<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/kinectforwindows/develop/default.aspx>

The v2 sensor and SDK deliver key features and enhancements that enable you to build applications that understand humans, objects, and their environments better, including:

* Improved skeletal hand and joint orientation
* Higher depth fidelity
* 1080p HD video
* Support for new development environments
* New active infrared capabilities

^So maybe we do not have to purchase a separate thermal sensor if infrared capabilities in kinect 2 suffice.

<http://www.microsoftstore.com/store/msusa/en_US/pdp/Kinect-for-Windows-v2-Sensor/productID.298810500>

**Note:** The Kinect for Windows v2 sensor does not ship with any software. It is intended for use with the Kinect for Windows SDK 2.0 (free, licensed separately) and will operate only with applications developed for Kinect for Windows v2. Developers can use the Kinect for Windows SDK 2.0 to build applications with C++, C#, VB.Net, Cx, or JavaScript.

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/kinectforwindows/develop/downloads-docs.aspx>

Technical documentation links

Also links to FAQs, technical forums, and samples of code.