

Standard PC/MAC Configuration for Students of Business Administration

General remarks on choosing a computer

When selecting a computer, bear in mind that the device that you are buying or your employer is supplying will be in use for four years. You should therefore choose a robust, good-quality model. The price range for suitable computers is between about CHF 800 and CHF 1500. Check the dealer's and/or manufacturer's guarantee and service conditions. When buying used equipment, take care to ensure that a warranty and/or support are provided. If you are intending to buy a computer via the Internet, you should check its weight, dimensions and battery life beforehand. Devices that are suitable for coursework generally have a 14.1" / 15.4" screen and weigh no more than 2.5kg. For practical use without a mains power supply, the battery life should be around 4 hours.

The following offer special rates for students:



<http://www.studentenrabatt.ch>



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

<http://www.neptun.ethz.ch>

This sales portal goes online at the start of the semester, enabling students to buy laptops at substantially reduced prices for a limited period. See the link above for details.

MacITZ

<http://www.fh-hwz.ch/mac-itz>

Computer specifications

Your computer should comply with the following minimum specifications:¹



- Processor: Intel Pentium dual-core 1.6 GHz or higher
- Operating system: Windows XP / Windows 7
- RAM: 1 GB (WinXP), 2GB (Win7)
- Hard drive: 100 GB
- DVD/CD-RW (Read & Write)
- Screen size & resolution: 14.1", 1280 x 1024
- Long battery life (4 hours)
- WLAN
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 or higher
- MS Office 2003/2007/2010

However, the HWZ recommends the following specifications:



- Processor: Intel Core i7 - 2.66 GHz
- Operating system: Windows 7
- RAM: 4 GB
- Hard drive: 500 GB
- DVD multiburner
- Screen size & resolution: 14.1", 1440 x 900 or 15", 1600 x 1050
- Video card: 512 MB
- 9-cell battery
- WLAN
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 or higher
- MS Office 2007/2010



- MacBookPro
- Processor: Intel Core i7 2.0 GHz quad-core
- RAM: 4 GB
- Hard drive: 500 GB
- DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW
- Screen size & resolution: 15.4" 1440 x 900
- Video card: 512 MB
- Built-in battery with up to 7 hours life
- WLAN
- Office:mac

Obtaining software



Students can obtain Microsoft software products (not including MS Office) free of charge from our Microsoft partner <http://msdnaa.fh-hwz.ch>. The access information will be sent to your HWZ mailbox.



Students can purchase Office products at a discount from <http://students.diractionag.ch>. You will require your HWZ access data to take advantage of this offer.

Installation and use of the HWZ IT infrastructure

You will receive an introduction to using the HWZ IT infrastructure when your course begins. You will be expected to have a basic knowledge of your operating system and Microsoft Office. Around 30 days before the start of term you will receive your access data for the HWZ extranet <http://extranet.fh-hwz.ch>. Full instructions for using our IT infrastructure can be found on the extranet under "Informatik".

The HWZ provides its students with the services below. To use them or install them on your computer, you will require administration rights. Note that these rights will normally not be available to you if your computer has been provided by your employer.



WLAN (Wireless Local Area Network)

The following protocols must be supported and configurable (devices with the specifications above satisfy this requirement):

- Network authentication: WPA Enterprise
- Network encryption: TKIP

In addition to the installation rights you will require your HWZ access data.



VPN (Virtual Private Network)

To use this service, you must install the Cisco VPN Client on your laptop.

To install go to: <http://vpn.phzh.ch>

In addition to the installation rights you will require your HWZ access data.



Beamer

To use the HWZ beamers you will require a resolution of 1280 x 1024 (devices with the specifications above satisfy this requirement) and possibly an **adapter** for the beamer's VGA connector. To change the resolution or connect your device to the beamer, you will need the corresponding rights on your device.

¹ Other hardware or software configurations, such as Linux and StarOffice or older Microsoft/Apple operating systems or versions of Office, may well work. The HWZ assumes no responsibility and provides no support regarding compatibility with the HWZ IT infrastructure.