

Upper School Computer Requirements and Recommendations for 2020-2021

For many years, Holland Hall Upper School has standardized on the use of the Apple MacBook family of laptops. For compatibility, consistency, productivity, creativity, 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 Mac, please keep the following in mind:

- We require Macs to always have the latest operating system, macOS, installed.
- While newer models are preferred for improved battery life, performance, and software compatibility, our minimum requirements are:
 - Early 2015 13-inch MacBook Air
 - Early 2015 13-inch MacBook Pro
- Memory Requirements: 8GB RAM or more as memory is no longer upgradeable.
- Storage Requirements: Minimum 128GB, 256GB recommended.
- Processor Requirements: Intel i5 processor. Although an i3 processor will suffice, we recommend purchasing a MacBook with an i5 or i7 processor for a better long-term solution

New MacBook Air and MacBook Pro models can be purchased at the Apple Store in Woodland Hills Mall, Best Buy, and from other 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 you purchase 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.