How tech designed with wellbeing in mind drives productivity

Key factors that drive wellbeing for WFH employees
WFH is here to stay

In early 2020, Buffer.com surveyed more than 3,500 employees and asked, *Would you like to work remotely, at least some of the time, for the rest of your career?* 98% answered yes.¹

Work from home—WFH if you will—is here to stay. That means IT must now go beyond the temporary solutions applied during the rapid pivot and find solutions that benefit employees for the long-term.

While up-to-date, high-quality PCs are central to WFH success, they’re not the whole story. Wherever workers are, productivity flows when they have the right tools to do their job—tools that fit their space, fit their needs, and fit them personally.

That means having high-quality monitors, docks, keyboards, and other accessories that form the connective tissue in the technology experience—allowing people to feel and work their best.

¹ 98% of those in WFH now want it to continue
The benefits of proper WFH setups

It’s tempting to think that you could save the company money by providing WFH employees with fewer pieces of tech. The reality, however, is that an inadequate setup leaves people feeling like something is missing or off. It hampers productivity and ultimately, it only delays inevitable requests for the right equipment.

There are two subtle but important benefits of setting up the right technology in the first place.

Start with employee wellbeing and productivity follows

Whether in the office or at home, employees who have the functionality and compatibility of the right tools spend their time completing projects rather than trying to solve technical issues. With the right equipment, they’ll be comfortable rather than annoyed and they’ll be making productive strides rather than regularly being slowed by clunky or ill-suited technology.

Help employees feel valued

Investing in a comfortable, seamless, unified home technology setup does more than just provide tools. It makes employees feel valued by the company.

According to a survey by the American Psychological Association 93% of employees who feel valued are motivated to do their best at work.²

93%² do their best when they feel valued
Key tips for meeting WFH employee needs
The right technology offers a range of benefits to help remote workers stay engaged, refreshed, and feeling their best.

Solutions that reduce clutter
We all know the adage, a cluttered desk makes for a cluttered mind. In turn, a smart, orderly desk makes for the mindset we all want at work.

☑ Tip — Cut the cord clutter
Use wireless keyboards and mice to reduce the overall number of cords. A dock or docking monitor with USB-C® connectivity allows people to quickly plug in and power PCs, notebooks, external monitors, and more—and provides a big assist in keeping workspaces orderly.

Tech that helps eye comfort
As much as people are glued to monitors these days, it’s no shock that they can suffer from eye strain. Look for monitors that provide always-on low blue light to protect eyes. Other key factors include more screen space, higher resolution, and greater color accuracy.

☑ Tip — Choose monitors that move
Adjustable monitors can be tilted, swiveled, and pivoted to ensure the right height for each individual. Ideally, monitors should be equipped with a built-in camera for improved virtual meetings.
Technology you can count on to last
Solving technical issues is easier when employees are in the office—you can just walk down the hall or hop an elevator to address them. For WFH employees, you need durable hardware that will stand up to repeated use and stretch budgets.

☑ Tip — Build for the long haul
Every piece of equipment you send to remote workers—be it a laptop, monitor, keyboard or even a mouse—should come from a highly reliable maker and should be compatible with the rest of their setup. Ideally, choose PCs that enable smooth remote management, allowing you to solve problems from anywhere.

The right fit for the individual
Technology should ergonomically fit employees, their job demands, their work style, their desk setup and their space realities. Get to know your remote workers and offer up solutions that really fit their needs.

☑ Tip — Provide ergonomic insights
Offer guidance on how to choose the right chair, arrange their desk, and other factors that can impact how they feel.

Sources you can feel good about
Providing technology that is energy-efficient or sourced from sustainable recycled materials can be more than just sensible. It also helps people feel that their WFH setup is aligned with their values.

☑ Tip — Look for eco-conscious options
HP has the world's most sustainable PC portfolio and an HP E-Series monitor complements that perfectly. Their monitor's plastics are more than 80% recycled content plus it has 100% sustainably sourced and recyclable packaging. And it is ENERGY STAR certified and EPEAT 2020 registered.

The ability to hear and be heard clearly
2020 showed us how essential video conferences are to successful remote work. Sound is a key component of that, and remote employees need audio solutions that allow them to follow the conversation and communicate clearly.

☑ Tip — Optimize for better sound
Since WFH employees may be in loud environments—surrounded by busy streets or busy kids, for example—solutions like noise-canceling headphones or laptops with noise cancellation can be very helpful.
Choosing the right partner

Just as the right tools will help your WFH employees be their best, having the right technology partners will help you and your entire IT team be your best. Look for brands that deliver on the following two factors:

Look for these two factors before you buy:

A reputation for quality

There’s a direct relationship between the quality of the WFH setup, the quality of the employee experience, and the quality of the work they produce. The reliability of the computers, monitors, and other tech that you choose truly makes a difference for them—and for IT, too. It’s always worth the effort to select tools that help your people feel more comfortable, supported, and connected.

For instance:
PCs running the most current version of Windows 10 provides major security advantages over older systems. They’re not only faster and more powerful, but they have hardware-enforced security that blocks malware and defends against other cyberthreats. For business use, HP recommends Windows 10 Pro.

A lineup diverse enough to keep everyone happy

Designers want big, color-accurate monitors. Salespeople want headsets. Engineers demand mechanical keyboards. WFH workers with tighter spaces need equipment with a small footprint. With help from a partner who has a broad range of quality options, you can keep all kinds of employees happy, engaged and productive.
HP technology is designed for people. It helps address real-world wants and needs, allowing your employees to feel and work their best—focusing on possibilities, not limitations. HP’s innovative solutions and well-earned reputation for reliability keep people connected to information and each other, whether at home, in the office, or constantly on the move. We make it easier for you to help people feel good, experience a stronger work-life balance, and ultimately be at their best.

Sources:
3. Applies to HP PCs, Workstations, and Displays manufactured after January 2019. Based on most Gold and Silver EPEAT® registrations by meeting all required criteria and achieving 50-74% of the optional points for EPEAT® Silver and 75-100% of the optional points for EPEAT® Gold according to IEEE 1680.1-2018 EPEAT®. Status varies by country. Visit www.epeat.net for more information.
4. Recycled plastic content percentage is based on the definition set in the IEEE 1680.1-2018 EPEAT standard

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