

Recommendation	Rank	Brand & model		Specifications				Price	Overall score	Test results					Features				
		Processor	Memory (GB)	Hard drive (GB)	Video memory (MB)	Performance	Ergonomics			Versatility	Display	Speakers	Battery life (hr.)	Weight (lb.)	Wi-Fi type (802.11)	Memory-card reader	Built-in webcam	FireWire/SATA port	Digital video out

A 12- TO 13-INCH Best choice for mobility, but you pay a premium for light weight and small size.

✓	1	Apple MacBook Pro 13-inch MB990LL/A	13.3	2.26GHz Core 2 Duo I	2	160	\$1,200	68	●	●	○	○	●	6½	4.4	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	2	Sony Vaio VPCY115FX/BI	13.3	Core 2 Duo U7300	4	320	800	66	○	●	○	○	●	7	3.8	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	3	Apple MacBook MC207LL/A	13.3	2.26GHz Core 2 Duo	2	250	1,000	65	●	●	○	●	●	5¾	4.7	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	4	HP Envy 13-1030NR	13.1	Core 2 Duo SL9400	3	250	1,800	62	●	○	●	○	●	4	3.8	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	5	Toshiba Satellite U505-S2970	13.3	Core 2 Duo P7450	4	500	740	59	●	●	●	○	●	4½	4.9	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	6	Apple MacBook Air MC233LL/A	13.3	1.86GHz Core 2 Duo	2	120	1,500	59	○	●	●	●	●	4¼	3.0	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7	HP TouchSmart tm2t	12.1	Core 2 Duo U7300	2	160	950	59	○	○	○	○	●	8½	4.4	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	8	Toshiba Satellite T1350-S1324	13.3	Turion Neo X2 L625	4	320	600	58	○	○	○	○	●	5¾	3.7	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	9	Dell Adamo A13-050B-PRL	13.4	Core 2 Duo U9300	2	128	1,330	57	○	○	○	○	●	5¾	4.0	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	10	HP Pavilion dm3-1035dx	13.3	Athlon Neo X2	3	320	520	56	○	○	○	○	●	4¾	4.2	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11	Dell Inspiron 13 (Vista)	13.3	Core 2 Duo T6400	2	320	700	49	●	○	○	○	●	3½	4.9	g	*	*	*	*	*	*

B 14-INCH Best for those looking for lower weight without a premium price.

✓	1	Sony Vaio VPCCW21FX/L	14.0	Core i3-330M	4	500	256	800	69	●	●	○	○	●	4¾	5.0	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	2	Toshiba Satellite E105-S1802	14.1	Core 2 Duo P7450	4	500	760	69	●	●	○	○	●	5¾	5.1	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	3	Dell Inspiron 14 (1464)	14.0	Core i5-520M	4	320	512	750	67	●	●	○	○	●	3¾	4.9	g	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	4	HP Pavilion dv4-2155dx	14.1	Core i3-330M	4	320	750	66	●	●	○	○	●	3½	5.3	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	5	Samsung R430-BLACK	14.0	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	320	630	66	●	●	○	○	●	5	4.8	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	6	Lenovo ThinkPad SL410-2842F	14.0	Core 2 Duo T6570	4	500	650	64	●	●	○	○	●	4¼	5.1	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	7	Lenovo IdeaPad U450P-3389	14.0	Core 2 Duo U7300	4	320	650	63	○	●	○	○	●	7½	4.5	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	8	Toshiba Satellite M505-S4972	14.0	Pentium Dual-Core T4300	3	250	650	62	●	○	○	○	●	4	5.3	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	9	HP Pavilion dv4-2145dx	14.1	Turion II M520	4	320	128	600	61	●	○	○	○	●	3½	5.3	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	10	Dell Inspiron I1470-3282CRD	14.0	Core 2 Duo SU7300	4	320	665	60	○	●	○	○	●	7¼	4.7	g	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	11	Dell Inspiron 14 (Vista)	14.0	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	320	685	60	○	○	○	○	●	3½	4.8	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

C 15- TO 16-INCH The best balance of screen size, portability, and price for most people.

	1	Apple MacBook Pro 15-inch MC138LL/A	15.4	2.53GHz Core 2 Duo	4	250	1,700	74	●	●	○	○	●	7	5.4	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	2	Dell Studio 15 (1558)	15.6	Core i5-520M	4	320	512	900	72	●	●	○	○	●	4½	5.7	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3	Dell Studio XPS 16	15.6	Core 2 Duo P8700	4	500	512	1,200	71	●	●	○	○	●	3¼	6.4	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	4	Dell Studio XPS X1647-5330BK	15.6	Core i5-430M	4	500	1024	1,000	69	●	●	○	○	●	3¼	6.4	n	*	*	*	*	*	*
✓	5	Toshiba Satellite A505-S6005	16.0	Core i3-330M	4	500	680	68	●	●	○	○	●	7¾	7.0	n	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

🔍 [Enlarge Chart](#)

Recommendation	Rank	Brand & model	Specifications				Price	Overall score	Test results					Features				
			LCD size (in.)	Processor	Memory (GB)	Hard drive (GB)			Video memory (MB)	Performance	Ergonomics	Versatility	Display	Speakers	Battery life (hr.)	Weight (lb.)	Wi-Fi type (802.11)	Memory-card reader

