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Subject: Re: Since I got hosed last time -- Computer advice!

Posted by [Apache](#) on Sat, 11 Nov 2006 06:37:07 GMT

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The computer will be a desktop replacement. Screen size doesn't matter that much, but something that can run a 1024x768, or equivalent widescreen ratio would be nice. Most of the machines I've looked at seem to have between a 14 and 17" monitor.

It will be Primarily used for surfing the net / chatting on MSN, some video editing, and some photo editing. However, I do occasionally play games online with my brother, and I take the laptop camping with me to play DVDs / surf online with a cellular air card.

I've been thinking, and I think that if I go for the docking station, which can accept more RAM, a second video card, TV tuner card, and a spare hard drive along with doing all my hookups, then I can get a lower end machine initially, and while it would be perfectly capable here at home to do everything I want through the docking station, I'd still have a portable machine that could do most everything I'd want away from home. Also, having the hard disk in the docking station (or even external) would mean that if my laptop does get stolen, or wrecked, my data would still be safe at home. I also already have all the hardware mentioned here, less a good video PCI video card. My ATI 9800 just doesn't make the cut anymore.

When I take the machine to school, I only really do basic C++ programming, assignments, looking stuff up online, occasionally some music and chatting on MSN, none of which requires an uber powerful laptop.

Also means that I can upgrade in the future with regard to video cards, RAM etc. A 2.0GHz Core 2 Duo should be a pretty powerful processor for a fairly long time.

I noticed that the Dell Latitude has a docking station that I can do everything I mentioned above with, and can be had relatively cheaply with the only real option being the 2.16GHz Core 2 Duo, and just base model ram, HD etc.

What do you guys think about this idea?