs, the next step is to determine specific software, hardware, peripheral devices, and services to purchase, as well as where to buy the computer. The following considerations will help you determine the appropriate desktop to purchase.

1. You use these peripheral devices to interact with the desktop, so make sure they meet your standards.
6. Along with the desktop itself you also may need to make extra purchases. For example, you might purchase computer furniture, an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) or surge protector (discussed later in the module), an external hard drive, a printer, a router, or a USB flash drive. Decide which software contains the features necessary for the tasks you want to perform. Your hardware requirements depend on the minimum requirements of the software you plan to use on the desktop. If however you purchase a new desktop, chances are it will include the latest version of your preferred operating system (Windows, macOS, or Linux) up less space and often look more attractive than desktops with separate towers.
8. Purchasing a desktop with the most memory, largest hard drive capacity, and fastest processor you can afford will help delay obsolescence.
10. Most extended warranties cover the repair and replacement of computer components beyond the standard warranty.
5. Consider a touch screen monitor. A touch screen monitor will enable you to interact with the latest operating systems and apps using touch input.

Consider This: Shop around for a desktop that meets your current needs. If you are buying a new desktop, you have several purchasing options: buy directly from a school bookstore, a local computer dealer or a large retail store, or order from a vendor by mail, phone, or the web. Determine the operating system you want to use because this also dictates hardware requirements. Consider upgrades to the keyboard, mouse, monitor, printer, microphone, and speakers. Purchasing software at the same time you purchase a desktop may be less expensive than purchasing the software at a later date.

9. If you use your computer for business or require fast resolution of major computer problems, consider purchasing an extended warranty or a service plan through a local dealer or third-party company. Determine the specific software to use on the desktop. Know the system requirements of the operating system. Technology changes rapidly, which means a desktop that seems powerful enough today may not serve your computing needs in the future. Each purchasing option has its advantages. Look for bundled software. Avoid purchasing the least powerful desktop available. Which desktop would you monitor separately. Evaluate all-in-ones, which may be less expensive than purchasing a tower and explore each option to find the best combination of price and service.
3. Be aware of additional costs. In addition, all-in-ones take purchase?
2. 4. Why?
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