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Subject: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [Nightma12](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 16:17:40 GMT

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Alright, im currently searching for a new laptop!

Ive already got my specs sorted just having some issues picking the CPU!

Heres what i have so far:

RAM: 4GB CORSAIR XMS2 800MHz

HDD: 320GB 16MB cache + 7200rpm

Graphics: 512MB GEFORCE 9600GT + HDMI + D-SUB

+ 9 cell battery (claims to give me up to 4 hours of batt life)

CPU wise, im stuck between:

Core 2 Duo P8600 (2 x 2.40 Ghz) 1066Mhz FSB/3MB L2 Cache £775

Core 2 Duo T9400 (2 x 2.54 Ghz) 1066Mhz FSB/6MB L2 Cache £836

Core 2 Duo P9500 (2 x 2.54 Ghz) 1066Mhz FSB/6MB L2 Cache £954

(the price given is the overal price of the laptop with just the CPU changed)

The P series is exactly the same as the T series but uses alot less energy (meaning longer battery lifes)

Price wise.. thats a HUGE jump from £775 to £954, what im asking is...

Performance wise... obviously i wont notice much difference between 2.40 Ghz and 2.54 Ghz, but how much difference will that 3MB jump in cache size make? Is it worth the price difference?

Also.. exactly how much battery life will i get on average if i opted for the P9500 over the T9400? - Im planning to use this for both development and gaming.

Thanks

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [Spyder](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 16:57:28 GMT

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I'd take this one:

Core 2 Duo T9400 (2 x 2.54 Ghz) 1066Mhz FSB/6MB L2 Cache £836

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [Nightma12](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 17:01:49 GMT

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Why?

How much exactly would that lower my battery life by (on average) than if i went for one of the other 2 chips?

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [cnc95fan](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 17:03:29 GMT

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It doesn't matter, the 6mb cache is sexy enough.

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [Nightma12](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 17:11:30 GMT

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lol... I was hoping for figures

Yes its sexy.. but at the same time, i need to strike the right balance between battery life and performance.

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [danpaul88](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 17:48:34 GMT

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Any serious gaming is going to drain the battery life pretty quick anyway regardless of which model you go for, and development generally involves a lot of HDD work (writing compiled binaries, writing/reading source files etc) which will drain the same amount of battery on either machine, unless they have different hard drives models too.

In terms of performance, I suspect the two 2.54 machines will equal each other in performance.

The lower power consumption of the P series is probably due to using a smaller process (ie 45nm) for the chips used in that series, or only taking the very best of those produced for the P series and branding the rest as the T series.

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice

Posted by [luv2pb](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2009 21:45:27 GMT

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Have you looked at package deals? In the case of a laptop you might get more for your buck if you buy that way. I bought a Acer about 8 months ago and love it. I get about 4 hours a battery life on full bore. Cost me \$1400 (US).

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice  
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Thu, 29 Jan 2009 07:49:38 GMT  
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Your battery will drain in less than half an hour if you start gaming.

CPU really isn't that important nowadays, unless you plan on using your laptop for video converting or hosting servers and stuff like that.

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice  
Posted by [Speedy059](#) on Thu, 29 Jan 2009 23:57:36 GMT  
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I'm waiting for the Quad Core laptops to start coming forth.

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice  
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Sat, 31 Jan 2009 05:34:33 GMT  
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Speedy059 wrote on Thu, 29 January 2009 18:57 I'm waiting for the Quad Core laptops to start coming forth.

I give you, a Quad Core laptop:

<http://www.bestbuy.com/site/olspage.jsp?skuld=9190029&st=HP+HDX&lp=3&type=product&cp=1&id=1218052535616>

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Subject: Re: Laptop CPU advice  
Posted by [RTsa](#) on Sat, 31 Jan 2009 11:05:39 GMT  
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I'd get the cheapest one. You probably wouldn't notice a performance difference (except for some rare (?) cases), but you see the price difference immediately.

And as was already said, you'll need to have the cord plugged in if you game anyway.

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