

## Upper School Computer Requirements and Recommendations for 2019-2020

For many years, Holland Hall Upper School has standardized on the use of the Apple MacBook family of laptops. For compatibility, consistency, and security, we require their use by Upper School students.

We are confident that any new MacBook Air or MacBook Pro will meet or exceed our requirements for the 4-year Upper School experience.

If you will be using an existing Macintosh, please keep the following in mind:

- We require Macs to always have the latest operating system software, macOS, installed.
- Currently, we recommend these models or newer:
  - Early 2015 13-inch MacBook Air
  - Early 2015 13-inch MacBook Pro
- We recommend 8GB RAM or more as memory is no longer upgradeable.
- Should the internal hard drive near capacity, there are several options available to alleviate that issue.
- As a general rule, newer computers will have better battery life and compatibility with future software upgrades.

New MacBook, MacBook Air and MacBook Pro models can be purchased at the Apple Store in Woodland Hills Mall, in stores, such as Best Buy, and from Apple Authorized online merchants. Sometimes, significant savings may be found by checking these locations:

- Apple Certified Refurbished - <https://www.apple.com/shop/refurbished/mac>
- MacPrices.net (guide to current pricing) - <https://www.macprices.net/macbookair.shtml>

If purchasing a MacBook with USB-C or Thunderbolt 3 ports, please make sure to also purchase a USB-C to USB-A adapter to be compatible with USB-A accessories at school.

Our primary productivity tool will continue to be Google's G Suite for Education. We are deeply invested in this solution as the communication and collaboration capabilities are well developed. If class requirements extend beyond the capabilities of G Suite, Microsoft Office 365 is available, at no cost, for students' Macs and mobile devices, as long as they are enrolled at Holland Hall.

Families currently receiving tuition assistance will receive additional information from the Admission Office.