

# Best Laptops Under \$600

## Intro

Laptop shopping is difficult for many and stressful for others. That's crazy to me; I love computers and browsing for good deals. The different parts all combine to make different laptops for different people. Having specialized or general machines is a great industry trend that I hope continues.

But it seems that a lot of people are more confused by all the specifications than helped. They end up thinking that they need to spend a fortune just to get an over-rigged laptop that doesn't even help them with what they need. Instead, let's take a look at a series of great laptops that have varying stats and attributes; this way we can have a laptop for every kind of buyer. Even better: we can do this for under \$600!

Don't believe me yet? Take a look at the comparison chart below. After that, let's break down each laptop and see how they tick. Don't worry, I'll explain all the terminology and help you find the right laptop.

## Comparison Table

Laptop	RAM	Processor Speed	Resolution	Hard Drive Space
Lenovo 2019 HD Laptop Computer	8 GB	AMD A6-9225 Processor, 2.6 Ghz	1366x768	1 TB
HP High Performance Touchscreen Laptop	8 GB	Intel i3-7100u Dual-Core, 2.4 Ghz	1366x768	1 TB
ASUS C302CA-DHM4 Chromebook	4 GB	Intel Core m3, 2.2 Gh	1920x1080	64 GB Flash
Lenovo IdeaPad 330 HD Business Laptop	8 GB	Intel Dual-Core i3-8130U, 3.4 Ghz	1366x768	1 TB
HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop	8GB	Intel i3-7100U, 2.4 Ghz	1366x768	1 TB
Dell Inspiron 15 5000 Touchscreen Laptop	12 GB	Intel Quad-Core i5-8250U, 3.4 Ghz	1920x1080	1 TB
Dell Inspiron Flagship 15 3000 Laptop	8 GB	AMD Dual-Core A6, 2.8 Ghz	1366x768	1 TB
2019 HP Laptop Notebook Computer	8 GB	Intel Core i5-7200U, 3.1 Ghz	1600x900	1 TB
HP Premium Pavilion 2019 Intel Touchscreen Laptop	8 GB	Intel Core i5-8250U, 3.4 Ghz	1920x1080	1 TB

HP Premium Pavilion 2019 AMD A9-9425 Touchscreen Laptop	8 GB	AMD A9-9425, 3.7 Ghz	1600x900	1 TB
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## Product Reviews

### Lenovo 2019 HD Laptop Computer

[https://www.amazon.com/Lenovo-Computer-A6-9225-802-11ac-Bluetooth/dp/B07GYSFZLZ/ref=sr\\_1\\_15?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-15](https://www.amazon.com/Lenovo-Computer-A6-9225-802-11ac-Bluetooth/dp/B07GYSFZLZ/ref=sr_1_15?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-15)

Features:

- AMD Processor
- Bluetooth
- Nice Keyboard

Let's kick things off with a great machine from Lenovo. It's got a pretty good suite of specifications: 2.6 Ghz with a nice AMD processor, 1 TB hard drive space and the standard 8 GB of RAM. The Lenovo 2019 HD Laptop Computer has additional Bluetooth functionality, which is good for certain attachments like keyboards or mice. The screen is 15.6 inches big, so not so large as to be unwieldy or make the machine heavier than necessary.

### My Impression

This is a good all-rounder that makes a good benchmark for the rest of our list. The Lenovo 2019 HD Laptop Computer is a great rig well under our price limit that I'd choose if I wanted to spend some of my budget on accessories or software. It's a good option for a family computer or something that doesn't need too much power, space, or resolution. Essentially one of our jack-of-all-trades.

### What Could be Better

However, this lack of focus means that if you're after a laptop for a specific purpose, you'll find that the Lenovo 2019 HD Laptop Computer is overshadowed by a more specialized laptop like some of the other options down below. Whether or not this is a real flaw depends on the buyer.

### HP High Performance Touch Screen Laptop

[https://www.amazon.com/HP-Performance-Touchscreen-Dual-Core-Processor/dp/B01MYT98MS/ref=sr\\_1\\_14?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-14](https://www.amazon.com/HP-Performance-Touchscreen-Dual-Core-Processor/dp/B01MYT98MS/ref=sr_1_14?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-14)

Features:

- Intel Processor
- Touch Screen
- Bluetooth

The first of our touch-screen laptops that serves much the same purpose as the Lenovo above. The HP High Performance Touch Screen Laptop runs on an Intel processor, so that might be enough to sway loyalists who are looking for an Intel machine. This laptop has average processor speed and decent storage space, as well as the usual amount of RAM at 8 GB.

