



Minimum Guidelines for New Computer Purchases 2008/2009 Academic Year	<u>Windows Desktop</u>	<u>Windows Laptop</u>	<u>Macintosh Desktop</u>	<u>Macintosh Laptop</u>
Processor Speed	1.8 GHz Dual Core			
Hard Disk Drive	80 GB			
RAM	2 GB		2 GB	
Operating System¹	Windows Vista with Service Pack 1		10.5 (Leopard)	
Monitor / Display	17" LCD	14"	17" LCD	13"
Ethernet Adapter*	100/1000 Mb			
WiFi - Wireless²	802.11 b/g			
Keyboard	USB / Wireless			
Mouse	USB / Optical / Wireless			
Optical Drives	CDRW/DVD±RW			
Warranty Protection	1 year minimum			
Office Suite³	Office 2003-compatible package including Word Processor & Slide Presentation Creator			
Firewall*⁴	REQUIRED			
Virus Protection⁵	Strongly Suggested			
Spy Ware Remover⁶	Strongly Suggested			
Ethernet Cable*	Required - length varies by selected room set up			
Printer⁷	Ink Jet / Laser			
Surge Protector with Ethernet Protection	Strongly Suggested			

*Required for connection to the Saint Vincent Network.

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For assistance, contact the Information Services Computer Help Desk @ 724.805.2297 or helpdesk@email.stvincent.edu. SVC does not recommend brands of computers, only hardware/software specifications.

¹ SVC will not be migrating to **Windows Vista** until the Spring of 2009. We will provide basic network configuration assistance to students who arrive with Vista installed. For more information, visit our Supported Software page.

² **WiFi Wireless Access** is noted on the following page: <http://www.stvincent.edu/is/wireless>

³ The standard **Office Suite** used by the College is MS Office 2003/Mac Office 2004. It is the responsibility of the student to submit electronic papers in a format compatible with these applications. Please note that applications other than MS Office 2003 including MS Works, Open Office, Word Perfect and MS Office 2007 are not compatible by default and require the user to save their document in an Office 2003 compatible format. For more information visit our Supported Software page.

⁴ The use of either a software-based or hardware-based **firewall** (aka Intrusion Detection System) is a valuable piece of protection and **required** on all personal computers at Saint Vincent College. Many Anti-Virus protection packages include a firewall, as does Windows XP with Service Pack 2 or they may also be purchased separately at your favorite retailer. It is the student's responsibility to maintain a functioning enabled firewall at all times while connected to the Saint Vincent network. For more information on firewalls visit this link: http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/sDefinition/0,290660,sid14_qc331881,00.html

⁵ **Virus Protection** (aka Anti-Virus Software) is strongly recommended for all computers. There are many free, reputable, programs available thru the Internet. Most new computer systems come with a trial version anti-virus program which requires them to be configured and enabled before the computer is fully protected. It is the users' responsibility to be familiar with the anti-virus software they have chosen and to make certain it is providing adequate protection.

⁶ **Spy-ware** (aka Malware or Adware) is any software that covertly gathers information through the user's Internet connection without his or her knowledge, usually for advertising purposes. Spy ware applications are typically bundled as a hidden component of freeware or shareware programs that can be downloaded from the Internet. Once installed, the spy-ware monitors user activity on the Internet and transmits that information in the background to someone or somewhere else. Spy-ware can also gather information about e-mail addresses, passwords, and personal financial information. For this reason, it is recommended that ALL computers be equipped with at least one reputable removal tool and that the computer be scanned for spy ware at least twice per week. There are many quality removal tools available. Some require user intervention while others do not. For more information click here. <http://www.stvincent.edu/is/helpdesk/documentation/thetruthaboutspyware>
For a list of free downloadable spy-ware removal tools click here <http://www.stvincent.edu/is/downloads>.

⁷ Every school year (Fall-Spring term) each resident student is provided with one ream of **paper** to use at their discretion. Paper for the Residence Hall Labs is the responsibility of the student, however, paper for the Alfred 23 Study Center and Library lab area is provided by the College.