C 15- TO 16-INCH continued

	6	Acer Aspire AS5738PG-6306	15.6	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	320	512	\$ 720	67	●	●	○	○	○	4¼	6.1	n	●	●	●	●
	7	Sony Vaio VPCF115FM	16.4	Core i7-720Q	6	500	1024	1,350	67	●	●	●	●	●	3¾	6.7	n	●	●	●	●
	8	Dell Studio 15	15.6	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	500		800	66	●	●	○	○	○	4¼	5.6	n	●	●	●	●
	9	HP Pavilion dv6-2155dx	15.6	Core i3-330M	4	500		700	66	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	5.9	n	●	●	●	●
✓	10	Asus U50F-R8BAG05	15.6	Core i3-330M	4	500		650	64	●	○	●	○	○	4½	5.4	n	●	●	●	●
	11	HP Envy 15-0050NR	15.6	Core i7 720QM	6	500	1024	1,900	63	●	○	●	○	○	2	6.3	n	●	●	●	●
✓	12	Sony Vaio VGN-NW350F/S	15.6	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	320		730	63	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	5.7	n	●	●	●	●
	13	Lenovo G550	15.6	Pentium Dual Core T4400	4	250		460	60	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	5.6	g	●			●
✓	14	Toshiba Satellite L505-ESS018	15.6	Pentium Dual-Core T4400	3	320		500	59	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	6.0	n	●	●	●	●
	15	HP G60-635DX	15.6	Pentium Dual-Core T4300	3	320		550	59	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	6.2	n	●	●	●	●
	16	Asus G60VX-R8B805	16.0	Core 2 Duo P7450	4	320	1024	850	59	●	●	○	○	○	1¾	7.3	n	●	●	●	●
	17	Dell Inspiron i1545-4203JBK	15.6	Pentium Dual-Core T4300	3	250		450	59	●	●	○	○	○	3¾	5.9	g	●	●		
	18	Dell Inspiron 15z	15.6	Pentium Dual Core SU4300	2	160		650	58	○	●	○	○	○	4¾	4.9	g	●	●	●	●
	19	Gateway NV5378u	15.6	Athlon II M300	4	500		530	58	○	○	○	○	○	3	5.7	n	●	●	●	●
	20	Toshiba Satellite L505D-G56000	16.0	Turion II M500	4	320		550	57	●	●	○	○	○	2½	6.1	n	●	●	●	●
	21	Compaq Presario CQ61-319WM	15.6	Athlon II M300	3	250	256	480	56	○	●	○	○	○	3¾	6.0	g	●			
	22	Toshiba Satellite L455-S5000	15.6	Celeron 900	3	250		400	56	○	●	○	○	○	3½	5.8	g	●			
	23	Compaq Presario CQ60-615DX	15.6	Celeron 900	2	250		350	53	○	●	○	○	○	3½	6.3	n	●			
	24	Acer Aspire AS5532-5535	15.6	Athlon TF-20	3	160		350	50	○	●	○	○	○	3¾	5.6	n	●			

D 17- TO 18-INCH Screen size and performance rival a desktop's, but they are bulky, with relatively short battery life.

	1	Apple MacBook Pro 17-inch MC264LL/A	17.0	2.8GHz Core 2 Duo	4	500	256	2,500	77	●	○	○	○	○	6¼	6.5	n	●	●	●	●
	2	Dell Studio 17 (1749)	17.3	Core i5-520M	4	500		1,000	73	●	●	○	○	○	4	7.3	n	●	●	●	●
✓	3	Dell Inspiron 17 (1764)	17.3	Core i5-520M	4	500	512	870	72	●	●	○	○	○	3½	6.3	g	●	●	●	●
	4	HP Pavilion dv7-3165dx	17.3	Turion II Ultra M620	4	500		780	68	●	●	○	○	○	4½	7.1	n	●	●	●	●
	5	Gateway NV7995u	17.3	Core i3-330M	4	500		600	68	●	○	○	○	○	3¾	6.8	n	●	●	●	●
	6	HP G71-340us	17.3	Core 2 Duo T6600	4	320		680	66	●	●	○	○	○	3½	6.6	n	●	●	●	●
	7	Dell Inspiron 17 (Vista)	17.3	Core 2 Duo T6500	3	250		645	65	●	●	○	○	○	3	6.6	g	●			
	8	Toshiba Satellite P505D-58007	18.4	Turion II M520	4	500		750	63	●	●	○	○	○	2¾	9.0	n	●	●	●	●

○ Lacks an optical drive. ● Has a non-removable battery. ○ Includes a second battery. × Convertible tablet. ● Has a Blu-ray reader. ● Has a touch screen.

Guide to the Ratings for laptops, desktops, and netbooks

Overall score reflects all the factors below. Scores are on a scale of 0 to 100: 81 to 100 is excellent, 61 to 80 is very good, 41 to 60 is good, 21 to 40 is fair, 0 to 20 is poor. Displayed scores are rounded; models are listed in order of precise overall score. **Portability** in netbooks is based on battery life and weight. **Performance** reflects speed while running productivity applications while powered by AC. For laptops, it also covers 3D-gaming speed; for desktops, such speed is listed separately.