

MacBook Pro Lineup Gets Refresh

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17 July 2018

Apple looks to appeal to power users with the MacBook Pro update-- the 13- and 15-inch notebooks get 8th generation Intel Core processors, better GPUs and more RAM, plus a tweaked keyboard promising quieter typing.



Externally the two notebooks remain identical to the previous 2016 models, with all changes being under the hood. The 13-inch model gets a quad-core processors, while the 15-inch carries 6-core processors Apple claims is up to 70% faster compared to the 2016 model. Graphics also get a boost. The 13-inch models features Intel Iris Plus Graphics 655, and the 15-inch get a choice of either Radeon Pro 555X or Radeon Pro 560X, both with 4GB DDR5 RAM.

On the memory side, the 13-inch MacBook gets 16GB and the 15-inch has up to 32GB, while storage maxes up to 2TB SSD in the 13-inch and 4TB SSD in the 15-inch. The notebooks still feature the Touch Bar as an option, even if the feature remains unchanged 2 years on. The Force Touch trackpad gets a bump in size, and all models offer x4 Thunderbolt 3/USB-C ports.

Further connectivity comes through Bluetooth 5.0 and 802.11ac wifi. The brighter 500 nits Retina display features True Tone technology to match white balance to ambient lighting, and the addition of a T2 chip provides further security with secure boot and on-the-fly encrypted storage, as well as hands-free "Hey Siri" commands.

The new MacBook Pro models are available now in Silver or Space Gray.

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