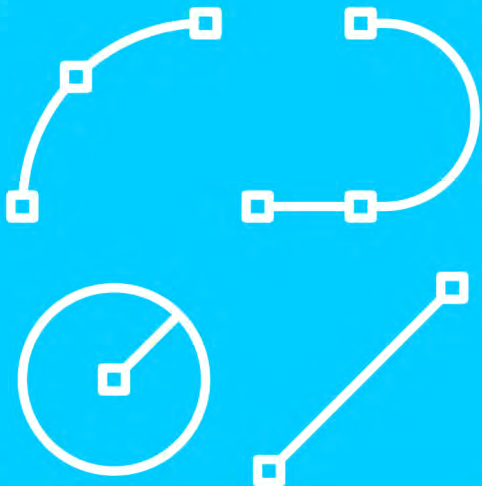
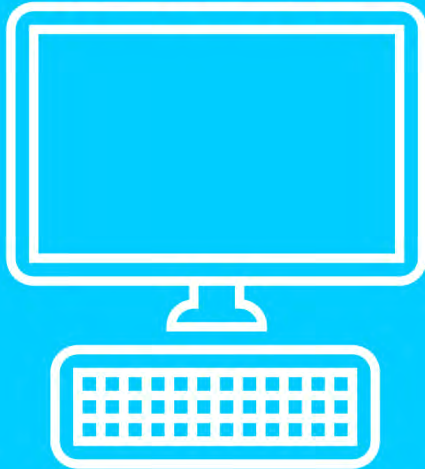


Architects & Technology



Architizer is pleased to present the results of a survey of architects to glean how they use technology. Here we've compiled the data to offer an intimate look behind the screen.

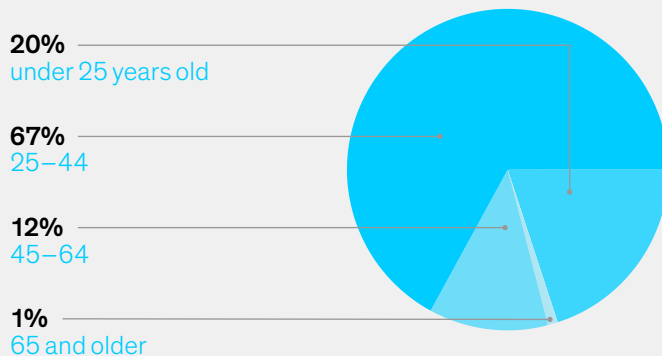
- How comprehensively do you understand the way architectural offices use technology?
- Do design firms share the same headaches?
- Limited processor capabilities, graphics-intensive tasks, software crashes, and long work hours are issues known to most practicing architects, but how diverse are the technological requirements and struggles that architectural practices face?

Architizer recently conducted a survey asking architects how they use technology today. We discovered that the majority of practicing architects still prefer using workstations, but a large percentage keeps laptops as secondary computers. When it comes to primary computer brands, choices differ, but the majority of respondents favored two famous brands — can you guess which ones? Architects also have strong preferences when it comes to software.

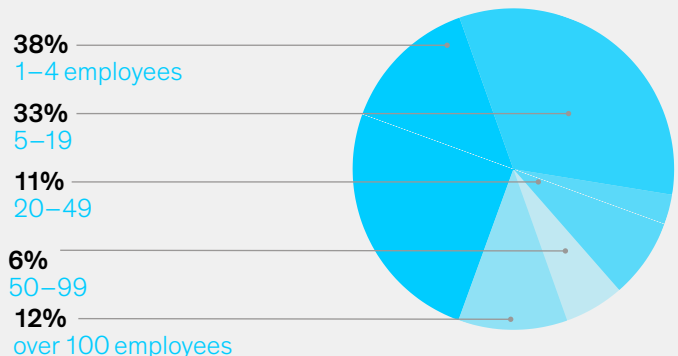
About the Survey Participants

Most survey participants are working architects between the ages of 25 and 44, employed in smaller to medium-sized offices (1–19 people).

Age Group



Firm/Company Size



Have a look at our report and let us know which results surprised you and which confirmed your suspicions.

Architecture Office: From Hardware to Software and Beyond

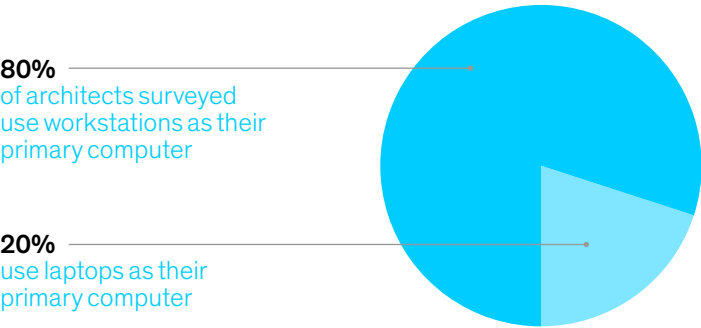
Architecture has come a long way since the time of drawing boards, T-squares, and dividers. How do contemporary firms deploy software and hardware solutions in an increasingly competitive market, when superior workflow is measured in minutes and pixels? Architizer’s survey reveals that the use of technology in architectural offices is as multifaceted as the creative work itself.



