

Computers



Hope Karnes -- Laptops

Jack (Jonathan) McFarland -- Desktops

Samantha Kennedy -- Tablets

Collaboration



- We used Microsoft Teams as our primary source of communication:
 - Held meetings to collaborate on project.
 - When things were due, we used Teams to schedule meetings for everyone's availability.
 - Held shared files so we could all contribute.
 - Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.
- Microsoft Teams allows for the ease of creation, sharing, and collaboration:
 - By keeping everything in one place.
 - Provides helpful tools on "how-to".
 - Collaborate on own time vs needing set times.



Collaboration

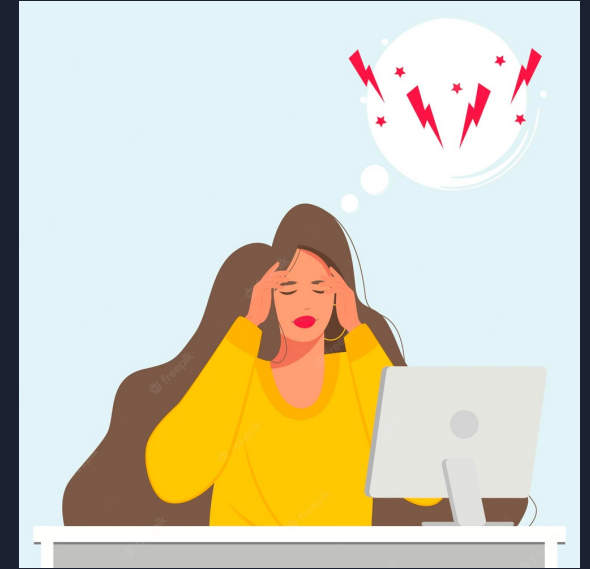


- What went well with Microsoft Teams?
 - Teams made it easy to communicate with group members.
 - Using Teams took the awkwardness of gathering everyone's phone number or email if we were to use another form of communication.
 - Using Teams was excellent for creating shared documents and presentations.
 - The only alternative to using teams would be using Google Suites to create this presentation.
- Was other technology used?
 - During the course of this project, we stuck to the use of MS Teams as instructed.



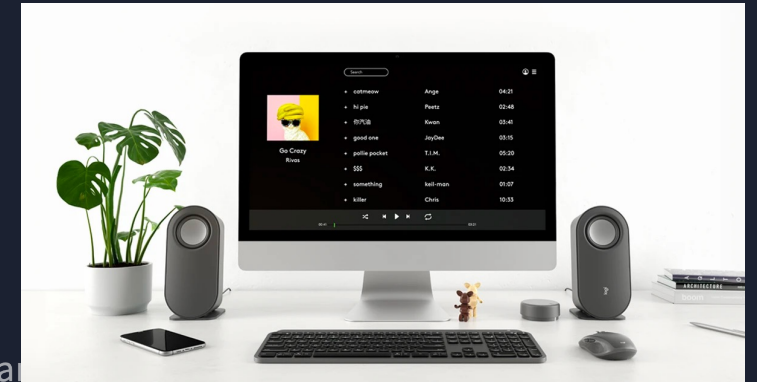
Collaboration

- There were some difficulties throughout the project:
 - Microsoft Teams not sending notifications when someone sent message.
 - This was a huge issue!
 - Downloading the Teams app helped relieve this issue however even the Teams app didn't work all the time.
 - Finding everyone's availability.
 - Some miscommunications of what was needed.
 - Difficulty going back to recording.
 - We occasionally experienced issues with teams and loading the PowerPoint.
 - We logging into teams and opening the PowerPoint, sometimes PowerPoint wouldn't load all the slides or content.
 - Had to keep refreshing page until eventually it worked.



Tool Category: Computers

- What is a computer?
 - A machine or device that performs processes, calculations, and operations based on instructions provided by a software or hardware program. Computers have the ability to accept data, process it, then produce outputs. - Techopedia
- Needs analysis/needs met by computers:
 - Communication
 - Connecting us instantly to millions of people around the world.
 - Allows us to do business with people anywhere almost instantly.
 - Research
 - Computers allow us to instantly research and learn more about any topic.
 - Computers also provide us with the tools need to create and store research topics of any
 - Creativity
 - Computers can be used to create anything the imagination desires.
 - This could be a presentation, spreadsheet, word document, a castle in Minecraft (popular computer game), an infographic, a video, and much, much more!
 - Cost Effective
 - Computers give us a relatively cheap way to stay connected to others and research topics we may need in order to be successful.



