PERFORMANCE PRODUCTION

First Year Supplies and Materials 2025-2026

This supply list is for all incoming Performance Production students at Cornish. It includes both technological and traditional materials required for a successful year as a Performance Production major. Please read this document thoroughly to ensure you're ready to go before classes begin!

Content:

1. Supplies and Materials 2025-2026 (and beyond)
2. Laptop requirements and recommendations
3. iPad and drawing pad recommendations for Costume Designers

1. Supplies and Materials for the First Year Studios

As you enter Cornish, you are expected to acquire supplies just as you would buy textbooks. Below is a list designed to encompass the basic needs of specific first-year required studio courses. All tools will continue to be useful throughout your years of study at Cornish and beyond. Additional tools or supplies may need to be purchased throughout the year for specific classes, projects, or personal work outside of class.

PP 126 | Stage Management Fundamentals:
- A scale rule for use in ground plan reading and taping the floor exercise. The scale rule should be able to be used for ¼" to 1'-0" and ½" to 1'-0" scales as these are the most common in the performing arts. Make sure to get an architect's scale rule, not an engineer type.
- 25-foot tape measure (or longer)
- A notebook/notepad and paper for taking notes and for doing low-tech in-class exercises and assignments.
- 6" clear plastic ruler to use as a straightedge and a guide for the eye.

- A three-ring binder (1-2" thick) and dividers for making a production book.

PP 122 | Lighting Fundamentals:
- Textbook: Brilliant – The Evolution of Artificial Light by Jane Brox. Available on Amazon as a paperback: [Brilliant by Jane Brox](#)
- Scale Rule (same as for Stage Management Fundamentals)
- Circle Template
- Image organization software (Word, PowerPoint, InDesign, etc. or similar)
- Phone/camera

PP 123 | Fabrics and Construction Fundamentals:
- Pencils - Plain #2 are fine to take notes with and mark fabric with. No pens please, use lead pencil only for marking items in this class.
- A three-ring binder to keep your samples in - Helps keep your materials organized and keeps your samples neat. 1 ½-2" should be sufficient.

Optional Items for PP 123 | Fabrics and Construction:
- Fabric Shears - You may wish to have a pair for use at home and to bring to the shop if you choose. Scissors will be provided for in-shop use.
- Thimble (optional) for hand sewing - Some folks like a thimble to use when sewing, some do not. We will talk about these in class. An item that may come in handy if you plan on doing a lot of hand sewing in the future. We will look at these in class.
- Ruler – For use at home to draw lines and measure with. I prefer a clear 1/8" gridded ruler that you can see through.

2. Incoming Student Laptop Requirements and Recommendations

As a Performance Production major, having a capable laptop is essential for your career. Therefore, all Performance Production majors are required to have a technologically advanced laptop (Apple or PC).

Below are the minimum and recommended specifications. We highly recommend opting for the mid-range or higher-end specifications to ensure a quicker and smoother workflow,

benefiting your career long after graduation. For questions or purchasing advice, please contact admission@cornish.edu.

If you need financial assistance to purchase a laptop, please contact your financial aid counselor at finaid@cornish.edu. Options may include borrowing additional funds through private loans or Parent Plus loans, up to an extra $3,000 specifically for required equipment.

Apple Laptop Options:

Apple Minimum Specifications:

- **MacBook Air**
  - Apple M1 or M2 chip (or newer)
  - 8GB Unified Memory
  - 256GB SSD Storage
  - 13-inch display
  - Magic Keyboard
  - Force Touch trackpad
  - $999.00 and up (with Apple for Education pricing)

Apple Mid-range Specifications:

- **MacBook Air 15"**
  - Apple M3 chip
  - 8-Core CPU, 10-Core GPU
  - 16GB Unified Memory
  - 512GB SSD Storage
  - 16-core Neural Engine
  - 15.3-inch Liquid Retina display with True Tone
  - 1080p FaceTime HD camera
  - MagSafe 3 charging port
  - Two Thunderbolt / USB 4 ports
  - Support for up to two external displays (with laptop lid closed)
  - Magic Keyboard with Touch ID
  - Force Touch trackpad
  - 35W Dual USB-C Port Compact Power Adapter
  - $1,699.00 or $1,599.00 with Apple Education Store

Apple High-end Recommendations:

