PC BUYING GUIDE

With more choices than ever before, shopping for a new computer can be a bewildering experience.
Use our buying guide to cut through the complexities and find a PC with Windows® 7 that you'll love.

Let's get started. Are you looking for a desktop or laptop?

DESKTOP

Decisions, decisions. With so many features and options to consider, it's easy to feel baffled when shopping for a desktop PC. Save time—and possibly money—by asking yourself a few questions:

Will you use your PC for demanding tasks, like editing video or watching movies?

Will you use your PC for home, school or work?

Will you store a large number of media files, like music and video, on your PC?

Will you play graphic-intensive 3D games?

What's the best mix of performance, features, and cost for your budget?

Will you burn data to a CD or DVD, or connect a printer or TV to your PC?

LAPTOP

So you're looking for a new laptop that lets you take all your stuff with you, stay connected, and work and play on the go. Great choice. Now the hard part—navigating the maze of form factors, configurations and features. Start by asking yourself how you'll use your laptop:

Will you use your laptop for demanding tasks, such as editing video or playing 3D games?

Will you use your PC for home, school or work?

Small or large screen — which do you prefer?

What is your price range?

Will you play graphic-intensive 3D games, burn data to a CD or DVD, or connect an external display or hard drive?

DESKTOP BUYING GUIDE

SPEED & MEMORY

Together, the CPU (processor) and system memory (RAM) are the brains and brawn that deliver the most performance gains. Finding the right combo for you is all about knowing what you want to do, and then choosing a PC with the processing power and performance to match.

PRIMARY USE	RECOMMENDED PROCESSOR	RECOMMENDED MEMORY (RAM)
Business or school productivity • Basic Productivity • Email • Web Browsing • Casual Games • Photo Organization	At least a 2.0GHz processor	2 GB
Home productivity & entertainment • Productivity • Multimedia Applications • 3D Games	At least a 2.0GHz processor	2 GB
Enhanced gaming & digital media • Advanced Multitasking • Intense 3D Games • Advanced Digital Editing • High-Definition Video	At least a 2.0GHz processor	2-4 GB + at least 256 MB Video RAM

PROCESSOR

The Central Processing Unit (CPU)—more commonly called the Processor—is a small microchip that controls all operations on the PC. As the "brain" of the PC, it is the most crucial element for performance and speed. Dual-core and quad-core CPUs have two or four individual processors on one chip for better processing power and improved multitasking.

MEMORY (RAM)

Next to the CPU, system memory—or Random Access Memory (RAM)—is one of the most speed-critical elements on your computer. 2 GB of RAM helps ensure the best performance from your PC, but you may need more RAM if you edit digital media or play graphic-intensive games.

TIP

THE 64-BIT ADVANTAGE

64-bit laptops run the 64-bit edition of Windows 7 and offer more responsive overall performance than 32-bit systems. Consider a 64-bit laptop if you:

• Run multiple applications at the same time

• Edit video

• Create large PowerPoint presentations

• Play graphics-heavy games

• Want to run 4GB or more of RAM

If you want to economize and only run a few programs at a time, a 32-bit laptop running the 32-bit edition of Window 7 will give you satisfactory performance.

Compatible with Windows 7

LOOK FOR THE LOGO

Check to make sure the software and devices you want to use are compatible. A "Compatible with Windows 7" logo means the product has undergone Microsoft tests for reliability, security, and compatibility on PCs running 32-bit or 64-bit versions of Windows 7. If you don't see the logo, visit the Windows Compatibility Center to check before you buy.

TIP

MORE CORES, MORE POWER

Boost your computer's performance with a dual-core processor, or supercharge your 3D games and digital editing with the speed and power of a triple-core or quad-core processor.

TIP

BOOST YOUR MEMORY

Generally, the more RAM you have, the better your computer will perform. Be sure your PC has extra DIMM (memory) slots in case you want to add more memory modules later.

DESKTOP BUYING GUIDE

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Choose the edition of Windows 7 that fits the way you use your PC,
from web browsing and entertainment at home to complex tasks in the corporate world.

