

Buying Guide: iPad + Accessories – 2017-18

Which iPad should I buy?

- We recommend purchasing one of the most current models on the [Apple Website](#). It will last about 4-5 years if well maintained.
- The iPad is a good option especially if savings are desired (YES, Apple released a model that's just called iPad):
 - **Storage?** 128GB recommended. I think you can get by with a 32GB model for a couple years, but if current trends continue, the student may run into storage issues. Digital textbooks, apps, cameras, etc. all seem to require more and more storage each year.
 - **Wifi or Wifi+Cellular?** Wi-Fi only is just fine.
 - Consider buying a refurbished iPad from the online Apple Store to save more money: <http://store.apple.com/us/browse/home/specialdeals/ipad>
- The iPad mini 4 is also an option, but not highly recommended because of a small screen space for taking notes, editing videos, interacting with websites, etc.
- [Apple Care insurance](#) (optional)

This is a list of iPads that have been released in the past and how long they will be viable devices at POPCS.

- The **red** models will not run everything that is required for a POPCS student (don't buy these)
- The **yellow** models will run everything now but might not in 2-3 years (good option if you only need the iPad to last a couple years)
- The **green** models will be viable for another 4-5 years. (great for the start of 5th grade or 9th grade)

➤ iPad 1
➤ iPad 2
➤ iPad 3
➤ iPad 4
➤ iPad Mini

➤ iPad Air
➤ iPad Mini 2
➤ iPad Air 2
➤ iPad Mini 3

➤ iPad
➤ iPad Pro
➤ iPad Mini 4

Do I need a case?

A case is a must. [Otterbox](#) is fantastic choice for students. Accidental drops will happen and Otterbox sells some incredibly durable cases that can handle a few drops.

What about a keyboard?

Students need to type on a regular basis to maintain their keyboarding skills. Buying a keyboard that they can use in school for papers and other assignments will help them maintain these skills. Over the last few years, some schools have abandoned keyboarding, but it remains a much needed 21st century skill. This article from MIT a few years back sums it up pretty well:

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/425018/out-of-touch-with-typing/>