### **My Impression**

The touch screen is the selling factor for this all-rounder. From my experience, HP does a great job with touch screen functionality, and the High Performance Touch Screen Laptop is a joy to use. It's not specialized for any particular purpose. This is a good machine for doing power points or artistic projects on thanks to the added tactile capabilities offered by the touch screen. It comes with Bluetooth functionality, as well.

### **What Could be Better**

Despite being Intel, its processor is a little weaker than a lot of the other laptops we'll get to. The biggest advantage for this machine is its touchscreen, and if you're not in the market for that specifically you'll want to move on.

### **ASUS C302CA-DHM4 Chromebook- Best for Students**

[https://www.amazon.com/C302CA-DHM4-Chromebook-12-5-inch-Touchscreen-Convertible/dp/B01N5G5PG2/ref=sr\\_1\\_20?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-20](https://www.amazon.com/C302CA-DHM4-Chromebook-12-5-inch-Touchscreen-Convertible/dp/B01N5G5PG2/ref=sr_1_20?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840312&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-20)

Features:

- Can switch from laptop to tablet
- Great Resolution
- No DVD Drive

We included a Chromebook in our list because the sleek, minimal design is the perfect fit for some people, such as students or those who use a laptop primarily for work and collaboration. As such its storage space is very lacking, although this can be supplemented with an external drive. The ASUS C302CA-DHM4 Chromebook is convertible and its screen is reinforced with gorilla glass. The resolution is fantastic, at 1920x1080 pixels.

### **My Impression**

The ASUS C302CA-DHM4 Chromebook is one of the best laptops for a student or someone always on the go. The transformative capabilities of the Chromebook is great for presentation or creative think-tanking. It runs with great processing speed for a device of this size, at 2.2 Ghz. Ultimately I really like it; it knows its strengths and sticks with them.

### **What Could be Better**

The ASUS C302CA-DHM4 Chromebook suffers from the same flaws all the others do: it has no DVD drive and the power it does offer is unsuited for higher-intensity programs like AutoCad. This is not a workhorse laptop by any means, and if it had a little more processing power behind its screen it would get higher marks.

## Lenovo Ideapad 330 HD Business Laptop- Best for Business

[https://www.amazon.com/Lenovo-Business-Dual-Core-i3-8130U-Bluetooth/dp/B07FZZRG2M/ref=sr\\_1\\_19?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-19](https://www.amazon.com/Lenovo-Business-Dual-Core-i3-8130U-Bluetooth/dp/B07FZZRG2M/ref=sr_1_19?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-19)

Features:

- Intel Processor
- Very Light
- Bluetooth

This Bluetooth-capable laptop is a light, sleek machine capable of pulling in a fantastic 3.4 Ghz in processing power. The Lenovo Ideapad 330 HD Business Laptop has the standard RAM and resolution and is one of the more powerful laptops on our list. This is a great machine for playing a lot of the games on the market, especially since it manages its processing power with a dual-core setup instead of quad-core.

### My Impression

I would use the Lenovo Ideapad 330 HD Business Laptop for gaming or for running rendering programs. A lot of the Adobe suite would work just fine here. It's also light enough that I wouldn't worry about lugging it around or taking it to work. Some laptops with good processors tend to be heavy, but this one strikes a nice balance that I really appreciate.

### What Could be Better

Honestly, the Lenovo Ideapad 330 HD Business Laptop has very few flaws. I think more RAM, perhaps around the 12GB range, would compliment its higher processor and allow it run even more intensive programs. But then, the price might be higher than \$600, so for the asking price I think what you get in the box is more than fair.

## HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop

[https://www.amazon.com/HP-Flagship-Pavilion-i3-7100U-Bluetooth/dp/B07KNFW5NJ/ref=sr\\_1\\_29?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-29](https://www.amazon.com/HP-Flagship-Pavilion-i3-7100U-Bluetooth/dp/B07KNFW5NJ/ref=sr_1_29?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-29)

Features:

- Small Screen
- Bluetooth
- Intel Processor

The HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop offers a 2.2 Ghz processor and average RAM and resolution. It does have Bluetooth functionality and 1 TB of hard drive space. However, its screen is a little small at 14 inches, compared to the industry standard of 15.6 or higher. The weight is nothing special, either.

### My Impression

The HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop is ultimately a bit underwhelming. It doesn't have across-the-board stats like the first two laptops we reviewed to make it a good jack-of-all-trades, but it doesn't excel at anything either. The fact that it's one of the higher-priced laptops on our list only worsens the sense that I'm left wanting more from the HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop.

