

## Check your PC Guide

Most of you will have laptops or multi-media PCs that will handle the course and its associated files very easily and will probably not need all the information below. However each computer is unique with its own software and foibles so it may be handy to print off this **Check your PC** guide to keep with you throughout the course.

### 1. What are the PC Requirements for using *NCTE learning online*?

*NCTE learning online* is the name of the Moodle virtual learning environment (VLE) which hosts NCTE online courses. This **Check your PC** guide describes how to get your PC ready to logon and access your course inside *NCTE learning online*.

### 2. What do I and my PC need?

- You will need a broadband connection in order to use *NCTE learning online* easily.
- While the VLE will run on Internet Explorer 7, and Mozilla 2.x. an **up to date web browser** such as Firefox 7 or Internet Explorer 8 will allow for better viewing.
- You will need the latest version of Java (especially if you are using Windows Vista).
- You will also need Flash Player to view the course and its video material in *NCTE learning online*.
- You will need to disable 'pop-up blocker' on some PCs web browsers.
- You will need Adobe Acrobat reader to open and save any PDF documents we have built in to the Course.
- If you use Real Player please see the Note\* below.

### 3. How do I check my PC/Laptop?

If you are not sure your PC has the required software, the link to check is on the login page:

<http://www.ncte.ie/ICTTraining/OnlineRegistrationForm/onlinePCcheck/>

### 4. The PC check at <http://www.ncte.ie/ICTTraining/OnlineRegistrationForm/onlinePCcheck/> showed I need some software. Where can I get the recommended software?

If your PC setup differs from our recommended setup, click in the links below to get the following updates as required.

- [Adobe Flash Player](#)
- [Mozilla Firefox](#)
- [Internet Explorer](#)
- [Adobe Acrobat](#)
- [Java Version 6](#)

### 5. What's a Pop Up blocker?

There are many pop-up blockers available on the market and they are a little piece of software that blocks annoying pop-up windows in websites. As our new course is built in Flash and opens in a new window in your web browser, some of you may have to un-block the course to allow it to open in your web browser.

If you are using Microsoft Internet Explorer 8 (IE8) or Internet Explorer 7 (IE7) then your version of Internet Explorer is equipped with a built-in pop-up blocker.

Many other browsers, such as Mozilla, Firefox, and Opera, also have built-in pop-up blockers. You may also use a toolbar, such as Google Toolbar or Yahoo Toolbar, with a built-in pop-up blocker.

## 6. How do I disable a Pop-up Blocker?

Check out this advice sheet on how to disable the most common pop-up blockers [here](#).

**Note\*** about the latest version of **Real Player** and the **Course Modules**. Real Player as you know allows videos to be viewed on a PC, the player is free to download. If your PC runs the latest version of Real Player you should read this note.

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During your course the most recent version of **Real Player** *apparently* may offer you the opportunity to download videos or even slides from the course itself. You may frequently see this note box:



This new feature within Real Player is not entirely bug free and if it hinders your viewing or if you find it irritating and would prefer to disable it the steps to follow are: **Open Real Player** then,

- 1.1 Open Tools
- 1.2 Open Preferences
- 1.3 Open Download & recording
- 1.4 Open Web download & recording
- 1.5 Select 'Don't show'

Click OK.

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**That's your PC Checklist. We hope you enjoy your course.**

**Kind regards,**

**The NCTE Continuing Professional Development team.**

[www.ncte.ie](http://www.ncte.ie)

[www.ncte.ie/Training](http://www.ncte.ie/Training)