PRIMARY USE	RECOMMENDED WINDOWS 7 EDITION	BENEFITS
Business or school productivity	Windows 7 Professional or Windows 7 Ultimate	• Connect to company networks easily and more securely with Domain Join. • Run many existing Windows XP productivity programs seamlessly in Windows 7.[1] • Help protect data on your PC and portable storage devices against loss or theft with Biltocker.™ • Recover your data easily with automatic back-up to your home or business network.
Home productivity & entertainment	Windows 7 Home Premium	• Watch many of your favorite TV shows for free when and where you want with Internet TV.[2] • Make the things you do every day easier using improved desktop navigation. • Launch programs faster and easily find the documents you use most often. • Create a home network and share all of your favorite photos, video and music.
Enhanced gaming & digital media	Windows 7 Home Premium	• Watch many of your favorite TV shows for free when and where you want with Internet TV.[2] • Watch, pause, rewind, and record TV on your PC.[3] • DirectX® 11 technology delivers breathtaking game graphics so real, it's unreal. • The updated Games Explorer offers 11 redesigned games, including multiplayer versions of Backgammon, Checkers, and Spades.

GET MORE FOR YOUR PC

Windows Anytime Upgrade is the easy, fast and affordable way to add features to Windows 7. It only takes about ten minutes, requires no optical drives, software or downloads, and you'll keep your existing programs, files and settings.

[1] Windows XP Mode requires either OEM pre-installation or post-purchase installation of Windows XP Mode (which runs on Windows 7 Professional or Ultimate) and a virtualization technology such as Windows Virtual PC. Both Windows XP Mode and Windows Virtual PC can be downloaded from www.windows.com/business/downloads. For more information on system requirements, go to www.microsoft.com/virtual-pc.

[2] Internet access required. Free Internet TV content varies by geography. Some content may require additional fees.

[3] Additional hardware may be required. Not available in all countries.

Windows 7

STORAGE

Your new PC will include one or more hard drives, each providing up to hundreds of gigabytes (GB) of free space—storage that fills up fast as you add photos, videos, games and software. "Future-proof" your system by getting more space than you need.

WHO YOU ARE	WHAT YOU NEED (MINIMUM CAPACITY)	WHAT YOU CAN STORE
Casual computer user	60-80 GB	All of your Microsoft Office documents 1000s of digital photos or songs
Photo and music enthusiast	100-160 GB	150,000 photos 24,000 music tracks 100 hours of recorded TV (standard definition)
Media Maniac	200+ GB	40,000 MP3 files 63 hours of HD video 250 hours of standard-definition video

TIP

THE SPIN ON HARD DRIVES

Your computer's hard drive is more than just a place to store all of your stuff. It's also one of the most important components for a fast, smooth-running computer.

If you work with multimedia, look for a parallel or serial ATA hard drive—these formats can help your computer perform better.

TIP

BACK IT UP

Backing up the contents of your hard drive is critical. You should regularly backup your irreplaceable photos, home movies, and documents to:

• A CD, DVD or Blu-ray disc
• An external hard drive
• Windows Live™ SkyDrive™ for remote online storage

GIGABYTES DE-MYSTIFIED

One GB equals:

• 15 minutes of HDTV
• 1 hour of standard TV
• 16 hours of digital music
• 200 MP3 files
• 1,250 digital photos
• 50,000 pages of standard documents

DESKTOP BUYING GUIDE

GRAPHICS & VIDEO

Windows 7 includes exciting new technology that makes 3D games, video and high-resolution movies look crisper, sharper, and more realistic than ever. Ensure your PC is equipped with the right amount of graphics power for your needs.

GRAPHICS SOLUTION	DEFINITION	PROS	CONS
Integrated	A graphics chip on the motherboard that shares the video memory with the processor. Capable of running less-intensive 3D graphics, but may struggle with high-end video games and video editing software.	• Good enough for word processing, DVD movies, browser-based games and basic photo editing • Less expensive than a discrete graphics solution	• Uses system memory needed for other computing tasks • May not handle the latest 3D games • May lack support for multiple monitors
Discrete (or Dedicated)	A separate graphics card that uses its own video memory rather than borrowing from the processor, enabling higher resolution graphics. Most graphics cards are produced by nVidia and AMD/ATI.	• Best for 3D games, video editing, graphic design, and watching high definition video • Supports multiple displays and TV-out	• More expensive

TIP

ULTIMATE GAMING WITH DUAL-CARD GRAPHICS

A graphics card lets you experience games the way they were meant to be played—blazing-fast with immersive, realistic-looking graphics. With the addition of a second graphics card, you can take your gaming to a whole new level.