### **What Could be Better**

A lot. The processor could use a little more power and the screen tradeoff isn't worth it since this laptop isn't particularly light. I also think that the design of the HP 2019 Pavilion Flagship Laptop is lacking. It's very plain and boring to look at.

### **Dell Inspiron 15 5000 Touchscreen Laptop- Best Overall**

[https://www.amazon.com/Dell-Inspiron-5000-15-6-inch-Touchscreen/dp/B07DMJGV9W/ref=sr\\_1\\_33?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-33](https://www.amazon.com/Dell-Inspiron-5000-15-6-inch-Touchscreen/dp/B07DMJGV9W/ref=sr_1_33?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-33)

Features:

- Intel Processor
- DVD Writer included
- Great Resolution

We finally return to laptops with touch screens with one of Dell's offerings. The Dell Inspiron 15 5000 Touchscreen Laptop is Bluetooth-compatible and is built with the best RAM on our list, at 12 GB! The Intel processor clocks in at 3.4 Ghz to match. As if that wasn't enough, the resolution here matches the earlier Chromebook's 1920x1080. To top it off, this laptop comes with a DVD writer, baked in.

### **My Impression**

Probably the best laptop on our list. The Dell Inspiron 15 5000 Touchscreen Laptop does everything very well; it has the power and efficiency to play games and run intense programs. Its screen looks amazing with the high resolution. The fact that it's touchscreen makes it an utter joy to play around with. And the DVD writer is a great addition that adds another function to this already-versatile machine.

### **What Could be Better**

This is, of course, one of the most expensive laptops on our list. This makes the Dell Inspiron 15 5000 Touchscreen Laptop a hard bargain for some, especially if you need to buy software or other accessories to go along with it. But I think that it's worth the price, in the end. You're getting a great deal for a very impressive laptop.

### **Dell Inspiron Flagship 15 3000 Laptop- Best for Heavy-Duty Work**

[https://www.amazon.com/Dell-Premium-Flagship-Inspiron-Bluetooth/dp/B07J1CFJWL/ref=sr\\_1\\_34?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-34](https://www.amazon.com/Dell-Premium-Flagship-Inspiron-Bluetooth/dp/B07J1CFJWL/ref=sr_1_34?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-34)

Features:

- AMD Processor

- Choose between storage or DVD Drive
- Somewhat heavy

The Dell Inspiron Flagship 15 3000 Laptop is running on an AMD processor that gets up to 2.8 Ghz. It has 1 TB of storage space and 8 GB of RAM. It's somewhat heavy and offers a standard 15.6 inch screen. Overall, this is a functional laptop designed for moderate-to-high power and playing DVDs.

### **My Impression**

The AMD Dual-Core processor does more work than you might initially think at 2.8 Ghz, but I found that the Dell Inspiron Flagship 15 3000 Laptop was able to handle games or some of Adobe's more-intense programs with ease. It doesn't have a lot in the way of flare or big selling points, but it gets the job done. It feels very sturdy; it might see good use in a work environment or for someone traveling. You can also choose between more storage space or a DVD drive. More options for the buyer is always better.

### **What Could be Better**

The price is right around what I'd expect for a laptop like this. I think adding a bigger screen or making it lighter would make the entire package more of a deal, since right now both of those features are extremely average and unimpressive.

### **2019 HP Laptop Notebook Computer**

[https://www.amazon.com/HP-Notebook-Computer-i5-7200U-Bluetooth/dp/B07KFWB8YX/ref=sr\\_1\\_35?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p\\_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-35](https://www.amazon.com/HP-Notebook-Computer-i5-7200U-Bluetooth/dp/B07KFWB8YX/ref=sr_1_35?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840339&refinements=p_72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-35)

Features:

- Higher Resolution
- Big screen
- Bulky and tough

This baby comes with a built-in webcam to go with its Bluetooth sensor. The 2019 HP Laptop Notebook Computer has higher-than-standard resolution at 1600x900 pixels and great processing power at 3.1 Ghz. This laptop has a huge screen at 17.3 inches, and it makes up for that in weight and price. This is one of the heavier and bulkier laptops on our list.

### **My Impression**

This is definitely the pick for laptops that need to travel and showcase visuals. I'm thinking this would be great for presentations or watching movies while on the go, although the Chromebook can do that with weight to spare. But the HP Laptop Notebook Computer has more bang for the buck in terms of processor power, so you can play games with the large screen at pretty good resolution, too.

