

# Important Factors to Consider When Buying a Computer



Whether you're looking to buy a laptop, desktop or tablet computer, there are many important factors to consider before making your purchase. These include the device's processor, hard drive, memory, graphics card and operating system.

The key to finding the best computer is determining what you'll use it for. Next, look at product lines that resonate with you and carefully examine pricing tiers.

## Processor

A computer's processor is often overlooked, but it plays an important role in your device's speed. The chip executes instructions, moves data around, and manages many other systems.

If you're buying a new computer, it's worth paying close attention to the CPU. The right one will make a huge difference in how fast it performs and which parts of your machine operate at their best.

You first need to understand that CPUs aren't all created equal. They come in all different sizes and performance levels, so you need to know what work you do to choose the best processor for your needs.

Processors also come with core count and thread count, which tell you how many physical cores each processor has. In addition, some CPUs use "multithreading" technology to split each physical core into "virtual cores," allowing them to handle multiple tasks simultaneously.

## Hard Drive

The hard drive is one of the most important factors to consider when buying a computer. This is because it stores data like your operating system, installed software and other files.

The hard drive is a large storage device that can magnetically store billions of bits of information on rotating platter disks. As the platters spin, a small actuator arm called a read/write head moves across them and reads or writes these data bits.

HDDs are relatively reliable, though they have limitations and cannot compete with solid-state drives (SSDs) speed. In addition, the mechanical nature of HDDs limits their performance and latency, but SSDs offer a significant performance advantage. Check out [Canada Computers](#).

## Memory

Memory, also known as random access memory (RAM), is a critical component of your computer. It temporarily allows your applications to store data, improving your computer's speed.

RAM can be divided into two categories: static RAM and dynamic RAM. Static RAM is based on transistors that retain data as long as it receives power, while dynamic RAM is based on capacitors that need to be refreshed with comparatively large bursts of energy.

When buying a new computer, you want to consider how much RAM your system will need. Having at least 4GB is recommended, but 8GB or 16GB is even better for gaming and multimedia.

## Graphics Card

The graphics card is one of the most important factors when buying a computer. It is responsible for rendering images on the screen, which includes photos, videos, games, documents, and your desktop environment.

To render those images, the card must process data from the CPU and translate it into a visual output. This is done through a translator called a GPU (graphics processing unit).

Modern cards can process many instructions at once, drawing and redrawing the same image hundreds or thousands of times per second to ensure that everything on your screen looks smooth and accurate. However, your CPU and motherboard also play a role in determining how fast your GPU can process graphical data.

## Monitor

The monitor is one of the most important factors to consider when buying a computer. The monitor is an essential piece of hardware that sits atop a desk and connects to the computer's video card or motherboard.

The monitor has several features you should look for, including display size, resolution, refresh rate and response time. Some of these features are more important than others if you're gaming or watching fast-paced videos on the monitor.

A monitor's brightness is also important to consider. It's measured in candela per square meter, or cd/m<sup>2</sup>, and a good quality monitor should have at least 250 cd/m<sup>2</sup> to ensure visibility.