

# Building a new PC - How to choose the right hardware?

Directions: Read through the following list and articles attached to the list. Once you have read through everything your assignment is to create a spreadsheet containing the components you would choose if you were building your own computer. You have \$2000.00 for this computer. On your spreadsheet include the Item #, Description, Price, Quantity, and the website you used to find your components. Websites you may use are [Newegg](#), and [TigerDirect](#).



## Choosing the right hardware

You are planning to build your own PC and are looking for some information about how to choose the right hardware before making any purchase. This tip is for beginners as well as experts.

## Main components




The main components are the CPU, [Mainboard](#), RAM Memory, Power supply and hard drive. Below you will get an idea of which type of hardware will be needed for your new PC:




- **Memory:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/3495-choosing-your-ram>
- **Hard drive:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/2831-choosing-your-hard-drive>
- **Mainboard:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1876-choosing-the-right-motherboard>



- **Power Supply:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/588-choosing-the-right-power-supply-for-your-computer> 
  - More technical information on this FAQ: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1153-calculate-the-power-of-your-power-supply>



- **Processor:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/372-choosing-the-right-cpu> 
- **Case:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1846-choosing-your-pc-case-mod>

## Sound system

This depends on what type of sound system you need. Most integrated motherboards have an onboard sound card.

If you are buying a motherboard without an onboard soundcard you will get an idea of what you will need, also about the sound system device:



**Sound card:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1844-choosing-your-sound-card>   
**Speaker:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/2599-choosing-the-best-sound-system>

## Graphics

Nowadays, computer games require more powerful graphic cards. You will be able to choose the right graphic cards which will depend on your need.



To enjoy 3D games with high resolutions, the right monitor is a point to consider, below you will get info about which type of screen you will need:

- **Graphic card:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/4122-choosing-the-graphics-card-based-on-its-reference>
  - Points to consider before buying a Graphic card: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/7248-choosing-a-graphics-card-for-your-pc>
- **Monitor:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/2038-which-to-choose-lcd-or-plasma-screen>



- Make use of multiple monitors: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/352-expand-your-desktop-over-multiple-monitors>
- Some info about LCD screens: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/8076-which-lcd-monitor-to-buy-for-your-computer>
- Some info about HD screens: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/6134-high-definition-720p-1080p-or-1080i>
- Plasma or LCD?: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/2038-which-to-choose-lcd-or-plasma-screen>

## Peripherals

Peripherals such as [mouse](#), keyboard and headphones, these peripherals are the most vital components which you will have to take into account.



Here are some tips which will help you in choosing the best devices:

- **Keyboard:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1923-choosing-your-keyboard> ▼



- **Headphones and Microphones:** <http://en.kioskea.net/...>
- **Mouse:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/563-how-to-choose-the-right-mouse> ▼

## Cooling system

The cooling system is a very important point in building a PC.

This tip will give you an idea of which cooling system will suit your need:



- **Fan:** <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/4534-cooling-system-choosing-a-fan>  
Complete FAQ on cooling methods: <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/9023-methods-of-cooling-your-pc>

## Additional hardware

- TV tuner card : <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1224-choosing-your-tv-tuner-card>