

Bringing in an in-house creative team: IT considerations

IT is a huge part of setting up an in-house creative team, so in this guide we're summarising the key IT areas you need to consider. As always, our team is here to support you through the process with all of this, to help make it a smooth transition for you and your organisation.

For each area, you'll need to take the following steps:

- Nail down what resources you need to provide for your team
- Engage creative IT experts who can help you find the best solutions
- Get a quote and support with installation

1. Devices

You've recruited the best people for your in-house team, now you need to give them the best tools for their jobs. Your employees need to be able to create out will need to be carried out and make sure your team is equipped with devices that have the relevant specifications.

Adobe Creative Cloud is the go-to package for almost all designers, but it's no use if your system doesn't support it, so make sure your tech is compatible.



For creative work, you can't beat Apple Macs. A desktop Mac, or for high-power video editing a Mac Pro, is the perfect solution, offering large, high resolution 21" or 27" displays. A portable MacBook Pro, meanwhile, can still easily run Creative Cloud, while a MacBook Air is an even more lightweight option for employees who don't need creative apps.

Finally, if your existing management system doesn't support Apple, you may need to consider switching. We recommend Jamf or Jamf Pro, which has served us well with a safe, secure switch to remote working.

2. Licencing

Alongside your devices you'll need to decide on the creative software to provide your team with. One key factor to consider here is ensuring that the package you choose can be installed on multiple devices, so that team members can move seamlessly between office and home working. And when considering cost, you can opt for an up-front payment, or alternatively go for a more agile subscription model. Creative Cloud comes with an easy-to-manage subscription package and a whole host of useful collaboration tools and too.



Another licencing consideration will be for things like fonts and images. This is made simple with Creative Cloud Libraries. Teams can sync colours, brushes and assets as well as access tens of thousands of Adobe Fonts and millions of Adobe Stock images, graphics and videos, royalty-free, as part of the package.

As well as creative software, you'll also need to consider your productivity apps, communications systems, email clients, content management systems and CRM systems.

3. Rollouts

You might need to control updates to your team due to compatibility. For example, new MacOS might need time to bed-in because Adobe provides full support.



And remember to ensure your infrastructure is powerful enough to support all the huge files and rich media you'll be creating. An infrastructure review can help to ensure you have sufficient bandwidth to avoid any issues, with the right storage for your new kit.

4. Storage

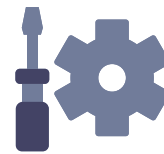
Speaking of storage, it's an essential component of the creative workflow, and a key consideration when setting up an internal team as it's used for the important jobs of backing up and collaborating on projects.



Cloud-based storage may be sufficient for a small team, but as your team grows a higher capacity, faster, more flexible solution will be required. A shared storage server means everyone has access to all projects at all times, essential for frustrating delays.

5. Support

It's best to be able to fix any problem quickly and economically, so ensure you purchase extended warranties, including technical support, fast hardware replacement and loan units when purchasing your new equipment. In the event of any IT failure down the line, you'll be glad you did!



If your team members aren't used to using Macs or you simply don't have a tech team, our support desk service can provide first, second and third line support for your macOS and iOS devices, including application configuration, root cause investigations and more.

Where are you at on the journey?

Download our checklist at Jigsaw24.com/bringing-creative-inhouse and see where on the journey you are.

