

Should I Buy a Computer with Vista or Not?

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I would recommend Vista Home Premium or higher, the compatibility issues are usually with application software such as Office 2007 versus Office 2003 not the Windows Operating System. We plan to migrate to operating system Vista as soon as we are able to create that platform for our ITS public computer labs environment but that may be a while yet (target is May term 2009). Regardless, I believe getting the new operating system with your new computer is a smart move. I make this analogy, "Why buy a new car with an 8 year old engine?"

We also currently plan to have Office 2007 in our public computer labs for the Fall term 2008. We sell students/faculty/staff the Office 2007 product in the Computer Consulting Center (in ITTC 36). We recommend users of earlier versions of Office (XP & 2003) install the Compatibility Pack, see

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=941b3470-3ae9-4aee-8f43-c6bb74cd1466&displaylang=en>

You should be interested that we have our yearly computer bids back (including laptops) and selected Dell Computer's bid, Students/Faculty/Staff/Emeritus are all able to buy using this pricing all year. Pricing was extremely good again this year. We announce via MyUNIVERse News and UNIONline plus freshman orientation sessions and provide current information on our purchasing website at <http://www.uni.edu/its/us/purchase>.