If you think you might need the performance boost, look for a system that supports two graphics cards. Both AMD and nVidia offer dual-card systems that will more than satisfy your need for speed.

TIP

TV TUNERS

Transform your PC into a high-definition media center. A desktop with a TV tuner and Windows 7 Home Premium, Professional or Ultimate lets you watch live TV and record shows for viewing later. Like a digital video recorder, you can pause and rewind shows while you're watching.

If your graphics card includes an HDMI port, you can connect a high-definition TV or monitor for a home theater experience.

BRING YOUR MEDIA TO LIFE

A "discrete" or dedicated graphics system with at least 256 MB of memory can make a world of difference if you:

• Play advanced 3D games

• Edit large images or graphics

• Make digital home movies

• Watch high-definition video or Blu-ray movies

DESKTOP BUYING GUIDE

PRICE

Desktop PCs are generally classified under four categories, each with distinct advantages and trade-offs.

CATEGORY	PRICE RANGE	CAPABILITIES	RECOMMENDED WINDOWS 7 EDITION	MORE TO KNOW
Value	Up to $700	• Email and browse the Internet • Take care of basic office tasks • Listen to music • Edit photos and movies from a digital camera • Play casual games	**Windows 7 Home Premium**	For simple, everyday uses—like email and managing household finances—a Value PC is probably all the computer you need. If you multitask—tending to work on many tasks at once—or use graphic-intensive video editing software or 3D games, you may need the extra power that a mainstream computer provides.
Mainstream	$500-1000	• Create graphics-heavy Microsoft® Office PowerPoint®, Excel® or Word documents • Spend most of your time multitasking (running many programs at the same time) • Watch movies • Edit video from a digital video camera • Play many 3D games	**Windows 7 Home Premium** **Windows 7 Professional** **Windows 7 Ultimate**	Today's mainstream PC is up for just about any task, especially when configured with a multi-core processor, plenty of RAM, and a standalone graphics card. If VRAM isn't part of your vocabulary, a mainstream system is probably a good fit for you.
Performance	$800-1500+	• Multitask with several demanding software programs running simultaneously • Edit high definition video • Work with high-end multimedia or design software • Play advanced 3D games	**Windows 7 Home Premium** **Windows 7 Professional** **Windows 7 Ultimate**	If you push your system to the max, a high-performance PC can handle just about anything. Serious gamers, professional designers, multimedia editors, and home theater PC enthusiasts should shop this category.
Compact	$500-$1500+	• Small physical footprint • Ideal as an inconspicuous media server or home theater PC • Portable, easy to transport (to LAN gaming events, for instance)	**Windows 7 Home Premium** **Windows 7 Professional** **Windows 7 Ultimate**	Compact—or Small Form Factor—PCs pack a lot of performance in a minimum of space, at the possible expense of future expandability. Choose from cubes that fit on a desk, mini PCs the size of a toaster, and slim PCs that resemble a home DVD player—perfect for a home theater set-up powered by Windows Media Center.

DESKTOP BUYING GUIDE

MORE TO KNOW

OPTICAL DRIVES

An optical drive—a CD-ROM or DVD-ROM at a minimum—comes standard on all new PCs, letting you install retail software, watch DVD movies, and listen to audio CDs. A rewritable dual-layer DVD drive is recommended for backing up data to CD or DVD. If you want to watch high-definition movies or store huge amounts of data, look for a PC with a Blu-ray burner.

SOUND

Many mainstream PCs handle sound via an audio chip integrated on the motherboard, which provides quality fidelity for digital music and games. If you want the best-quality surround sound experience for games and DVD movies, look for a PC with a separate sound card (or an open PCI-E slot for a sound card you'll buy separately).

PORTS & CONNECTORS

Round up your peripherals and devices—MP3 player, mouse and keyboard, monitor, router and printer—and take note of the type of plug that connects to a PC. Chances are, your inventory will match these essential ports and connectors on your PC.

ETHERNET
An Ethernet port—standard on most PCs—lets you access a broadband network. Alternately, you can look for a system (or install your own) wireless network card to connect to a Wi-Fi router.

USB
You'll need at least 3-6 USB ports, located on the back and front of the case, to connect portable media devices, cameras, memory drives, mobile phones, a mouse, printer and countless other devices.

