



Built for Business

People often ask us what are the most reliable laptops you can buy and are sometimes surprised when the answer is often Dell, HP, Lenovo and Apple. The trick is that Dell, HP and Lenovo make two different types of laptops: business and consumer.

Consumer laptops are built much cheaper to provide the lowest possible prices in a heavily commoditized market. They often incorporate the earliest bleeding-edge features before they're stable. They often have gimmicky designs meant to appeal to specific demographics like students, gamers, audio enthusiasts, etc. The consumer PC market is almost like a fractured shotgun attempt to catch people's eye and get them to buy a particular computer at the lowest prices possible. Consumer laptops are also built to last the manufacturer's warranty which is usually only 12 months.

Business laptops are built for stability out of higher-quality materials. They often have a more conservative aesthetic, but can survive some serious abuse without needing replacement. They also tend to favor trusted technologies and features that are stable enough for business use. Webcams and Bluetooth are almost a given, and the models with touchscreens use much more durable panels than their consumer counterparts. Dell, HP and Lenovo all sell business lines with standard 3-year warranties, and even the entry-level models with 12-month warranties are built better than consumer laptops and let you purchase longer warranties as an option.

Apple's durability is no surprise with their metal chassis, high-quality hardware and option for 36-month Apple Care warranty. Many business are using more and more Apple computers, but cost is often a factor and certain models are less prone to repair and longevity than others. MacBook Air and Retina MacBook Pros have been the most expensive and most difficult to repair for the

past few years, with the standard MacBook Pro being most repairable and upgradeable. With the new MacBook Pro getting a thinner Retina\Air look, the options for repair and aftermarket upgrades are getting much smaller. We recommend when going with these new Macs to buy the upgrades you're going to need when you buy the laptop and getting the 3-year Apple Care extension.

With the holidays approaching and coming barrage of advertisements, we advise doing the research and making sure you evaluate the cost of any computer vs. it's expected lifetime. If in doubt, feel free to reach out.



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DVD-RW

AMD Radeon HD 8790M
Windows 7 Professional

15.6" LCD with webcam!

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Contact Us!

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Tech Tip: Wireless Isn't Always Better

WiFi is convenient - definitely, but it's not reliable. Wireless performance and quality is always going to be lag behind a wired connection. If you require reliable high-speed Internet access at one or more of your computers, it's best to have Ethernet wiring done by an electrician. If you would rather have everything wireless, be prepared to spend money on best-in-class wireless equipment and to replace that equipment every 2-3 years as it gets outdated or starts having issues. If you have a large home, you will probably need a few access points to cover everything adequately, and the best connection between those multiple wireless access points is (of course) a wired connection.

Featured Accessory: Network (Ethernet) Switch

A network switch is a device which allows you to connect multiple devices to your network directly (wired), as opposed to via WiFi. A network switch is easy to operate. Each device connected to the switch is automatically connected to everything else connected to the switch. So if you hook up

Questions?

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HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be closed for
the coming holidays
from:

November 24-27
December 23-26

your cable modem to a router, then connect the router to a switch, you can connect other devices to the Internet simply by plugging them into the switch.



From the Blog!

Last Week on the Blog:

The Desktop PC - Still Relevant?

"As the technological world of computers skews more and more toward mobile, and everything is getting smaller and smaller, the questions arises – is the desktop PC still relevant? The short answer is a resounding YES. In this article we will elaborate as to why.." [\[More...\]](#)

Next Week on the Blog:

The Shrinking Laptop

"In our previous post "The Desktop PC - Still Relevant?", we touched on how the industry is trending more mobile, and the sizes of the devices we use are changing. In this article, we'd like to delve into that phenomenon a bit and highlight the pros & cons of that new direction."



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