Tool Category: Computers



- Use case(s) of computers:
 - Use cases of computers include: creating presentations, creating spreadsheets to track data, creating a word document, researching a topic online, sending emails, communicating with others over business matters, banking, tracking profit within a business, being portable to use in more than one place, etc.
- Common features:
 - Common features of computers include: A camera, microphone, a motherboard, a central processing unit (CPU), a graphics processing unit (GPU), random access memory (RAM) and a solid-state drive (SSD) or a hard disk drive (HDD).
- Tools we evaluated:
 - Desktop: A desktop computer is a computer that fits on or under your desk. They are normally made up of more than one component and aren't easily moved from one location to another.
 - Laptop: A portable, small, personal computer that contains both a screen and an alphanumeric keyboard
 - Tablet: Tablets can be thought of as small, handheld computers. They're smaller than a laptop but larger than a smartphone.

Laptop – Hope Karnes

- Differing Styles
 - Can be touch-screen or not
 - Allows for handwritten notes
 - Similar features as a tablet, but same functionality as a desktop
- Best use of portability
 - Able to adjust where you work
 - Can be used "on-the-go"
 - Can combine with a docking station
 - Can use multiple displays
 - Could use as a desktop, but still have the option of being mobile



Laptops



- Heavier and more fatiguing than a tablet
- Tend to break faster than desktop
 - Due to being portable, they tend to be broken more often
- Not as cost effective as a desktop
 - Typically cost more
 - Can require new components to have same functionality as desktop

Laptop Example

DELL LATITUDE

- 2-in-1 Touch Screen
 - 3 options 13.3', 14', 15'
- Heavier
 - 13.3' is 2.9 lbs
- More Expensive
 - \$1579 (Similar specs as Surface but less storage)
- Peripherals
 - Similar pricing

MICROSOFT SURFACE

- Touch Screen
 - Limited to 13.5' and 15'
- Lighter
 - 13.5' is 2.79 or 2.84 lbs
- Cheaper
 - Around \$1200 (Similar specs as Latitude but more storage)
- Peripherals
 - Similar Pricing



Laptop Selection

- In a Higher Education situation, laptop may be the best way to go
 - Mobility is the differential from a desktop
 - Can be in a similar environment but across the country
 - Not tied to one location
 - Professor carrying from class-to-class
 - Ability of someone with COVID-19 to work from home
 - Take to lunch meetings
 - Admissions Counselors taking to High Schools
 - Can cause productivity to increase because person can move to somewhere where they can focus
 - Can make things be completed faster

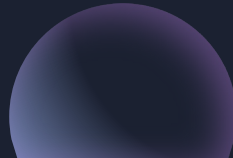


Tablets - Samantha Kennedy



- What is a Tablet?

- Tablets can be thought of as small, handheld computers. They're smaller than a laptop but larger than a smartphone. Tablets take features from both devices to form a kind of hybrid device, somewhere between a phone and computer, but they don't necessarily function the same way as either.
- Since tablets are built for mobility, the entire screen is touch-sensitive, you don't necessarily need to use a keyboard and mouse with one. Instead, you interact with everything on the screen using your finger or a stylus. However, a keyboard and mouse can usually be connected to the tablet wirelessly.



Tablets



- Why use a Tablet?
 - ✓ Tablets can be used for fun or for work. Since they're so portable but borrow some features from a laptop, they can be a good choice over a full-blown laptop, both in cost and features.
 - ✓ Most tablets can connect to the internet over Wi-Fi or a cellular network so that you can browse the internet, make phone calls, download apps, stream videos, etc.
 - ✓ Tablets give you access to a huge store of mobile apps that you can download directly to the tablet that let you do everything from check your email and monitor the weather to play games, learn, navigate with GPS, read eBooks, and build presentations and documents.
 - ✓ Workers can collaborate and stay connected with a portable, easy-to-use form factor that they can take on the go.
 - ✓ Customer-facing workers can better serve customers' needs with quick access to real-time data and tracking capabilities that improve service and reduce wait times.