IEEE 1394 (also known as FireWire) Ideal for transferring large files at super-fast speeds (nearly 30 times faster than USB). If you own a digital video camera, you will likely need a FireWire port to transfer your home movies to your PC.

AUDIO CONNECTORS
Depending on the speaker set or system you use, you'll need an assortment of audio input and outputs. Look for "Line Out" connections for 2-channel and surround sound speaker systems and a "Line In/Mic In" for a microphone or personal audio player. Also look for a headphone jack—or, for PC headsets, a spare USB jack—on the front of the PC.

DVI or HDMI
Chances are, you have (or will soon buy) a flat-panel LCD display. For the best screen image, look for a laptop with a DVI port or, better yet, an HDMI port—the new latest standard for transmitting high-definition video (like Blu-ray) from your laptop to an HD display.

MONITOR

The days of desktop-hogging CRT monitors are, thankfully, over. LCD technology has introduced lightweight, slim screens that you can place just about anywhere on the desk, on top of a TV cabinet, or even hung on a wall. Consider these tips when shopping for a monitor:

• Standard screens have a 4:3 aspect ratio—widescreens have a 16:9 or 16:10 ratio. Widescreens are ideal for watching movies and multitasking.

• A 15"-19" display is fine for everyday productivity; 20" and larger displays make games and movies more immersive and give you plenty of screen real estate to display multiple windows.

• To avoid choppiness when viewing fast action movies or games, look for a monitor with a response time of 12-15 milliseconds or lower.

• Make sure your PC's graphics card can support the display's advertised native resolution.

• If you plan on watching high-definition content—such as Blu-ray movies—make sure your display and graphics card support DVI or HDMI.

LAPTOP BUYING GUIDE

SPEED AND STORAGE

A fast processor and plenty of system memory (RAM) work together to accelerate your laptop's performance—and your productivity.
Use the chart below to help ensure your Windows 7 notebook is up for the task at hand.

PRIMARY USE	RECOMMENDED PROCESSOR	RECOMMENDED MEMORY (RAM)
Business or school productivity	At least a 2.0GHz processor	1-2 GB
Home productivity & entertainment	At least a 2.0GHz processor	2 GB
Enhanced gaming & digital media	At least a 2.0GHz processor	2-4 GB + at least 256 MB Video RAM

Windows 7 has been optimized for multi-core processors, giving you the ultimate performance from your PC and a superior Windows experience.

TIP

MAXIMIZE YOUR SPACE

- If you spend most of your time online or perform light computing tasks, you'll probably need less space— 60-80 GB—for documents, downloads, photos and music.

- If you have a large media library, a 100-160 GB hard drive will store hundreds of hours of videos and thousands of photos and songs.

- Gamers and those who work with large media files will want the most space possible—200 GB or more.

TIP

THE 64-BIT ADVANTAGE

64-bit laptops run the 64-bit edition of Windows 7 and offer more responsive overall performance than 32-bit systems. Consider a 64-bit laptop if you:

• Run multiple applications at the same time

• Edit video

• Create large PowerPoint presentations

• Play graphics-heavy games

• Want to run 4GB or more of RAM

If you want to economize and only run a few programs at a time, a 32-bit laptop running the 32-bit edition of Windows 7 will give you satisfactory performance.

LOOK FOR THE LOGO

Check to make sure the software and devices you want to use are compatible. A "Compatible with Windows 7" logo means the product has undergone Microsoft tests for reliability, security, and compatibility on PCs running 32-bit or 64-bit versions of Windows 7. If you don't see the logo, visit the Windows Compatibility Center to check before you buy.

LAPTOP BUYING GUIDE

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Windows 7 is designed with laptop users in mind. You'll experience faster, more responsive performance, power-saving enhancements designed to improve battery life, and easier ways to connect to Wi-Fi networks on the go—
no matter which edition of Windows 7 you run on your laptop.