Hardware We Love, Brands We Buy

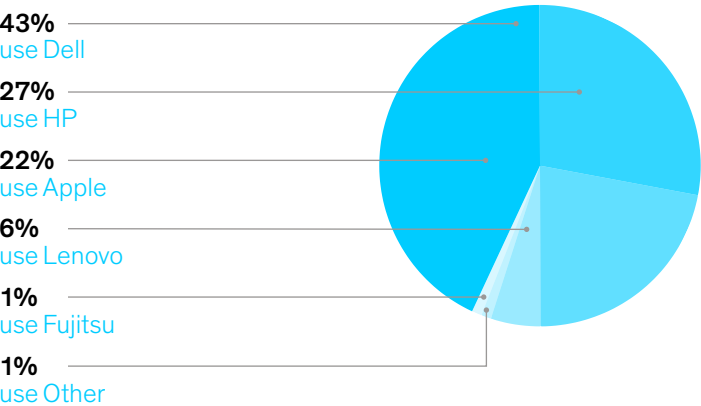
Architects prefer stationary computers to their mobile counterparts.

Despite claims that laptops are overtaking the modern-day workplace, over **86%** of architectural offices still use workstations. **54%** of architects have laptops as secondary computers.



Dell and HP are architects’ most trusted primary computer brands.

Other brands of choice are Apple, Lenovo, Toshiba, Asus, Sony, and Samsung.



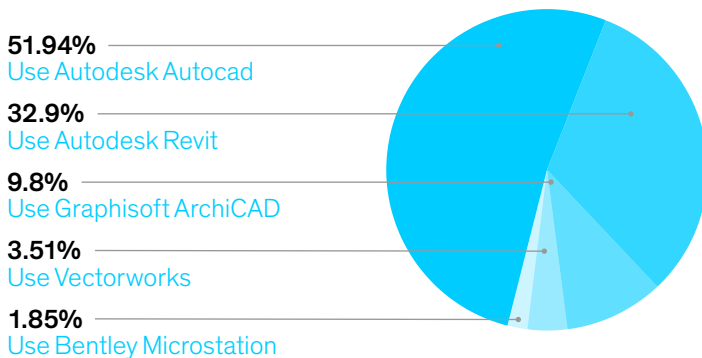
Architecture Office: From Hardware to Software and Beyond



Images Are Worth 1,000 Words

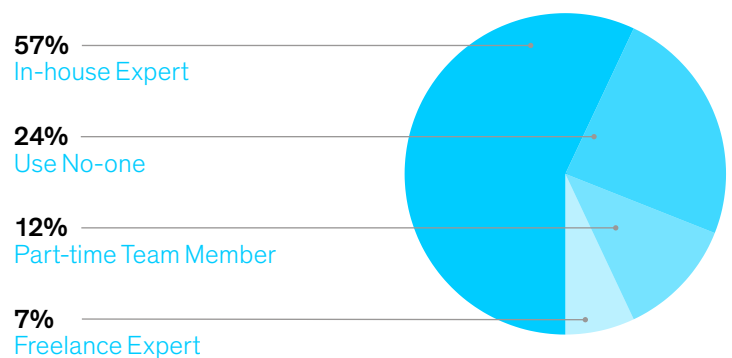
AutoCad rules the architectural office.

First and second runners-up are Revit and ArchiCad, respectively.



Architects rely on rendering technology as an important part of their workflow.

But they rarely use other hardware such as interactive pen tablets and 3D mice.



Architecture Beyond the Office

Just over half of architects have used remote access technology to access their primary work computers from a remote location.

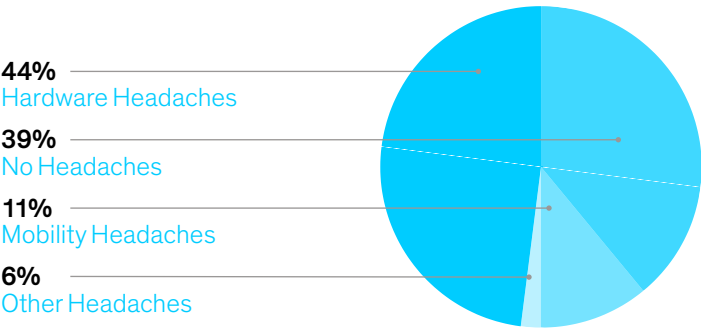
Thanks to remote access technology and other online tools like networking and web-based collaborative platforms, the creative process now often takes place outside of the physical confines of the office, which is used less as a workspace and more to facilitate interconnectivity.