Tablets Needs Analysis



- ✓ **They Are Affordable:** Even high-quality tablets, which will run more than something generic, don't have a hefty price tag. Whether you invest in one or two dozen tablets for your business, it will quickly prove to have a high return on investment.
- ✓ **Makes Traveling More Convenient:** Tablets allow for smooth and convenient traveling whenever you have to go on a business trip. Rather than trying to carry a big, bulky laptop on a plane and attempt to get work done with no elbow room, you can just whip out the tablet and take care of business on there.
- ✓ **Tablets make great e-readers:** The biggest draw for tablets is their ability to entice people into reading full-fledged articles, e-books, and novels in a comfy and relaxed manner.
- ✓ **Note-Taking:** Have you tried note-taking during meetings using your laptop? If so, you will know only too well that a laptop acts as a barrier between you and everyone else. Tablet PCs, however, are unobtrusive and can therefore be utilized during meetings in much the same way as a notepad and pen. You can handwrite notes straight onto the screen, sketch diagrams, open and edit spreadsheets and even annotate and scribble on digital documents such as PDFs. Your notes can then be converted to text, printed wirelessly or emailed almost instantaneously.

Tablet Limitations



- While a tablet can be a perfect fit for some, others might find it less than useful, given that it isn't quite a full-on computer like you might think of one
- They don't include things like an optical disc drive, floppy drive, extra USB ports, Ethernet ports, and other components that are usually seen on a laptop or desktop computer. Tablets are therefore not a good buy if you expect to connect flash drives or external hard drives, nor are they ideal for connecting to a wired printer or other peripheral.
- Something else to remember is that not all of them are built to use a cellular network for internet; some can only use Wi-Fi. In other words, those types of tablets can only use the internet where Wi-Fi is available, like at home, at work, or at a coffee shop or restaurant. This means that the tablet can only make internet phone calls, download apps, check the weather, stream online videos, etc., when connected to Wi-Fi
- Even when offline, though, a tablet can still function in many ways, like to compose emails, watch videos that were downloaded when there was Wi-Fi coverage, play video games, and more.

Desktop – Jack (Jonathan) McFarland

- What is a Desktop Computer?
 - "A desktop computer is a type of computer that fits under or on top of a desk. They utilize peripheral devices for interaction, such as a keyboard and mouse for input, and display devices like a monitor, projector, or television. Desktop computers can have horizontal or vertical form factor or be combined with a monitor to create an all-in-one desktop computer. Unlike a laptop which is portable, desktop computers are generally made to stay at one location," (Computer Hope).
 - Essentially desktop computers are exactly what they sound like. They are a computer that sits on your desk that needs other devices to aid in carrying out the functions of the computer. Desktop computers have several advantages and disadvantages to their use compared to both tablets and laptops which were also discussed in this presentation.



Exploring Desktops

- Exploration and Use of Desktops:



- Desktops are still widely used by millions of people across the world. In fact, it's still a preferred type of computer by most schools and business. Although some businesses are phasing out desktops in place of laptops for employees, desktops still provide plenty of benefits over laptops and tablets.
- Desktops are very powerful machines. They can easily be upgraded to have more power and use the latest software. Also, many desktops also have more features overtop of laptops and tablets. Desktop computers are also easier and less expensive to upgrade. For example, think about how the screen is built into both a laptop and tablet. When that technology in the screen becomes outdated, you will have to replace the entire device to get a new screen. With a desktop, you could very easily just replace the monitor that is hooked up to the main tower of the computer. This upgrade is way cheaper and easier than replacing the whole device.
- Desktop computers can have cheaper initial costs than laptops and tablets. Depending on what a person needs the computer for, desktops offer a wider range of price options to get the job done.
- Desktops allow the user to customize the type and style of both the keyboard and mouse. This allows for more comfort of use and the user can choose which mouse and keyboard best fits their needs.
- Other benefits include, larger screens, easier to repair, lower risk of theft and much more.
- Modern day desktops can now also be had in an all-in-one layout. This means the tower and the monitor are built into one unit. This allows for more portability with a desktop.



