
Subject: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [genetix](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 17:14:53 GMT

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I'm looking at getting a student/web design laptop for university. I do webdesign and was really liking HP's tablet line. I noticed they only come with AMD's 64bit dual core processors. I've heard these things are power hogs and they're noisy as hell. Anyone know anything about these or have any experience?

Whats the hype about the core2 duo I think it is? Are they worth looking at? Whats a good processor to watch for?

If I don't get a tablet laptop I'd like to strip vista off of it so I'm not hoping to get one with the fancy finger reader and all that crap. Chances are I wouldn't use it if I had vista.

Oh ya I'm trying to find one that looks cool just for braggin rights. Unless there's an alienware around 1000 I'm not looking for one of those.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [jnz](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 17:27:50 GMT

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Get a single-core, mid-class processor. Loads of R.A.M, loads of HDD space.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 17:32:07 GMT

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What is your budget?

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [JeepRubi](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 18:49:19 GMT

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genetix wrote on Fri, 28 March 2008 11:14 Unless there's an alienware around 1000 I'm not looking for one of those.

I'm guessing that's his budget?

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [genetix](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 20:39:11 GMT

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Ya I'm hoping to stay under \$1000 with everything in. I can get a tablet pc from the states for about \$800 and it would be around \$100 in taxes at the border. I wouldn't want to go much higher than that.

Wouldn't I want to max out my processor on the laptop? I know rams pretty cheap and wouldn't be that hard to upgrade later. I'd like a fairly big harddrive but I have a home server with a cat6 networked house so setting up some kind of data store wouldn't be a problem.

I'm mainly concerned about processing speed. I want something fast but then again I've heard these faster processors really chew through batteries and sound like helicopters. I know my dads laptop has an intel processor and that thing is loud. The fan constantly runs.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [genetix](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2008 06:20:48 GMT

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Here's a laptop I'm very seriously looking at:

http://www.futureshop.ca/catalog/proddetail.asp?logon=&langid=EN&sku_id=0665000FS10097720&catid=

The new model just came out. I'm not sure to wait on this one or go after it? Now's about the time I'm guessing they will start clearing out this older model.

It's a touch screen but doesn't have the active digitizer feature people are hyping about. So its a touch sensitive screen not an electronic touch sensitive screen with a battery powered stylus. Our families fast food restraurant uses a standard touch screen till and I know that thing has its days where you want to rip it off the counter because the screen works like crap. I don't know if thats an issue with these? I've heard vista helps a lot.

If I bought this laptop I'd probably buy a memmory upgrade to 4 gigs and throw it in.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2008 08:31:58 GMT

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Laptop memory is very expensive.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [jnz](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2008 10:43:06 GMT

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If you're just using it for web design you don't need a fast processor. Why get one then? The battery will also last longer.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [cnc95fan](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2008 12:27:13 GMT

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RoShamBo wrote on Sat, 29 March 2008 04:43 If you're just using it for web design you don't need a fast processor. Why get one then? The battery will also last longer.

You could say the same about a large hard drive. If you need a large hard drive, use one of those external ones.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [Renx](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2008 17:27:40 GMT

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Look at Lenovo laptops. Same as IBMs but cheaper.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [genetix](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2008 04:34:53 GMT

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For processing power I do notice I normally use this in some way or another. I do a lot of graphics work in webdesign and my old amd single core desktop normally has troubles. I was using my dads laptop while on the road this weekend and noticed it decreased laptop performance when just on battery power. If I go with vista couldn't I keep the high end specs? The university I'm attending does have power outlets to plug in a computer at desks.

I keep seeing ram onsale here for less then \$100 / 2 gig stick. Installation would be a different subject but I imagine I could do that myself.

For HD space I wouldn't want to go under 80 gigs for sure and I wouldn't mind the speed of a 7k drive.

I'm not a big fan of the IBM laptops. I grew up with one of those and never did like the style or feel of them. Their base price seems to be pretty high to.

Running vista I don't think I'd want to go with less then 2 gigs of ram. The HP convertible laptop I found on sale there has a dual core 2.0 processor. I'm thinking that would be a fairly good balance. 4 gigs of ram would definately be nice and something I could do later on.