PRIMARY USE	RECOMMENDED WINDOWS 7 EDITION	BENEFITS
Business or school productivity	Windows 7 Professional or Windows 7 Ultimate	• Connect to company networks easily and more securely with Domain Join. • Run many existing Windows XP productivity programs in Windows 7.[1] • Help protect data on your PC and portable storage devices against loss or theft with BitLocker.™ • Recover your data easily with automatic back-up to your home or business network.
Home productivity & entertainment	Windows 7 Home Premium	• Watch many of your favorite TV shows for free when and where you want with Internet TV.[2] • Make the things you do every day easier using improved desktop navigation. • Launch programs faster and easily find the documents you use most often. • Create a home network and share all of your favorite photos, video and music.
Enhanced gaming & and digital media	Windows 7 Home Premium	• Watch many of your favorite TV shows for free when and where you want with Internet TV.[2] • Watch, pause, rewind, and record TV on your PC.[3] • DirectX® 11 technology delivers breathtaking game graphics so real, it's unreal. • The updated Games Explorer offers 11 redesigned games, including multiplayer versions of Backgammon, Checkers, and Spades.

GET MORE FOR YOUR PC

Windows Anytime Upgrade is the easy, fast and affordable way to add features to Windows 7. It only takes about ten minutes, requires no optical drives, software or downloads, and you'll keep your existing programs, files and settings.

[1] Windows XP Mode requires either OEM pre-installation or post-purchase installation of Windows XP Mode (which runs on Windows 7 Professional or Ultimate) and a virtualization technology such as Windows Virtual PC. Both Windows XP Mode and Windows Virtual PC can be downloaded from www.windows.com/business/downloads. For more information on system requirements, go to www.microsoft.com/virtual-pc.

[2] Internet access required. Free Internet TV content varies by geography. Some content may require additional fees.

[3] Additional hardware may be required. Not available in all countries.

LAPTOP BUYING GUIDE

SCREEN SIZE

When comparing screen features, seeing is definitely believing. Take time to visit a retail store to view a variety of screen sizes, shapes and finishes. You'll know at a glance whether a particular display is right for you.

SCREEN SIZE (DIAGONAL IMAGE SIZE)	FEATURES
Small (less than 13")	• Standard on small notebook PCs designed for mobile productivity • Great for checking email and browsing the web on the go • Not optimal for multitasking, such as browsing the web while taking notes
Midsize (14"-17")	• Available in standard or widescreen formats • Good for multitasking, such as watching a video while browsing the web • Good for movies and games on the go
Large (17"-20")	• Standard on desktop replacement laptops • Great for multitasking, with plenty of screen space to view several windows simultaneously • Huge screen immerses you in movies and games • Ideal for editing graphics and multimedia

TIP

MATTE VERSUS GLOSSY SCREENS

Like photo prints, laptop screens now come with either a matte or glossy finish.

A matte or non-glare finish reduces glare—a good choice if you want to minimize reflections on your screen and don't mind a slight reduction in brightness.

A glossy finish creates a brighter, more detailed effect—great for watching movies, editing photos and gaming, but more reflective in well-lit places.

TIP

SCREEN SHAPE

Screens come in different shapes, which are expressed as a relationship of width to height called aspect ratio:

• Standard screens have a 4:3 ratio — for example, 12 inches wide by 9 inches high
• Widescreens—also called wide-aspect or cinema displays—have a 16:9 or 16:10 ratio similar to a movie screen and are great for movies and gaming

LED-BACKLIT LAPTOPS:
BRIGHTER, SHARPER, LONGER LASTING

New technology is changing the way you look at your screen. LED-backlit screens produce richer colors and better contrast than traditional displays, making everything from web pages to movies look sharper and brighter. As a bonus, these displays are thinner and help save battery life. Some manufacturers brand LED-backlighting using trademarked names, so look closely at the technical specifications to ensure this technology is included.

LAPTOP BUYING GUIDE

PRICE

The size of the laptop you choose has a huge impact on portability, power, and price.
Laptops are generally classified in four categories, each with distinct advantages and trade-offs.

- **Small notebook PCs** excel at email, web browsing, office basics, and other tasks that don't require much power and hard drive space.
- **Thin & Light** notebooks balance portability and power, providing many features of a standard notebook in a slim, lightweight design.
- **Standard notebooks** offer the broadest selection of styles, power, and features.
- As the name suggests, a **desktop replacement** may be the only computer you need—at the cost of portability, battery life, and price.