Exploring Desktops

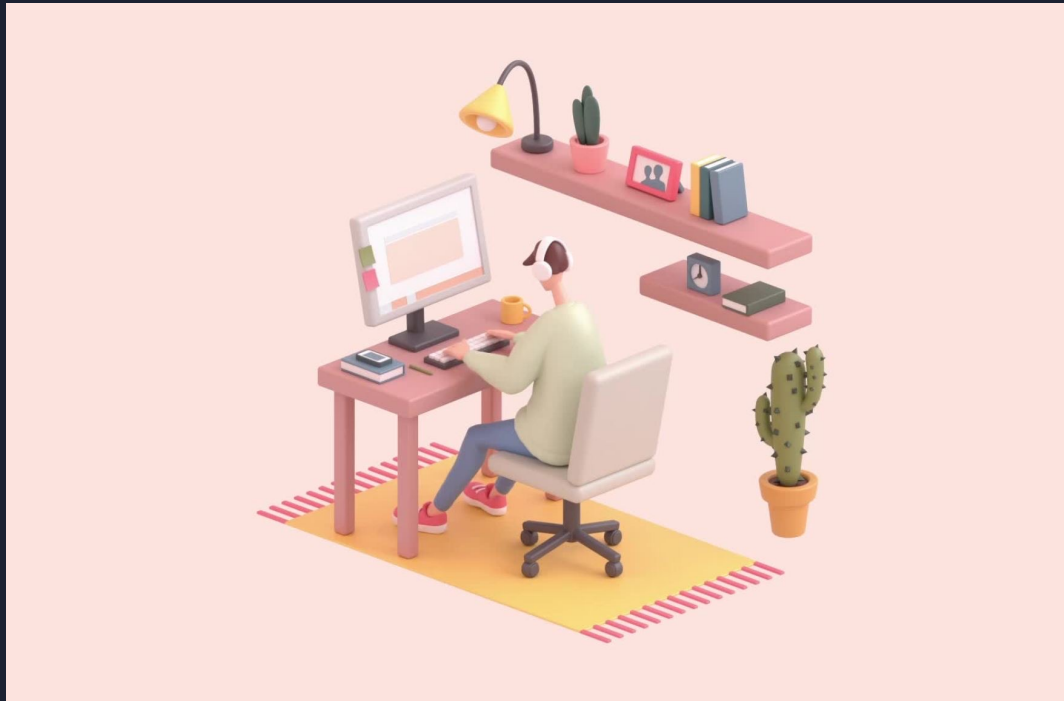
Use Case Application:

- The desktop computer meets all the features we laid out in our use cases. Desktops can function to create presentations, spreadsheets to track data, word documents, researching a topic online, sending emails, communicating with others over business matters, banking, tracking profit within a business and much more!

However, There Are Some Downsides:

- Desktop computers aren't designed to be easily carried from one place to another. They have way less portability than both laptops and tablets. Desktop computers also take up a decent bit of room on top of a desk and laptops and tablets require little space. On top of those issues, desktops also can require many cords and may even be required to have a direct plug into the router meaning they sometimes don't have WiFi capabilities.

Desktop



- Suitability
 - A desktop computer is very suitable for all needs relating to using a computer. All users would be able to smoothly operate and figure out the machine.
- Functionality
 - Desktop computers provide a very functional way to meet the needs of a computer. However, the desktop is not the most mobile of devices, it is very functional once set up and the operator is okay with staying put in one spot.
- Reliability
 - Desktop computers are among the most reliable computer. This is largely due to the fact that the system doesn't get moved around a lot so this takes away a lot of the incidents that can occur with a laptop or tablet. Due to being portable, a laptop or tablet may break by being drop and this lowers its reliability in comparison to the desktop.
- Cost Effectiveness
 - Desktops are very cost effective. They are one of the cheapest computer you can buy. Ranging from a starting price of around \$200 (BestBuy) to well over \$3,500.

Desktop Examples

IMAC

- Price: \$1,299 – \$1,699
- Storage: 256GB – 512GB
- 8 Core CPU and 8 Core GPU
- All in one design



- DELL INSPIRON 27 ALL-IN-ONE
- Price: \$999 – \$1,299
- Storage: 512GB – 1TB
- 10 Core CPU and 10 Core GPU
- All in one design



Evaluation Metric - Chart

Evaluation of Computer Type						
Scale as follows: 1 = worst, 10 = best						
Tool	Cost	Suitability	Functionality	Reliability	Portability	Customization
Desktop	9	7	10	10	3	9
Laptop	7	9	10	9	9	5
Tablet	6	7	8	9	10	6

- The chart above shows my teams evaluation metric for the different type of computers you could buy. Based off the chart the laptop is the best type of computer you can buy! It's closely followed by desktop and then by tablet.



Conclusion



- The tablet or laptop will be your best option if you're looking for portability. If you need power and performance, a laptop or desktop computer is likely the best choice.
- Desktops are ideal for power users. They offer more processing power at a lower cost and are easier to upgrade, repair, and customize for your ideal computing experience at home.

Citation MLA8

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