

Computer Requirements

Certificate IV in Interior Decoration

You will need to have a tablet, laptop, or desktop computer to complete your studies at home. During some lessons you will need to be able to access online resources and assessment activities from the eCampus and undertake online research. You may wish to bring a tablet or laptop to class on these occasions, but otherwise you can use your phone. There will not be any large demands on your device so generally any tablet, laptop, or desktop computer will suffice. Refer to 'General Equipment and Software Requirements' on page 3 for all students.

Diploma of Interior Design (12 months) and Advanced Diploma of Interior Design (18 months)

Semester 1

You will start learning and utilising a variety of software programs from the beginning of your course both during class time and at home so you will need a powerful laptop or desktop that fits the 'System Features Guide' on page 3. You will use the PC's on campus to learn the software programs, however you will be completing homework and assessments at home. During other lessons you will need to access online resources on occasion so you can bring a tablet or laptop to class, or you can use your phone.

Semester 2 Onwards

You will need to bring a powerful laptop to class to use various software programs throughout your lessons. Refer to 'General Equipment and Software Requirements' on page 3 for all students as well as Diploma and Advanced Diploma students.

Diploma of Interior Design (18 months) and Advanced Diploma of Interior Design (24 months)

Semester 1

You will need to have a tablet, laptop, or desktop computer to complete your studies at home. During some lessons you will need to be able to access online resources and assessment activities from the eCampus and undertake online research. You may wish to bring a tablet or laptop to class on these occasions, but otherwise you can use your phone.

Semester 2 Onwards

Note: Also applies to students re-enrolling from the Certificate IV in Interior Decoration

It is at this point that you will start learning and utilising a variety of software programs so it is important to have a powerful laptop that fits the 'System Features Guide' on page 3. You will initially learn the software using PC's on campus, however you are required to bring your laptop to other lessons as you continue to use the programs in future projects. Refer to 'General Equipment and Software Requirements' on page 3 for all students as well as Diploma and Advanced Diploma students.

System Features Guide

Running industry standard software programs requires considerable hard disk space and processing power. This is a guide only. Please refer to the 'General Equipment and Software Requirements' below and consult with an IT specialist to determine exactly what you will need.

- / Processor: 2-3 GHz
- / Hard disk: 256GB SSD (minimum) – 1TB SSD (optimal)
- / Memory: 16 GB RAM (minimum)
- / A dedicated high end graphics card (GPU) with 4GB and with a benchmark score over 10 000.
See here: https://www.videocardbenchmark.net/high_end_gpus.html
- / Display size: 17 inches is ideal. 15 inches is generally adequate but may result in longer amounts of time spent working on projects in programs like AutoCAD, SketchUp and Revit.

PC or Mac?

The courses are delivered on a PC and all resources provided are based on students using a PC. If you decide to use a Mac for AutoCAD and SketchUp please be aware that there will be user interface and command differences to the PC's on campus. You can only access Revit on a Mac by first purchasing and running Windows. Please note we do not provide installation or technical support for Mac users.

General Equipment and Software Requirements

All Students

- / Laptop, tablet, or smartphone to access online resources when required while on campus
- / Laptop, desktop computer, or tablet to use at home
- / Internet connection and browser
- / Microsoft Office (installed ready to complete your first assessment)
- / PDF creation/combining/compressing software, e.g. Adobe Acrobat XI Pro, TurboScan, PDF2GO, or the ability to undertake these functions using websites
- / Back-up System (2-4TB external hard drive recommended)

Diploma of Interior Design & Advanced Diploma of Interior Design (For Units SDS05 to SDS14)

Note: Do not purchase/subscribe to any of these programs until advised as they will not be required immediately and we will advise which year/version of the software to download.

- / AutoCAD – free education version
- / Revit – free education version (only available in Windows, not available on Mac without first purchasing and running Windows)
- / SketchUp – 12 month paid student subscriptions available
- / Twin Motion – free rendering software
- / Adobe Creative Cloud – Photoshop CC, InDesign CC
- / Laptop that fits the 'System Features Guide' above.
- / A three button, scroll wheel mouse for use with programs such as AutoCAD and 3D modelling programs

Technology on Campus

There are two CAD labs on campus with PC's however they are generally in use during class time. You will have access to our student Wi-Fi network (with a daily limit of 5 GB). You will have access to a student A4/A3 colour printer/photocopier. You will need to load money to your account at reception to pay for photocopying or printing. You can print from the PC's on campus or from a USB, but not directly from your own device.

Additional Software Links

Web browsers

- / Google Chrome download
- / Mozilla Firefox download

Microsoft Office

- / Microsoft: Office Subscription
- / Microsoft: Office Online

Adobe Creative Cloud

- / Adobe Creative Cloud - Students & Teachers Complete
(Note: There is an annual subscription cost for access to Adobe Creative Cloud)
Install the following Adobe products: Photoshop, InDesign & Acrobat Pro

VLC player

This free software plays a wide variety of audio visual file formats – VLC download

Phone Apps - for Android and iPhone

Download from Google Play or iTunes stores.

- / Pic Collage

Scanning/PDF software such as:

- / TurboScan
- / PDF2GO
- / Adobe Scan

Note: All software information has been obtained directly from the licenced suppliers websites. Sydney Design School accepts no responsibility if program specifications change or vary. Computer system requirements are a guide only. Students warrant that they will conduct their own research prior to purchasing a computer.

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