Architecture Office: From Hardware to Software and Beyond

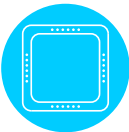
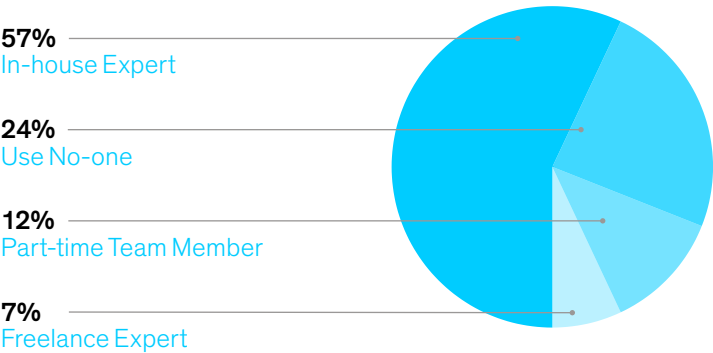


Headaches and Remedies

Most architects experience hardware performance issues in their daily work.
They are always on the lookout for superior hardware solutions.

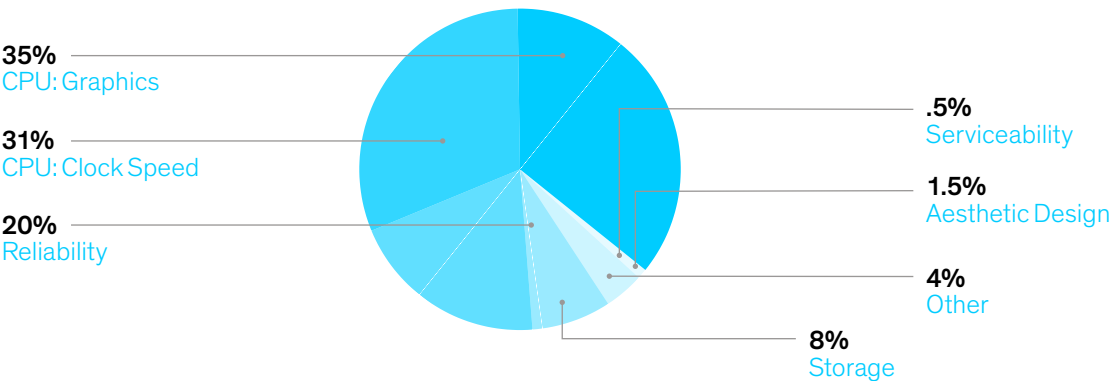


Architectural firms are more likely to hire an in-house expert
or handle technological questions themselves than employ part-time and freelance experts.



Substance Over Style

Processor speed and graphics performance
are considered to be the most important aspects of architects' primary work computers.



Conclusion

While architects may have individual preferences and habits when it comes to technology, our survey shows that, at the most basic level, their needs can broadly be summed up as processor- and graphics-intensive. As the tools improve apace with computing power on the whole, there is no foreseeable limit to the demand for faster machines and bigger displays — though architects, on a practical level, are satisfied with the current generation of high-end hardware.

Even so, when asked about their ultimate work computer, some respondents lamented software compatibility issues; all else equal, a significant number coveted Apple products. Many architects also came up with more creative responses, referring to science-fiction films like *Minority Report*, *Iron Man*, and even *2001: A Space Odyssey* for their haptic and/or AI-based interfaces. Responses that cited Deep Blue and touchscreen drafting tables reflected this desire in more realistic terms, while a few (presumably older) architects romanticized the pre-digital days of hand-drafting.

The survey has yielded valuable insights and data points when it comes to how architects use technology, but their blue-sky feedback comes as no surprise: When it comes to technology, there's always room to improve.

About Architizer

Architizer is the premier online destination for design professionals to explore the world's best architecture and interiors and discover the products and people behind them. Launched in 2009, the site has rapidly become the world's largest platform for architecture and design.

Architizer also publishes a must-read blog covering industry news and honors the best architecture, spaces, and products annually with the A+Awards program.

The largest platform for architecture and design, online or offline.

Architizer Database

50,500+

Registered A&D Firms

193,800+

Registered A&D Professionals

83,600+

Projects Uploaded

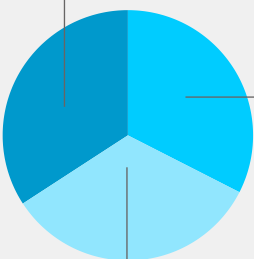
\$33,000,000

Average Project Budget

Projects Uploaded

36%

Residential



31%

Commercial

33%

Institutional

Architizer Reach

9,300,000+

Monthly Pageviews

1,960,000+

Monthly Site Visits (Sessions)

1,860,000+

Social Media Fans & Followers

38,000+

Newsletter Subscribers

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