

Interior Design B.F.A. Technology Requirements 2025

Overview

After the successful completion of the CVAD Interior Design Program Entry-Portfolio Review, each student accepted into the program is required to own a laptop that meets the specifications listed.

In the CVAD Interior Design B.F.A. program, the most current technology is used to better prepare students for their professional design careers. To support competency, we require a laptop computer for every student coming into our program. We use software programs that demand high-performance processing power, random access memory (short-term memory), and graphic capabilities — a video/graphics card.

Important Note: Depending on the nature of the course, individual faculty will enforce the laptop requirement for in-class use along with the necessary associated software.

Students should

1. Have a laptop with performance capabilities that can perform efficiently throughout their student life and
2. Use cloud services or an external hard drive to back up all files frequently, e.g., Dropbox, Google Drive or UNT's EagleConnect One Drive — up to 25 GB of cloud-based storage and files up to 2 GB.

Software

Essential Software in the Interior Design Program

Courses may require additional software announced by instructors through the course syllabus.

- **REVIT 2025:** Free download available from Autodesk website; Not Revit LT
- **AutoCAD 2025:** Free download available; Not AutoCAD Architecture
- **SketchUp:** Free download available from Google; SketchUp Pro requires a fee
- **Microsoft Office:** Including Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- **Adobe Creative Cloud:** Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign are helpful. Free use of Adobe Creative Cloud is available with on-campus use. **Note:** To buy a discounted

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subscription for use anywhere, please visit the CVAD IT Services web page, [Adobe Creative Cloud for UNT Students](#).

Technical Specifications

Among the design software programs recommended by the program, Revit, building information modeling software, demands higher system requirements.

Important Note: Obtaining a laptop with the system requirements for the Revit BIM software is critical to avoid technical problems.

Following are the laptop requirements for UNT B.F.A. Interior Design students based on the [Adobe Creative Cloud for UNT Students](#).

Laptop Requirements

Following are the laptop requirements for UNT Interior Design students based on the system requirements for Autodesk Revit.

Revit 2025: Performance: large, complex models

Operating System: 64-bit Microsoft® Windows® 10 or Windows 11. See Autodesk's Product Support Lifecycle for support information.

CPU Type: Intel® i-Series, Xeon®, AMD® Ryzen, Ryzen Threadripper PRO. 2.5 GHz or Higher.

Highest CPU GHz recommended.

Memory: 64 GB RAM. Autodesk® Revit® software products will use multiple cores for many tasks.

Video Display

- Minimum: 1920 x 1200 with true color
- Maximum: Ultra-High (4k) Definition Monitor

Video Adapter: DirectX 11 capable graphics card with Shader Model 5 and a minimum of 4 GB of video memory

Hard Drive: 30 GB free disk space; 10,000+ RPM Hard Drive — for Point Cloud interactions — or Solid-State Drive

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Monitor size: A bigger size monitor is recommended; minimum of 14 in.

Pointing Device: MS-Mouse or 3Dconnexion compliant device

Hardware

PC (Windows OS) or Mac PC Dual Platform (Mac OS + Windows OS)

Some of the software used in the UNT Interior Design program is incompatible with the Apple Macintosh Operating System (Mac OS), and Mac versions of the software are not available.

ADES 2660 Technology for Design — The Software Applications course uses Revit software on Windows OS only, NOT on Mac OS.

Important Note: Your laptop **must** be capable of operating Windows OS. Other software in use may work on Windows OS and Mac OS. However, the screen appearance is significantly different. Learning these programs on Mac OS is entirely the student's responsibility.

The Interior Design program strongly recommends a laptop with the Windows operating system. Since REVIT and AutoCAD have long been used in the design industry on Windows OS, it is encouraged for students to operate these programs on Windows OS as it is more beneficial.

While we recommend the Windows platform, students may use a Mac PC dual platform that meets the technical specifications listed above.

Note: It has been noticed that the Mac PC dual-platform (using either software by Parallels or Bootcamp) experiences more technical problems and crashes while operating AutoCAD or Revit software. Dual-platform systems seem less efficient and more expensive due to the additional demands of disk space and possibly increased technical support to run both the Mac and Windows Operating Systems.

Additional Equipment

External Hard Drive/Flash Drive: Students frequently should save their work and keep at least two backup files in separate locations. An external hard drive, an external flash drive, or a combination of both is recommended to make backup files and transfer files between computers. You may use a flash drive to turn in assignments and others for backups. The

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importance of backups cannot be over-emphasized. Please note that lost or damaged files of your work are not considered an acceptable excuse for any missing assignment.

External Mouse: Operating AutoCAD, Revit, SketchUp, and Adobe software using a touchpad are very cumbersome. We recommend the use of a mouse — preferably with a scroll wheel — for efficiency and ease of use.

Free Student Copies of AutoCAD and Revit from Autodesk: The Autodesk® website provides free software downloads for students. It includes educational versions of AutoCAD, Revit, etc. Please be aware that CVAD IT Services continuously update the software programs in the labs.

To get the free software downloads for students, go to the Autodesk® website, [Autodesk Student Access for Students and Educators](#).

The UNT Official Bookstore may offer software programs to students at a discounted price. Please visit the [UNT Bookstore website](#).

This document can be downloaded from the [Interior Design: Information to Download web page](#).