

SIGNAL Computer Specs

<u>Component</u>	<u>Acceptable</u>	<u>Recommended</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Required components			
Operating system	Windows 98/2000/XP/Vista	XP Pro	1,2
CPU speed		2.8 GHz or greater	3,4
RAM	256 MB	512 MB or greater	
Hard disk	40 GB	80 GB or greater	
Video card	"On-board" graphics chip	Add-in graphics card	5
Video resolution	800 x 600	1600 x 1200 or greater	5
Monitor size	17"	20" or larger	6
Removable storage		DVD-RW w/ 16X write speed	7
PCI slot (desktop)		Full-size PCI slot required for I/O board or PCMCIA adapter.	
PCMCIA slot (notebook)	Type II or Type III	Type II slot required for NI-6062E card. Type II slot + PCMCIA extender required for Dart I/O card.	
Chassis (desktop)		Tower chassis usually required for full-size PCI slot.	
Optional components			
Audio sound card (general use, indep of SIGNAL I/O board)	Built-in chip		
Transfer between non-networked machines		1 GB USB flash drive	9

Notes

- SIGNAL requires Windows 98 or later for computation. SIGNAL I/O requires Windows 2000 or later.
- SIGNAL has not been tested with 32-bit Vista but compatibility is likely. SIGNAL computation is probably compatible with 64-bit Vista but SIGNAL I/O is **not compatible** due to lack of driver support. 64-bit Vista is not recommended for SIGNAL users.
- CPU's with speeds a bit below the fastest available may be much less expensive.
- SIGNAL computation does not take advantage of "dual-core" Intel CPU chips. Computational performance depends on CPU clock speed independent of single vs. dual core CPU. SIGNAL 5 I/O **does** take advantage of multiple processors.
- "On-board" graphics chips are a low-cost solution and may have problems driving 1600x1200 monitors (blurry images and slow RTS scroll rates) due to inadequate video bandwidth and RAM-sharing. Stand-alone graphics cards are the high-performance solution and provide crisper images and faster RTS scrolling.
- Flat panel monitor is strongly recommended for 19" or larger.
- Make sure the DVD drive supports both DVD-RW and DVD+RW standards.
- If necessary to read old media, external Zip drives and floppy drives connected via USB are recommended.
- USB flash drive is keychain-size and very convenient for moving data between machines.

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