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Laptops can now do everything a desktop can. A few years ago the only area that a laptop lagged behind a desktop was in terms of processor speed. But with the new i3, i5 and i7 processors from Intel running in most new laptops they match the speed and even exceed that of desktops. A laptop is compact and can be carried with you anywhere you go.

So if you wish to upgrade your old desktop you might as well buy a new laptop as they are very affordable these days. Some manufacturers allow you to customize your laptop. Here are a few points you should keep in mind while buying a laptop.

Screen – Laptops come in screen size ranging from 7 inches all the way up to 20 inches. The 7 to 10 inch range are known as netbooks these are perfect if you need a laptop that you will carry with you everywhere you go as they have small screen size they are very compact and light weight. Netbooks are perfect if you update your status, tweet or write blogs on the move. If you want a laptop so you can play games and watch movies then a 15 to 20 inch laptop is great for you.

Hard drive – Most laptops these days come with a minimum of 320 GB hard drive which is enough to store your songs and data. However for those who would use the laptop for editing movies and music a larger capacity hard drive would be required. You also have a choice between a traditional hard drive and a solid state drive. A solid state drive runs on same technology a memory stick does. It has no moving parts whatsoever as thus is not susceptible to breakdowns. The random access time for SSD is lightning quick which means you will notice a remarkable difference in saving and accessing files on the drive.

Memory and Graphic – manufacturers offer a minimum of 2 GB of memory while others offer 4 GB. If you love playing games then your laptop should have an in built graphic card. New operating systems such as windows 7 and Snow leopard also need a graphic card so that you can run all the features available. 2 GB of RAM is good enough if you do not tend to open many windows at once however if you multitask you should opt for at least 4 GB of RAM. One more reason why you would need extra memory is in case your laptop runs a discrete graphic card which shares the physical memory of your computer. These cards only run when they detect a graphic intensive program running on your laptop.

So depending on your requirements you can customize your next laptop.

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