

PLTW Launch 2024-2025

Computer Specifications

April 2024 v1

The PLTW curriculum utilizes powerful, industry-based software. To prepare for a successful school year, please work closely with your IT department to ensure your computer hardware meets or exceeds the specifications below.

Distance Learning: All Launch courses are compatible with Chromebooks, iPads, and Android tablets for Distance Learning. See the [PLTW Software page](#) for additional details.

Please note, we do not support the following software solutions for use with the PLTW curriculum:

- Open Office
- Virtual Desktop Environments
- Internet Explorer for myPLTW

PLTW Launch Specifications

PLTW Launch Module	PC/Windows	Mac	Chromebook	Android Tablet	iPad/iOS
All PLTW Launch Modules (See notes below)	Teacher Only	Teacher Only	✓	✓	✓

- Students must have Androids, Android-enabled Chromebooks, or iPad® at a recommended 4:1 student to device ratio.
 - ALL PLTW Launch Modules support Android-enabled Chromebooks, Android, and iPad devices.
 - Please note, we only support Android-enabled Chromebooks. Google maintains the list of makes/models supported. You can review that information [here](#).
- Each teacher must have a laptop computer AND the same device students will use (either iPad, Android, or Android-enabled Chromebook).
- See the [PLTW Launch App List](#)



PLTW Launch Android Tablet Specifications

Screen Size	7 inch +
On Board Storage	16 GB +
Operating System	Android v8.0+ (v7.0+ for VEXcode VR in 5 th Grade Distance Learning)
Network	WiFi® enabled (cellular/LTE not required); Must have wireless network connectivity*

PLTW Launch Android-Enabled Chromebook Specifications

(Click [here](#) for Google Education Site)

Screen Size	11 inch +
Processor	1.0 Ghz+
RAM	4 GB +
On Board Storage	16 GB +
Graphics	Integrated
Camera	Must have an onboard camera, front facing or world facing
USB Connectivity	Must have a USB port and drivers
Operating System	Chrome OS Current version (updated continuously)
Network	WIFI enabled (cellular/LTE not required); Must have wireless network connectivity*
Android App Compatibility	We only support Android-enabled Chromebooks. The list of makes/models supported is maintained by Google here .
Touchscreen	At this time, Scratch Jr. requires a touchscreen device to use the app. This affects the following modules: K: Animals and Algorithms; 1 st Grade: Animated Storytelling; 2 nd Grade: Grids and Games. All other modules do not require touchscreen functionality. For more information on the affected modules above, please see the announcement in the Teacher Guide.

PLTW Launch iPad Specifications

(Click [here](#) for Apple Education Site)

Supported Models	Models that can update to iPadOS 15 or higher. See list of models.
Screen Size	7.9 inch +
On Board Storage	16 GB +
Operating System	iOS 15 +
Network	WIFI enabled (cellular/LTE not required); Must have wireless network connectivity*



PLTW Launch Computer Specifications		
Specification	Minimum	Recommended (not required)
Processor	Intel® or AMD processor 2.0 Ghz +	Intel® or AMD processor 2.3 Ghz +
RAM	4 GB +	8 GB +
Hard Drive	250 GB +	250 GB +
Video	Graphics 128 MB +	Graphics 256 MB +
Operating System	Windows 7, Windows 8, or Windows 10, Windows 11 64-bit operating system or Apple device with macOS 10.13+	Windows 7, Windows 8, or Windows 10, Windows 11 64-bit operating system or Apple device with macOS 10.15+
Network	Must have wireless network connectivity*	Must have wireless network connectivity*
Other Basic Software (complete software lists here)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recommend the most current version of Firefox® or Chrome for optimal utilization of myPLTW. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recommend the most current version of Firefox or Chrome for optimal utilization of myPLTW.

****Please note,** we recommend that you consult with your IT department about how your school currently manages (or plans manage) software and app installations. Under many circumstances, you may need an 802.11 wireless router in the classroom. Please test your unique classroom environment to ensure adequate wireless access is in place. If you do need to make a wireless router purchase, please verify the selected router will allow adequate simultaneous connections by contacting the manufacturer and discussing the number of devices that will be concurrently used.

Allow List: Please see our Allow List for ports and websites [here](#). The myPLTW Allow List in accordance with this ensures that teachers and students can access and use the software, websites, and applications required to offer PLTW coursework.

Other PLTW Launch Hardware

Projector: Each classroom needs a digital projector with screen (or equivalent classroom display hardware) with appropriate cables, adapters, or software to connect to the teacher device.