Not Recommended - Chromebooks

ECI does **not recommend** the purchase of any Chromebook at this time due to the following reasons:

1. Most required Engineering software does not run on Chromebooks, this includes almost all Microsoft and Mathworks products except for Matlab Online, Microsoft Online and Microsoft Remote Desktop (if and only if downloaded through the google play store).
2. Nearly everything — word processing, note-taking, etc... is done online via Google's Chrome browser and pretty much everything you produce is saved onto the 'cloud'. Which means if you are taking engineering classes or labs in places with EMF shielding or simple dead zones, you may find chromebooks "less than useful"
3. With Google Cloud Print not being supported after January 1, 2021 **many older Chromebooks will no longer be able to print to any printer**. As of October 2020 there is currently still no consumer level native Chromebook support for CUPS or other forms of local printing. Some third party apps have been released but are complicated, unstable or require connections to external print servers that can be interrupted and have known security issues.

Related articles

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