



DeBug Tech Tips

Choosing A New Computer

If you're in the market for a new computer, there's a lot of research to wade through to figure out what's best for you. Should you get a Windows PC or a Mac? Or maybe a third option like a Chromebook or Linux? A desktop or a laptop? High performance or economy? Let's dive in and figure it out together!

The first question to ask yourself is "What do I need this computer for?" If you play graphic-intensive video games or if you just check email and Facebook, the type of computer you get makes all the difference. For gamers, a high-end PC is what you'll want to get. For casual computer users, a basic desktop, laptop, or even Chromebook can be more than enough.

Windows PCs are great for every user, with millions of options and a program for everything; they are the most robust and widely used computer type out there. Regardless of what you use a computer for, a Windows PC can do it. The downside is the hardware cost, as higher end Windows PCs can run upwards of \$2,000, while basic use computers can start at \$200 or less. You don't want to get something much more powerful than you'll need, but you also don't want to limit it if you end up needing more down the line.

Mac computers are great for everyday use, and can be easier to learn than Windows for some people. With the simple layout, clean lines, and optimized hardware, there's a Mac out there for everybody. Macs tend to last longer than Windows computers thanks to the general lack of viruses and malware out there for Macs (they DO exist however!), with some Macs going on 10 years of use before needing replacement. The biggest hurdle is the cost of entry, with Macs starting around \$899 and going up into the thousands from there. Some things to consider are portability, power, and screen size.

Chromebooks are a new type of computer, which don't run on either Windows or Mac. They're a type of 'Netbook' which are great for internet usage, but are very limited in doing anything else. Perfect for browsing the internet, writing documents and email, watching Netflix, and online shopping. However, they are unable to run Windows or Mac programs, so they can only run websites. This is perfect for some people who only need email and Facebook, but for the power users it would only be good for a backup of their main computer. Because of the low power requirements, Chromebooks start at less than \$200.

So think about what you need your computer to do for you, and shop around accordingly. If all you need is email, don't look for a \$3,000 gaming PC, and if you need to play the latest Call of Duty at 1440P, don't go looking at a Chromebook! You can always get help and recommendations from us at DeBug any time, we'll help you find the right fit for you.