



## Stratodesk NoTouch in K-12 Education

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### INTRODUCTION

Stratodesk's NoTouch, a lightweight, hardware-independent, and highly secure Linux OS, offers various benefits for individual K-12 institutions and school districts that can improve the learning experience, simplify device management, and reduce costs.

## 1 Cost Effectiveness

- **Lower Hardware Requirements:** No Touch OS is designed to run on lower-end devices or older hardware, allowing schools to expand the lifespan of existing hardware instead of investing in new, high-cost devices. This makes it an affordable solution, especially for districts with budget constraints.
- **Flexible Licensing Costs:** Stratodesk offers both perpetual and subscription-based licensing options, both are significantly more cost-effective than Windows device licenses, helping schools reduce financial strain.

## 2 Centralized Management

- **Centralized Device Management:** NoTouch devices can be managed easily with the NoTouch Center management console. This allows administrators to manage and configure all devices from a single location, saving time and effort.
- **Remote Troubleshooting and Updates:** IT staff can remotely monitor, troubleshoot, and update devices, which reduces the need for onsite visits. This is particularly helpful in large school districts or remote areas with limited IT staff.
- **Fast Deployment:** Devices can be easily and quickly configured with NoTouch Center by simply inheriting the settings of the group (e.g. classroom A, computer lab 2, elementary school xxx) they are placed into. This ensures that students and teachers have the right tools and access to the resources and digital workspaces they need. This is especially useful when setting up new devices for a class, a lab, or a school.

## 3 Security & Data Protection

- **Minimal Attack Surface:** NoTouch OS is a lightweight, minimalistic OS that reduces the chances of malware, viruses, or other security threats. This makes it ideal for educational environments where protecting student data and maintaining system integrity is crucial.
- **Secure User Sessions:** NoTouch OS does not store settings, cookies, or any kind of data on the device. This allows for secure, isolated user sessions, which will be wiped clean after each use. This helps ensure that student data or browsing history is not retained between sessions, safeguarding privacy.
- **Compliance with Privacy Regulations:** With data security being a priority, NoTouch OS can help schools meet compliance standards such as FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), ensuring the protection of student information.

## 4 Simplicity and Ease of Use

- **Simple Interface:** NoTouch OS has a simple and streamlined user interface, which reduces the complexity for both students and teachers. It's easy for non-technical users to access their applications, work in cloud-based or browser-based platforms, and navigate the system.
- **Lockdown Capabilities:** Schools can lock down NoTouch OS to ensure that students cannot access unauthorized settings, install programs, or change configurations, creating a more controlled and safe learning environment.
- **Touchscreen Compatibility:** NoTouch OS supports touchscreen devices, making it suitable for K-12 environments where interactive and hands-on learning is becoming more common.

## 5 Cloud and Virtual Desktop Integration

- **Seamless Cloud Integration:** NoTouch OS is designed to integrate with cloud-based services, such as Google Workspace or Microsoft 365, enabling easy access to educational tools and resources from anywhere.
- **Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI):** NoTouch OS is optimized for VDI solutions such as Apporto, Citrix and Remote Desktop Services (RDP), allowing schools to run applications on centralized servers rather than on local devices. This reduces the strain on student devices and provides a consistent, high performance experience regardless of the hardware. NoTouch OS can be configured to boot directly into your VDI solution, eliminating user exposure to the OS.
- **Access to Virtual Labs:** Through VDI, students can access specialized software and applications that may not be compatible with low-cost devices, such as design software, coding platforms, or scientific simulations.
- **Native Enterprise Browser support:** NoTouch OS is also a useful base OS for Enterprise Browser Solutions such as Island Enterprise Browser or SURF natively. Combining an ultra-secure, managed device OS with a secure browsing solution gives you the best security of both worlds.

## 6 Scalability

- **Easy to Scale Across Schools:** NoTouch OS can be easily deployed and managed across multiple devices and classrooms, making it an excellent choice for schools that need to scale technology use quickly. Whether it's a single classroom or an entire district, NoTouch OS offers flexibility for growth.
- **Device Flexibility:** NoTouch OS can be deployed on various devices, revitalizing older desktops, laptops, and thin clients, or you can buy new low-cost hardware through our partners. It even works on Raspberry Pis, Chromebooks, and tablets, making it adaptable to the school's existing hardware setup.

## 7 Energy Efficiency

- **Low Power Consumption:** NoTouch OS is designed to be lightweight and optimized for low resource usage, which reduces power consumption on endpoint devices. This can help schools save on energy costs, especially in large educational environments with many devices. Scheduled tasks such as a scheduled shutdown at night can further help to reduce your school's energy bill.

## 8 Support & Collaboration Tools

- **Compatibility with Educational Tools:** NoTouch OS supports a wide range of applications, including tools like Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, and other collaborative platforms. This ensures that teachers and students can communicate and work together effectively.
- **Real-Time Collaboration:** With access to cloud-based collaboration tools, students can work together on group projects, share files, and communicate in real time, even if they're not physically in the same classroom.



## 9 Reduced IT Complexity

- **Low Maintenance:** NoTouch OS has fewer features and background processes to maintain, meaning there is less risk of system slowdowns or crashes. As a result, IT staff can focus more on enhancing the educational experience rather than troubleshooting technical issues.
- **Simplified Updates:** NoTouch OS allows for easy, remote software updates across all devices. Schools can ensure that all machines have the latest features and security patches without having to manually update each device.

## 10 Live Boot Capabilities

- **Flexibility on the OS:** Live Boot enables NoTouch OS to run as a live OS from external storage, such as a USB flash drive, external hard drive, or even directly over the network (using PXE boot). This means that the system doesn't need to be permanently installed on the device, allowing the device to be reverted to the original OS once the external storage is unplugged.
- **Quicker Setup and easy management:** Live Boot can make the setup quicker by simply plugging in the USB or connecting the device to the network. This reduces setup time and helps scale technology across classrooms or entire school districts. It also eliminates the need for hard drive management and further enhances security and privacy. Ideal for shared devices or work from home: Live booted devices can be configured and managed with NoTouch Center making the management of those devices as easy as any other NoTouch device.
- **Ideal for shared devices or work from home:** Live boot also allows for greater flexibility in the classroom, especially if devices are shared or rotated among different students or for staff working from home. Bootable USB sticks also enable quick disaster recovery with minimal downtime.

# 11 Customizability

- **Tailored for Education Needs:** NoTouch OS can be configured to meet the specific needs of educational environments, such as restricting access to certain websites or applications or customizing the user interface for different age groups, locations, or users.
- **Integration with Existing Infrastructure:** NoTouch OS can be integrated with a school's existing IT infrastructure, including centralized authentication systems and network configurations, providing a seamless experience for both administrators and users.





## Conclusion

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Stratodesk NoTouch OS offers a range of benefits in K-12 education, from cost savings and enhanced security to simplified device management and seamless integration with cloud-based tools.

By providing a lightweight, secure, and manageable platform, NoTouch OS allows schools to focus on what matters most: providing a high-quality education while reducing the complexity and costs associated with maintaining technology.

## Next Steps

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