

February 25, 2020

Instructor Bohannon

English Department

Salt Lake City Community College

4600 S Redwood Rd. Taylorsville, Utah 84129

Dear Instructor Bohannon,

In this paper I will be discovering the criteria for the specifications for your perfect computer. I will learn how important the specifications are and how much it will cost. The CPU, GPU, and RAM will all be mentioned in the essay. The CPU is the brain of the computer. The GPU is for higher quality gaming and video editing. And finally, RAM is used for storing information so the computer can run more than one program at once.

Sincerely, William Chen

William Chen

Instructor Bohannon

English-1010-423

February 2nd, 2020

The Importance of Computer Specifications

I often find myself wondering why the specifications of a computer matter, usually when I am sitting in front of my computer running a game that does not require good computer. My laptop is good enough for running performance heavy games, but I am always playing games that I can play on a much cheaper laptop. I am always seeing advertisements telling me that this part is good for performance, but normally people don't know what the specifications mean, or people often wonder why the specifications are important. "Don't get suckered by an array of twinkling numbers into buying gear you don't need" (Darren 116). People who build very expensive PC's usually like to brag about what is in their computer by buying tempered glass. Despite spending so much money on this PC they don't need this computer because they don't use it for games that need a lot of RAM or a GPU. The parts that are advertised are always very expensive, so why not buy the same part for a much cheaper price? My goal in this paper is to discover what the specifications mean, why they are important, and if more expensive parts are better than cheaper parts.

In my research, I have discovered that there are mainly 3 components of a computer that boost your performance. The first one is your CPU. CPU stands for central processing unit. This

part is the most important part, because it controls the rest of the computer. This is often referred to as the “brain” of the computer. The more cores the CPU has the faster it is, also how much each core can process at a time. The second part is called RAM. This part stores information that your computer is using and can be accessed quickly, for example, if you have more than one program open, the computer stores all the programs that you are using in the RAM. The last part is called the GPU. This part is not a necessity for running a computer. The GPU is mainly used for playing video games, or for video editing. However, if you want to install a GPU on your computer you may have to buy several other new parts to use it; your computer would be using more power so you have to buy a new power supply that outputs more power. Your motherboard also probably doesn’t have a PCI slot for the GPU or just simply cannot handle a graphics card.

The CPU is an important part because it runs every part inside the computer. Without the CPU, the computer is useless. The better the CPU the faster your computer will load programs. Ram is important because it makes it possible for your computer system to run any programs. Without the RAM you would not be able to use your computer, simply because without RAM, there would not be a place for the program to run. “However, one question worth asking is how much RAM is enough?” (Darren 105). The GPU is not important to run a computer; however, it is important for gaming and video editing, for the better your graphics card is, the better your computer will run the game or your editing software.

Why are more expensive parts better than cheaper parts? Simply put, more expensive does mean more performance. Big company’s like AMD or Nvidia are always coming out with new parts for computers, so it seems that no matter what, nobody can have the best computer. There’s always a computer with the newer part. This being said, when you look for buying a computer, you don’t need the most expensive parts, you should look for parts that are good but

are cheap, recently the price of GPU's have been lowered because mining Bitcoin is not what people are interested in doing anymore. You can find good graphics cards being sold for good prices now. Big brands price their products based on how good their part is. Having a good computer for you depends on what you would like to use it for. If you only use a computer for checking your email or running simple applications, you would not have to pay very much money for a computer suitable for those needs, however, if you are looking to play video games, you will have to have a GPU at the very least, if you would like to enjoy the game.

In conclusion, I have found that the specifications in your computer mean what kind of performance it will give you. I have learned what parts are most important for performance depending on what you will use the computer for. And finally, that more expensive parts are better than cheaper parts.

Works Cited

Gladstone, Darren. "The Specs That Matter [and the Specs That Don't]." *PCWorld*, vol. 26, no. 10, Oct. 2008, p. 116. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f6h&AN=34468098&site=eds-live.

"What Specification Is Required For Gaming?" *Micro Mart*, no. 1437, Oct. 2016, p.

60. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f6h&AN=119093824&site=eds-live.

"BUILD A BETTER PC. (Cover Story)." *Computer Shopper*, no. 365, July 2018, p.

76. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f6h&AN=129474134&site=eds-live.

LEATHER'S, ANTONY. "Customised PC." *Custom PC*, no. 158, Nov. 2016, p.

102. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f6h&AN=117945244&site=eds-live.

Yates, Darren. "Your Perfect PC." *Australian PC User*, vol. 23, no. 11, Nov. 2011, p.

105. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=f6h&AN=66712234&site=eds-live.

Collins, J. Carlton. "Boost Your Computer's Performance." *Journal of Accountancy*, vol. 220, no.

3, Sept. 2015, pp. 66–75. EBSCOhost,

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=buh&AN=109146322&site=eds-live.