My dad talked to a computer "expert" in his business group the other day. He didn't recommend tablets at all saying they aren't worth it and all the people that buy them say they don't work. Anyone have any experience here? I'd love to have a tablet. But if its all for bragging rights then I might aswell go for a little more performance.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [z310](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2008 05:30:34 GMT

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I'm getting a Compal IFL90 rather soon.

WSXGA+ display
2.4Ghz Santa Rosa Core 2 Duo
2GB 667Mhz DDR2
120GB 7200RPM HDD
512MB GeForce 8600M GT
AGN WiFi
DVD Burner
2.0 MegaPixel built-in webcam
Fingerprint scanner
TPM module (I think)
Nine-cell battery
etc.

\$1150. Probably would of been cheaper if I waited until after I got the money to make a deal. My grants have been lagging it

You can get some good used ones on the NotebookReview forums.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2008 06:42:40 GMT

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iih3ro wrote on Mon, 31 March 2008 07:30 I'm getting a Compal IFL90 rather soon.

WSXGA+ display
2.4Ghz Santa Rosa Core 2 Duo
2GB 667Mhz DDR2
120GB 7200RPM HDD
512MB GeForce 8600M GT
AGN WiFi
DVD Burner
2.0 MegaPixel built-in webcam
Fingerprint scanner
TPM module (I think)
Nine-cell battery
etc.

That's already more of a gaming machine, really, due to the performant video card.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2008 07:57:16 GMT

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A MacBook.

I would have suggested a MacBook Pro, but they're over your \$1,000 budget (unless you buy second-hand ones).

Seriously, almost all large media companies use Macs for their products, so it might be an idea to look at what the rest of the industry use.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [genetix](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2008 22:49:47 GMT

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I'd buy an apple but I hate to say they are way to overpriced. Just like their ipods there stuff is cool and tough but you sure pay the price for it.

I'm not extremely worried about battery life in a laptop. If worst came to worst I'd buy an extra battery. Most times I'll be using this there will be a power supply close by.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations

Posted by [z310](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2008 03:09:35 GMT

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Goztow wrote on Sun, 30 March 2008 23:42:iih3ro wrote on Mon, 31 March 2008 07:30 I'm getting a Compal IFL90 rather soon.

WSXGA+ display
2.4Ghz Santa Rosa Core 2 Duo
2GB 667Mhz DDR2
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512MB GeForce 8600M GT
AGN WiFi
DVD Burner
2.0 MegaPixel built-in webcam
Fingerprint scanner
TPM module (I think)
Nine-cell battery
etc.

That's already more of a gaming machine, really, due to the performant video card.

It'd due spectacularly well for his purposes, plus more, which is never a negative and increases bragging rights, for about his price. I was just conveying the idea that he can get a good

second-hand one.

I'd also like to mention that the IFL90s are awesome machines. I especially love the great battery life.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [Aircraftkiller](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2008 03:28:58 GMT

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Buying a "macbook" is like biting into a \$2000 piece of metal with your teeth. You're better off buying a Windows based laptop that's the same specs as a "macbook" while costing a lot less.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [GEORGE ZIMMER](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2008 03:33:11 GMT

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Aircraftkiller wrote on Mon, 31 March 2008 21:28: Buying a "macbook" is like biting into a \$2000 piece of metal with your teeth. You're better off buying a Windows based laptop that's the same specs as a "macbook" while costing a lot less.

QFT. Mac's aren't worth it.

Subject: Re: Good Student/Web design Laptop Recommendations
Posted by [genetix](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2008 04:18:22 GMT

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I was in future shop today buying speaker wire and stopped to look at the laptops. Even though their website said they had none in stock they had the TX1000 I was looking at. I never realized how small a 12" laptop really is. Those things are tiny!

I don't think I really want a laptop with a screen smaller than 15". Anything smaller than that and general work would become annoying. A 17" screen would be ideal and 15" would be liveable. 12" is down right tiny.

The convertible feature on the laptop definitely felt sturdy though. It had almost no flex to it which I expected it to have.
