

2020-2021

CHROMEBOOK SPECS.

IF FAMILIES ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A CHROMEBOOK,
HERE ARE SOME TIPS FROM OUR TECHNOLOGY OFFICE



Chromebook Specifications Recommendations

Memory (RAM) - When it comes to RAM, most Chromebooks come with either 2GB or 4GB. We recommend at least 4GB of RAM. The difference will be worth it for if you plan to have more than a couple of tabs open.

Screen - Many display resolutions on most 13 inch or larger Chromebooks will be 1,920 by 1,080 pixels, otherwise known as 1080p, but a few cheaper or smaller Chromebooks may be lower-resolution, and the very highest-end models may be higher-resolution. For most midsize Chromebooks with screens from 13 to 15 inches, 1080p is a suitable option.

While touchscreens are not necessary, touchscreens and 2-in-1 models that can be converted to tablet modes often add to ease of use especially for younger children and allow you to use touch-optimized apps, though will also add to the price.

Processor (CPU) - A low-end processor like an Intel Celeron or a Pentium processor will serve you well if the primary use of the Chromebook is to browse with a tab or two open. Chromebooks based on Intel Core CPUs like the Core i3 and the Core i5 will be more versatile for robust multitasking and streaming, though can be more expensive.

Storage - Most files on a Chromebook will be stored in the cloud/Google Drive, so Chromebooks include only a small hard drive, usually 16GB - 64GB, on which to save your local creations if needed. This should be sufficient for student needs. If you think more space on the device is needed, look for an SD card slot to add expanded storage.

Connectivity - Most Chromebook connections are wireless, so you will use the machine almost exclusively attached to Wi-Fi. If you will need to give presentations, look for a video output port, such as HDMI, that matches what displays you have available. Also, look for a USB port or two if you will want to attach a mouse or other peripheral.

ChromeOS Updates - Every Chromebook has an expiration date on which Google stops supporting the device. Choose the Chromebook with the latest end of life date with the specifications you need. See Chromebook End of Life Considerations below.

(Reference: <https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-chromebooks>)

Chromebook End of Life Considerations

Chrome devices (e.g. Chromebook, Chromebox, Chromebase, Chromebit) receive automatic updates that enhance both the device and its software. Device updates provide the latest features and keep the device secure, and are applied across the operating system, browser and hardware. These updates depend on many device specific non-Google hardware and software providers that work with Google to provide the highest level of security and stability support. For this reason, older Chrome devices cannot receive updates indefinitely to enable new OS and browser features. See this chart to determine when a Chromebook is expected to reach EOL:

<https://support.google.com/chrome/a/answer/6220366?hl=en>

Please note, some retailers may have misleading information on their websites about the age of a Chromebook, making buyers believe it was manufactured more recently than is actually the case.

<https://www.aboutchromebooks.com/opinion/opinion-amazon-needs-to-stop-listing-chromebooks-with-misleading-information/>