32- or 64-bit Windows

Do I want 32 or 64-bit Windows?

On new computers, 64 bit is usually better for heavy computational workflows.
If you have specialized hardware, check with the manufacturer if 64-bit drivers are available.

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see:

- http://support.microsoft.com/kb/827218

To find out if your computer is running a 32-bit or 64-bit version of Windows in Windows 7 or Windows Vista, do the following:

1. From the Start Menu, go to Control Panel > System
2. In the section System, look at the value for System type.

If your computer is running Windows XP, do the following:

1. From the Start Menu, go to Control Panel > System
   - If you don't see "x64 Edition" listed, then you're running the 32-bit version of Windows XP.
   - If "x64 Edition" is listed under System, you're running the 64-bit version of Windows XP.