

ALICE HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

The following are the hardware requirements for Alice for Windows

N.B. In this document, Alice for Windows will be denoted using the abbreviation of AfW

Please note that these recommendations are a guide-line only. Hardware of a higher specification will receive better performance. It should also be noted that Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT 4.0 Workstation and Windows ME are **NOT** recommended operating systems.

Windows 95, Windows 98 and Windows NT 4.0 Workstation: These operating systems are no longer supported by their developers, Microsoft, and therefore cannot be recommended by Softlink. Windows 95 and Windows 98 First Edition **cannot** be used to run Alice successfully. Windows 98 Second Edition and Windows NT 4.0 Workstation can be used to run Alice successfully but there may be issues that come about due to the non-development or problems with Windows 98 Second Edition or Windows NT 4.0 Workstation.

Windows ME/XP Home: These operating systems were developed for home use and, although they are the forerunners of more business orientated operating systems, Softlink cannot develop its Software in line with them. As with Windows 98 Second Edition and Windows NT 4.0 Workstation, Alice will run with Windows ME/XP Home but there may be issues that are out of Softlink's control.

Server Machine (used for Data Storage and Serving the Workstations)

Component	Minimum Specification	Recommended Specification
Processor	Intel® Core2 Duo 2.66 Ghz	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® Processor 2.66 Ghz
Total Memory	512 MB	1 GB
Operating System	Windows Server 2000 SP4	Windows Server 2003 SP2 (32 Bit)
Hard Drive Type	SATA	SCSI

Librarian Machines: (used for Management and Circulation, etc)

Component	Minimum Specification	Recommended Specification
Processor	Intel P IV Processor 2.53 Ghz	Intel P IV Processor 3.8 Ghz with HT Technology
Total Memory	256 MB	512 MB
Operating System	Windows Server 2000 SP4	Windows XP Professional SP2
Hard Drive Type	IDE	SATA

OPAC Inquiry Machines: (used for Inquiry ONLY)

Component	Minimum Specification	Recommended Specification
Processor	Intel Celeron Processor 2 Ghz	Intel P IV Processor 2.53 Ghz
Total Memory	128 MB	256 MB
Operating System	Windows Server 2000 SP4	Windows XP Professional SP2
Hard Drive Type	IDE	IDE

Additional Considerations when Selecting Operating Systems

Multilingual Module:

It is possible to run the AfW Multilingual Module with any of the minimum or recommended operating systems. However, if you require the use of Multilingual for languages such as Hebrew or Arabic you will need **Windows 2000 SP4 (Professional, Server or Advanced Server) or Windows Server 2003 or Windows XP Professional SP2 or Windows Vista** There is now a Unicode version of AfW. For this you require **Windows 2000 SP4 or Windows XP Professional SP2 or Windows Vista**

Wide Area Networks and Multi-Sites:

For this type of setup, Softlink recommends the use of Terminal Server with **Windows 2000 Advanced Server or Windows Server 2003**. Running Alice across multi-sites on a WAN has been known to cause problems, therefore it is not recommended.

Networking:

We currently recommend the following network software:

1. Windows 2003
2. Windows 2000
3. Windows XP Professional Peer to Peer

It is possible to run Alice on other types of network, but we recommend the above as we have many clients running Alice successfully on these network types. The minimum Network Speed should be 100 Mbps for Alice to run smoothly on workstations. If you have any further queries on network issues, please contact Softlink Support who will be able to advise you further.

General Setup

CD-ROM Drives:

It is strongly recommended that you have access to a CD-ROM drive available via your network, as Softlink now provides upgrades/installations on CD-ROM only.

Free Hard Drive Disk Space: (All versions)

It is recommended that you allow at least 500 MB for Alice on the drive on which it will reside (i.e. the server in network situations). In most cases it will not use this free space, but allowing for 500 MB should ensure that you do not run out of disk space for Alice in the future. Please note, you may need more disk space if you are using the Multimedia module.

Backup/Archive Media:

AfW creates archives to the hard-drive instead of floppy disks. This method allows for more reliable and much quicker archives, but means that you also need to set up an external backup to ensure protection if your hard-drive is somehow destroyed. We recommend that you use a CD-writer, PEN Drive, ZIP Drive or a Tape Drive to backup the AfW directory and ALL its subdirectories. In many cases, AfW will be installed on the server of your existing network and should therefore be included in your existing network backups (you may wish to discuss this further with your IT department).

Printer:

In order to maximise AfW features, we recommend you have a printer installed. You simply need to set up a printer in Windows, as AfW will use the default Windows Printer. You must ensure the printer is compatible with the Windows operating system you are using.

Barcode Scanner:

Libraries who wish to use Barcode Technology for fast and accurate retrieval of data should have a compatible Barcode Scanner which is able to scan Barcodes.

Flatbed/Image Scanner:

If the user wishes to use the Multimedia features of Alice whereby they can attach Images to Resources and Periodical Issues, then they can use any Flatbed/ADF/Book Scanner according to their requirement. The Scanner should be compatible with the Windows Operating used by you.

Fingerprint Scanner:

In place of regular Barcoded Borrower Cards, AfW has the ability to scan and save the Fingerprint of Borrowers as identity. Only U.are.U 4000B Fingerprint Reader are compatible with AfW

UPS

Server and Workstations should have at least a 500 VA UPS to provide power backup incase of power failure.

Internet:

It is possible to catalogue Web sites and then access these via Inquiry. If you wish to use this functionality, then Windows must have a default web browser set up, which can access the Internet, this is normally Internet Explorer. AfW will then spawn this browser and pass to it, the URL of the site you have catalogued.

Internet Inquiry:

The Internet Inquiry module allows you to make your catalogue available over the Internet, so that anyone with a web browser and access to your web site can search your catalogue. Please note that this is separate from viewing other web sites via Inquiry, which does not require the Internet Inquiry module. The minimum System Requirements for the machine running Internet Inquiry are as follows:

- Windows 2000 SP4 or Windows XP SP2 or Windows 2003
- Internet Information Server 5.1 or later
- Public IP Address (for viewing the information on Internet)
- WAN Server
- Alice for Windows version 5.50a or later
- 50 MB available disk space
- An HTML browser with Java and JavaScript enabled (Netscape 3.0+ or Internet Explorer 5.0+)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Facility	Requirement
Communications	It is important to have a phone next to the library machine, as well as access to e-mail. Access to a fax machine would be desirable.
Access to DOS Prompt	Please ensure you or your IT department can gain access to a DOS prompt for support purposes.