

Microsoft Refreshes Surface Lineup

Written by Alice Marshall
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Microsoft presents what it claims is "the broadest Surface lineup ever"-- one featuring revamped laptop and tablet offerings, as well as accessories and a dual-screen tablet, the Surface Neo.



Available in 13.5- and 15-inch options with new colours and finishes, the Surface Laptop 3 ships with either a 10th gen Intel Core processor or, in case of the 15-inch model, the AMD Ryzen Surface Edition processor. The result of a co-engineering effort between Microsoft and AMD, the processor promises the "fastest graphics performance" of any 15-inch laptop.

In further details, the Surface Laptop 3 features a full-size keyboard with 1.33mm key travel with the choice of either Alcantara fabric or an aluminium all-metal finish. The trackpad is 20% larger, while connectivity comes through both USB-A and USB-C ports. Microsoft says conferencing is also catered for, since the laptop features improved front-facing cameras, OmniSonic speakers and dual far-field studio microphones.

On the tablet side Microsoft has a pair of Surface products-- the Pro 7 or Pro X. The Pro 7 carries a 10th gen Intel Core processor, USB-A and USB-C ports and the promise of all-day battery life. Meanwhile the Pro X runs on the Microsoft SQ1, a processor co-created with Qualcomm offering 2 teraflops of graphics processing power, as well as a 13-inch edge-to-edge display inside the chassis of a 12-inch device.

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Microsoft also has an interesting take on the dual-screen tablet with the Surface Neo. Featuring dual 9-inch displays held together by a 360-degree full-friction hinge, it promises a "true PC" experience with a removable keyboard and Windows 10X, an "expression" of Windows 10 optimised for dual-screen use.

As for accessories, the Windows has a full suite. The Surface Earbuds look to rival the likes of the Apple AirPods and Samsung Galaxy Buds, with touch and voice controls, Omnisonic sound and Spotify compatibility. More typical peripherals are also available, such as the Ergonomic Keyboard and Mouse, a compact Bluetooth Keyboard and Mouse duo, keyboard tablet covers and a slim Surface Pen stylus.

All the above mentioned Microsoft products should ship by November 2019. The exception is the Surface Neo, which is set to be available in more than a year, specifically on the 2020 holiday season.

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