- **MacBook Pro 16"**
  - M3 Pro Chip
  - 12-Core CPU, 18-Core GPU
  - 18GB Unified Memory
  - 512GB SSD Storage
  - 16-inch Liquid Retina XDR display
  - Three Thunderbolt 4 ports, HDMI port, SDXC card slot, headphone jack, MagSafe 3 port
  - Magic Keyboard with Touch ID
  - Force Touch trackpad
  - 140W USB-C Power Adapter
  - TOTAL: $2,299.00 with Apple Education Store
- **MacBook Pro 14"**
  - M3 Chip
  - 8-core CPU, 10-core GPU
  - 24GB Unified Memory
  - 1TB SSD Storage
  - 14-inch Liquid Retina XDR display
  - Two Thunderbolt / USB 4 ports, HDMI port, SDXC card slot, headphone jack, MagSafe 3 port
  - Backlit Magic Keyboard with Touch ID
  - 470W USB-C Power Adapter
  - TOTAL: $2,200, or $2,079 with Apple Education Store

Notes:
- If you decide to purchase a refurbished computer, make sure to add a warranty plan! (Our IT department cannot fix broken or defective computers).
- We cannot guarantee that these prices will be available when you purchase your laptop.
- *Only information provided by Cornish Admissions or your program's Chair regarding course requirements is accurate. Do not listen to anyone who suggests downloading bootleg software for free or using alternative open-source software. This information is incorrect, and Cornish students who have ignored these requirements are experiencing major difficulties in their classes. If you have any doubts or need clarification, please connect with your admissions counselor or program Chair.*

Windows Laptop Examples:

PC/Windows Laptop Minimum Specifications Example:

- Framework 13 Ryzen 7 DIY-edition ($900)
    - with 7840U option (+$300)
    - with 32GB memory (2x16) option (+$160)
    - with 1TB NVME (+$100)
    - with expansion ports: USB-C x2, USB-A x1, HDMI (+$46)
    - TOTAL: $1400
- Dell G16 Gaming Laptop ($1000)
    - with i9-13900HX + RTX 4060 options (+$200)
    - TOTAL: $1,200
- Dell G15 Gaming Laptop
    - 13th Gen Intel Core Processor
    - (bumping it up to i9 would be ideal, but increases the price)
    - Windows 11
    - NVIDIA GeForce RTX 4060 graphics card
    - 16 GB memory (has room for an additional memory slot to
      increase it to 32gb) 1 TB storage
    - 15.6" display
    - TOTAL: $899.99

PC/Windows High-end Examples:

- Framework 16 Ryzen 7 DIY-edition
    - with 32GB memory option
    - with 1TB NVME
    - add Expansion Bay Module: AMD Radeon RX 7700S
    - with expansion ports: USB-A x2, USB-C x2, HDMI, Audio
    - TOTAL: $2,150
- Dell Alienware m16 R2 Gaming Laptop
    - with RTX 4060
    - with 64GB memory option
    - TOTAL: $2,000
- Dell Alienware M16 R2 Gaming Laptop
    - Intel Core Ultra 7 processor
    - (this processor has a slight edge over the standard i7) ./..
    - Windows 11 Homer operating system
    - NVIDIA GeForce RTX 4060, 8GB GDDR graphics card
    - 16 GB RAM
    - 1 TB storage
    - 16" Display
    - TOTAL: $1,399.99

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3. iPad and Drawing Pad Recommendations for Costume Designers

While not required for your studies at Cornish, 21st Century Costume designers often prefer using an iPad, or a drawing pad that they attach to their Mac or PC, for digital design work. While Cornish does have iPads and drawing pads available for students to check out for periods of time, you may want to consider having your own for convenience and consistent access throughout your time at Cornish and beyond.

iPad Recommendations:

- **Apple iPad Pro:**
  - iPad Pro 11 or 13 inch
  - M4 chip with 8-core CPU and 10-core GPU
  - 256GB, 512GB, 1TB, or 2TB storage options
  - Ultra Retina XDR display
  - Tandem OLED technology
  - Apple Pencil USB-C & Pencil Pro support
  - Price starting at $999 and up, or $899 and up with Apple Education pricing
- **Apple iPad Air:**
  - iPad Air 11 or 13 inch
  - M2 chip with 8-core CPU and 9-core GPU
  - 128GB, 256GB, 512BG, and 1TB storage options
  - Liquid Retina display

- Apple Pencil USB-C & Pencil Pro support
- Price starting at $599.00 and up or $549 with Apple Education pricing

Drawing Pad Recommendations:
- **Wacom Intuos Pro:**
  - Available in small, medium, and large sizes
  - Pressure-sensitive pen with customizable buttons
  - Multi-touch surface for intuitive control
  - Compatible with Mac and PC
  - Price starting at $249.95
- **Huion Kamvas Pro:**
  - Available in various sizes from 13-inch to 24-inch
  - Full-laminated screen with anti-glare glass
  - Battery-free pen with tilt function and 8192 levels of pressure sensitivity
  - Compatible with Mac and PC
  - Price starting at $299.00