CATEGORY	PRICE RANGE	PROS	CONS
Small Notebook PCs	$299-$699	• Great companion PC for web browsing, email, basic productivity and entertainment • Very affordable • Incredibly compact and lightweight (around 2-3 pounds) • Great battery life—some models deliver more than 5 hours of active use	• Not suited for applications that require a lot of processing power, such as 3D games, video editing, and playback of high definition video • Small screen (10.2" and below) requires more page scrolling and can be hard on the eyes • Small keyboard isn't ideal for tasks that require lots of typing • No integrated optical drive—DVD movie playback, installation of retail software, and burning files to CD or DVD requires purchase of an external DVD drive
Thin & Light	$600-$2000	• Thin and lightweight (2-5 pounds) • Ideal for frequent travelers • Excellent battery life • Decent screen size (up to 13")	• May lack optical and removable media drive, extra battery • May not pack processing power for memory and graphic-intensive applications, like 3D games
Standard Notebook	$400-$1200	• Versatile: balances features and portability (5-7 pounds) • Variety of form factors and features to choose from • Runs most home and business applications • Screen size (13"-15") is ideal for multitasking	• Good all-around performance for most tasks • May lack speed and power for demanding applications, such as 3D games
Desktop Replacement	More than $1000	• Delivers performance and many features of a desktop PC • Speed and large screen size (15"-18") great for multimedia and 3D games	• Bulky (7-12 pounds) • Limited battery life

ON THE GO WITH WINDOWS 7

Windows 7 introduces a bunch of new and improved features that help make your laptop run better:

- Improved performance on lower-powered laptops, like small notebook PCs
- Takes up less space on the hard drive than Windows Vista, leaving more room for applications, media and documents
- Longer battery life thanks to new power-saving features
- Hassle-free Wi-Fi and networking
- Security enhancements to help protect data and keep your personal information secure

LAPTOP BUYING GUIDE

MORE TO KNOW

GRAPHICS

It's easy to overlook graphics chipsets when shopping for a laptop. Fact is, even a notebook with a fast processor and plenty of RAM can struggle with graphic-intensive games or video editing software. Laptop computers come with one of two types of chipsets to create and display graphics:

- Integrated: A chip on the motherboard that shares the video memory with the processor. Fine for everyday tasks, but less suitable for 3D games and graphic-intensive software.

- Discrete (or dedicated): A separate chip that uses its own RAM rather than borrowing from the processor, enabling high-performance 3D graphics. If you use graphic design or video editing software, or play 3D games, a laptop with a dedicated graphic system can make a world of difference.

OPTICAL DRIVES

Most laptops—excluding compact form factors, like small notebook PCs —include a CD/DVD drive, ideal for watching DVD movies, listening to audio CDs and burning data to disc. If you want to watch high-definition movies or store huge amounts of data, look for a laptop with a DVD or Blu-ray burner.

TV TUNERS

A laptop with a TV tuner and Windows 7 Home Premium, Professional or Ultimate lets you watch live TV and record shows for viewing later. Like a digital video recorder, you can pause and rewind shows while you're watching. TV tuners are either built into the PC or available as an external device that plugs into a USB port. If your laptop has an HDMI port, you can connect a high-definition TV or monitor for a cinema-like viewing experience.

SOLID STATE DRIVES

Standard hard drives have moving parts that have to spin to start up and have a read/write head for files. The latest in hard drive technology is the solid state drive (SSD). Because they have no moving parts, SSDs are:

- More reliable, smaller, and lighter
- Better at enduring shocks, high altitudes, vibration and extreme temperature
- Completely silent

PORTS & CONNECTORS

Without the right ports on your laptop, devices like mice, printers, memory sticks, external hard drives and MP3 players are pretty much useless. Future-proof your PC by making sure the laptop you buy has these essential connections:

USB
You'll want 2-3 ports, located on the back and side or front, to connect portable media devices, cameras, memory drives, mobile phones, a mouse, printer and countless other devices.

IEEE 1394 (also known as FireWire) Ideal for transferring large files at super-fast speeds (nearly 30 times faster than USB). If you own a digital video camera, you will likely need a FireWire port to transfer your home movies to your PC.

DVI or HDMI
Chances are, you have (or will soon buy) a flat-panel LCD display. For the best screen image, look for a laptop with a DVI port or, better yet, an HDMI port— the new latest standard for transmitting high-definition video (like Blu-ray) from your laptop to an HD display.

Wi-Fi
Built into nearly every new laptop, Wi-Fi lets you connect to the Internet over a Wi-Fi router or public hotspot. The most common standards are 802.11b (slowest), 802.11g (faster), and 802.11n (fastest).

BLUETOOTH
Wirelessly connects to devices like headsets and printers—perfect if you use voice or video chat software.