

Hardware refers to the physical components that make up a computer network. There are many different kinds of hardware device configurations. This is a basic list of hardware that you may need to set up your practice, plus a number of links to resources. Seek further guidance from an IT professional about your specific requirements.

## Network equipment

**Modem, router, firewall, switch, wireless devices, etc.**

For information about network equipment, refer to the RACGP's *Information security in general practice* resource, section 3 at <https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice>

## Computers and peripherals

For more information regarding asset registers, refer to the RACGP's *Information security in general practice* resource, section 2.1 at <https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice>

### Server(s)

A computer in a network environment that provides users connected to a network (or 'clients') services, such as printing, accessing files and running software applications. A server can be used as a central data repository for the users of the network.

### Personal computer(s)

#### Notebook(s)/laptop(s)

A small portable computer.

#### Tablet(s)

A small portable computer that accepts input directly onto its screen rather than via a keyboard or mouse.

### Printer(s)

### Scanner(s)

<p><b>Uninterruptible power supply (UPS)</b></p> <p>A battery backup to maintain power for a specified time period during power outages.</p>	
<p><b>Backup device(s)</b></p> <p>A device used to store a copy of files (system, software and data) in case the original is lost or corrupted.</p>	<p>For more information on information backup, refer to the RACGP's <i>A guide to information backup in general practice</i> at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/managing-practice-information/guide-to-information-backup">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/managing-practice-information/guide-to-information-backup</a></p>
<p><b>Webcam(s), microphone(s)</b></p> <p>Used for telehealth consultations.</p>	<p>the RACGP's <i>Telehealth specialist video consultations: A guide for general practice</i> at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/technology/telehealth">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/technology/telehealth</a></p>
<p><b>Remote monitoring device(s)</b></p> <p>Monitoring devices, such as glucose meters for patients with diabetes, which would be required if the practice offers a remote monitoring service to patients.</p>	<p>For information on remote monitoring in general practice, refer to the RACGP's <i>mHealth in general practice</i> at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/technology/clinical-technology/mhealth-in-general-practice">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/technology/clinical-technology/mhealth-in-general-practice</a></p>
<p><b>Remote access hardware</b></p> <p>Hardware required for the ability to access a network or system that is not in the same physical location.</p>	<p>For information on remote access, refer to the RACGP's <i>Information security in general practice</i> resource, section 3 at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice</a></p>
<p><b>Telephone and internet services</b></p>	
<p>Public switch telephone network (PSTN), integrated services digital network (ISDN), voice over internet protocol (VOIP).</p>	
<p>Data connectivity (browsing, email, EPTPOS, fax over internet protocol (FOIP)).</p>	<p>For more information regarding asset registers, refer to the RACGP's <i>Information security in general practice</i> resource, section 2.1 at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice</a></p>
<p>Asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL), cable, fibre, National Broadband Network (NBN), wireless (3G, 4G), satellite.</p>	<p>For more information regarding asset registers, refer to the RACGP's <i>Information security in general practice</i> resource, section 2.1 at <a href="https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice">https://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/security/protecting-your-practice-information/information-security-in-general-practice</a></p>

## Hardware in general practice checklist

Date of completion

Name of practice

When purchasing hardware for our general practice we have made checks using the below checklist to ensure that we have considered all types of hardware required. We have consulted with an IT professional on the recommendations and considered what is necessary for our specific general practice.

### Network equipment

Modem

Switch

Router

Wireless devices

Firewall

### Computers and peripherals

Server(s)

Printer(s)

Personal computer(s)

Scanner(s)

Notebook(s)/laptop(s)

Uninterruptible power supply (UPS)

Tablet(s)

Backup device(s)

### Telephone and internet services

Public switch telephone network (PSTN)

Voice over internet protocol (VOIP)

Integrated services digital network (ISDN)

### Data connectivity

Browsing

Cable

email

Fibre

EPTPOS

National Broadband Network (NBN)

Fax over internet protocol (FOIP)

Wireless (3G, 4G)

Asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL)

Satellite

### OPTIONAL – if you are providing these services

Webcam(s) (telehealth services)

Remote access hardware

Microphone(s) (telehealth services)

Remote monitoring device(s)

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## Notes

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and seas on which we work and live, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and future.*