

Buying a PC

How much have I got to spend [£.....]

On site warranty [Y / N]

Insurance [Y / N]

Full computer system - Base unit, Screen, Mouse, Sound [Y / N]

Base unit only [Y / N]

Operating system - XP - Vista - Win 7 [Y / N]

Screen size - [15] [17] [19] [22] [Larger]

Wireless Keyboard - Mouse. [Y / N]

Note that cordless mice can be very hungry on batteries.

Printer [Y / N] Inkjet [Y / N] Laser [Y / N]

Scanner [Y / N] Copier [Y / N] Consider an All in One - Printer, Scanner, Copier. [Y / N]

What do I want to use the machine for.....

Do I need software for this

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| Writing letters and documents, Books etc | <input type="checkbox"/> | Microsoft Office, Works. Wordperfect, Open Office
Serif Pageplus |
| Playing Games | <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Select by Genre |
| Making CD's and DVD's for Music, Film
Images etc | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nero, Ulead, Roxio etc |
| Graphics and pictures | <input type="checkbox"/> | Serif Photoplus, Photoshop, Paintshop Pro, Morpheus |
| Video / Photo slide shows | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ulead Movie, Magix, Serif Movieplus |
| Family Tree | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> | Firefox, Seamonkey, ANTI-Virus - Panda, Norton, Macafee |
| Hobbies | <input type="checkbox"/> | Many titles available - Try shareware |
| Desktop publishing, Cards and Calendars | <input type="checkbox"/> | Serif Pageplus |
| Computer aided design | <input type="checkbox"/> | AutoCad, TurboCad - Try shareware sites |
| Computer Programming | <input type="checkbox"/> | Visual Basic, C++, C#, XNA |

If you are unsure about purchasing on line take this list to your local computer shop. Remember preparation Can save you time and money. Software is both expensive and varied in it's usability, cost and it's fitness For purpose. Try shareware. It is try before you buy. If you don't like it, stop using it and try another. When Your happy buy the software that fits your purpose. Note that companies like Serif often give away earlier Versions of their software for free. Expect upgrade sales. Read reviews, browse online. Don't impulse buy Software. It will become a costly bookend on the shelf.