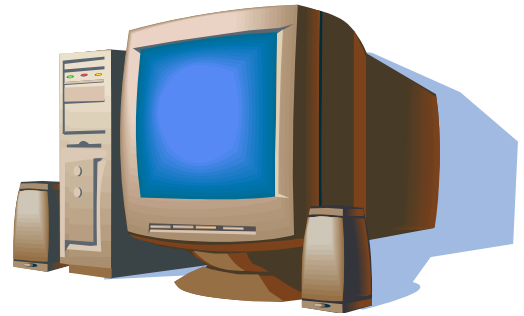


Purchasing a Personal Computer

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Design Brief:

In our society, almost everyone uses a computer either at home or work. Chances are, in your lifetime, you will own at least one personal computer. The purpose of this assignment is to allow you to use information gained in class and media resources to hypothetically purchase a computer system.

Procedure:

1. Using advertisements from television, magazines, or newspapers, you will hypothetically spend no more than \$2,500 on a computer, software, and peripheral devices. You may, if you prefer, visit a store. You will create a portfolio containing information about your purchase.
2. When making the decision about purchasing the hardware and software there are several things that need to be considered.
 - a. The first thing you will need to decide is why you need a computer. What you plan to do with your computer will dictate the type of computer, software, printer, and other peripherals that you will have to purchase.
 - b. You will need to decide if you want an DOS based or Macintosh platform.
 - c. Do you want a desktop or laptop?
 - d. How much memory does the computer come with and will you need to purchase additional memory?
 - e. What software will you need?
 - f. Do you need a color printer or only black and white?
 - g. If you have extra money, could you use a scanner?
3. The portfolio must contain:
 - a. A 3 page typed report (12 point, 1" margins) that explains what you purchased, the features of each, and why you chose each piece.
 - b. A chart listing the hardware and software, the price paid, and the store and location purchased.
 - c. Either an original or a photocopy of the advertisements where you located your information. If you visited a store, you should provide the store name, location, date visited, and the person with whom you spoke. If the advertisement was on television or radio, tell the station and the date aired as well as the store, the product, and the price.

4. All purchases must be less than \$2500. No sales tax will be included. You may not use employee discounts.