# Software Requirements

To be used efficiently, all computer software needs certain hardware components or other software resources to be present on a computer. These prerequisites are known as (computer) system requirements and are often used as a guideline as opposed to an absolute rule. Most software defines two sets of system requirements: minimum and recommended. With increasing demand for higher processing power and resources in newer versions of software, system requirements tend to increase over time.

*"OR"*

A second meaning of the term of System requirements is a generalization of this first definition, giving the requirements to be met in the design of a system or sub-system. Typically an organization starts with a set of Business requirements and then derives the System requirements from there.

## Platform

Typical platforms include a computer's architecture, operating system, or programming languages and their runtime libraries. Operating system is one of the requirements mentioned when defining system requirements (software). Software may not be compatible with different versions of same line of operating systems.

For example,

- Windows XP
- Windows 7
- Windows 8

## Web browser

Most web applications and software depending heavily on Internet technologies make use of the default browser installed on system. Frequent choice can be

- Internet Explorer
- Google Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari

## Other Requirements

Some software also has other requirements for proper performance. Internet connection (type and speed) and resolution of the display screen are notable examples. A screen resolution of 1024 x 768 is optimal.

## Examples:

| Windows Requirements | |
|---|---|
| **Operating system** | *Windows 2000/XP* |
| **CPU** | *Pentium 4 1.5 GHz or Athlon XP 1500+ processor or higher* |
| **Memory** | *384 MB RAM* |
| **Hard drive** | *2.2 GB free hard disk space* |
| **Media** | *8x Speed CD-ROM* |
| **Graphics hardware** | *3D Hardware Accelerator - 64MB of memory minimum DirectX 9.0* |
| **Sound hardware** | *DirectX 9.0b compatible 16-bit sound card* |

| Windows Requirements | |
|---|---|
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|---|---|
| **Operating system** | *Windows Windows XP SP3, Windows Vista SP2, Windows 7* |
| **CPU** | *Core 2 Duo or Athlon X2 at 2.4 GHz* |
| **Memory** | *2 GB RAM* |
| **Hard drive** | *8 GB of free space, 23.8 GB + 1 GB Swap File hard disk space* |
| **Graphics hardware** | *DirectX 9.0c compatible video card. 3D Hardware Accelerator - 256MB of memory minimum* |
| **Sound hardware** | *DirectX 9.0c compatible sound card* |