

Chromebooks Today

If you are replacing a Laptop, maybe you would like a simple Chromebook, or a light travel option.



What is a Chromebook

A Chromebook is a Laptop Computer running the Chrome OS System

- ↴ Priced between \$200 and \$400 dollars - Less than equivalent Win 11
- ↴ Tied to a Google / Gmail account
- ↴ Requires a WiFi connection for most activities
- ↴ Chrome OS is so easy to use - just use the Chrome Web Browser
- ↴ Gmail, Office, PlayStore all included and are free
- ↴ Google Drive Cloud Storage - 15 GB free, external drives for more files

Why should I buy a Chromebook

Chromebooks offer several advantages that might make them a good choice for you:

Affordable: Chromebooks are generally more budget-friendly compared to laptops running Windows or macOS. You can find well-equipped models at very reasonable prices.

- **Fast and Simple:** Chromebooks boot up quickly and are known for their user-friendly interface. They are designed for easy navigation and minimal setup.
- **Cloud-Based:** Chromebooks heavily rely on cloud storage and online applications. This means you can access your files and work from anywhere with an internet connection.
- **Regular Updates:** Chromebooks receive automatic updates, ensuring you always have the latest security features and performance improvements.
- **Long Battery Life:** Chromebooks are designed for efficiency, often offering impressive battery life that can last through a full day of use.

Why I should NOT buy a Chromebook

Chromebooks have several potential drawbacks:

- **Limited software compatibility:** Chromebooks primarily run web-based applications. While this is fine for many tasks, it may not be suitable for users who need specific desktop software that isn't available in the Chrome Web Store or through Google Play.
- **Storage limitations:** Chromebooks often come with limited internal storage. This can be a problem for users who need to store large files locally.
- **Performance limitations:** Chromebooks generally have lower-powered processors compared to traditional laptops. This can impact performance when running demanding applications or multitasking.
- **Online dependency:** Chromebooks rely heavily on an internet connection to function fully. Without a connection, you may be limited in what you can do.
- Before deciding against a Chromebook, consider your specific needs and usage patterns. If you primarily use web-based applications, Chromebooks can be a great option due to their affordability, simplicity, and security. However, if you require specific desktop software needs, a traditional laptop might be a better choice.

Using a Chromebook

To start with, you will need a Google / Gmail account. You will use this to login to the Chromebook.

You can pair the Chromebook with an Android phone.

You can install Apps from the Google Playstore.

The “Launcher” is the icon on the bottom left - this shows everything installed on the Chromebook

The shelf is the black bar at the bottom. Put frequent items here. - Windows Taskbar

Printers: tap the time icon on bottom right to open “Settings” - use search to find **“add printer”**

All the Network printers should be listed - add the one you want.

Use Google search to find how to make other changes.