### **What Could be Better**

It's so big that it could be a drawback for a lot of potential buyers. I think the screen would be more of a selling point and less of a trade-off if the 2019 HP Laptop Notebook Computer was lighter, although it won't bother many who will probably be looking for a larger screen no matter what.

## HP Premium Pavilion 2019 Intel Touchscreen Laptop- Best for Movies

[https://www.amazon.com/HP-Pavilion-Touchscreen-i5-8250U-Bluetooth/dp/B07CKRMZQT/ref=sr\\_1\\_34\\_sspa?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840379&refinements=p72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-34-spons&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/HP-Pavilion-Touchscreen-i5-8250U-Bluetooth/dp/B07CKRMZQT/ref=sr_1_34_sspa?keywords=laptop&qid=1547840379&refinements=p72%3A2661618011&rnid=2661617011&sr=8-34-spons&psc=1)

Features:

- Webcam
- Intel Processor
- Touchscreen

Another touchscreen on our list, the HP Premium Pavilion 2019 Intel Touchscreen Laptop offers a built-in webcam to go with its touchscreen functionality. Its processing power and RAM go together to give you great efficiency and widen your program options. The resolution is one of our best at 1920x1080 pixels. To top it off, it accomplishes this with a sleek look and lighter-than-you'd-think weight.

### My Impression

It's a great laptop for college or for the workspace. That the touchscreen doesn't appear to harm any of the other features it a bonus. I'm personally against built-in webcams thanks to stories of hackers getting into your laptop and using them against you, but maybe that's just me. I really like the resolution on the HP Premium Pavilion 2019 Intel Touchscreen Laptop; it makes the touch screen more fun to use.

### What Could be Better

The price is pretty high, and there's no doubt that much of it comes from the touchscreen. It's hard to tell if the trade-off is really worth it, but if you need something like the Dell 15 5000 that's a bit cheaper, this might be a good compromise.

## HP Premium Pavilion 2019 AMD A9-9425 Touchscreen Laptop- Best for Gaming

[https://www.amazon.com/HP-Premium-Pavilion-Touchscreen-Bluetooth/dp/B07L5YX49N/ref=pd\\_day0\\_hl\\_147\\_6?encoding=UTF8&pd\\_rd\\_i=B07L5YX49N&pd\\_rd\\_r=d67c40a2-1b58-11e9-a511-a7670696f4e6&pd\\_rd\\_w=ULklh&pd\\_rd\\_wg=uvS5p&pf\\_rd\\_p=ad07871c-e646-4161-82c7-5ed0d4c85b07&pf\\_rd\\_r=E30HQ1DTDTSY9V8QPZJB&psc=1&refRID=E30HQ1DTDTSY9V8QPZJB](https://www.amazon.com/HP-Premium-Pavilion-Touchscreen-Bluetooth/dp/B07L5YX49N/ref=pd_day0_hl_147_6?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=B07L5YX49N&pd_rd_r=d67c40a2-1b58-11e9-a511-a7670696f4e6&pd_rd_w=ULklh&pd_rd_wg=uvS5p&pf_rd_p=ad07871c-e646-4161-82c7-5ed0d4c85b07&pf_rd_r=E30HQ1DTDTSY9V8QPZJB&psc=1&refRID=E30HQ1DTDTSY9V8QPZJB)

Features:

- Touchscreen
- AMD Processor
- Large Screen, Higher resolution

Here, the HP Premium Pavilion 2019 AMD A6-9425 Touchscreen Laptop gives us the best processing power on our list: 3.7 Ghz! This makes it a top contender for laptops for gaming or running high-intensity rendering programs. It's got a massive 17.3 inch screen for swiping your finger across; this is a good thing, since small screens can be problematic for touching if you can't see what you're trying to click!

## My Impression

The screen is fantastic and definitely the selling point. It offers great resolution at 1600x900 pixels. I think this is probably the best laptop on our list for gaming, thanks to its high power and excellent screen for displaying the action. However, it is a bit heavy, so carting it to the café or your friends house might warrant a bag.

## What Could be Better

The price is quite reasonable for what you're getting, but what I wish for instead would be a slightly higher price in exchange for a lighter laptop. In addition, the speakers are only *okay*, which is a bummer since video games rely on sound quality in the midst of action. You might want to invest in better speakers if that's what you're shopping for.

## Buying Guide

Computer terminology turns a lot of people off from investigating their laptop's specs, trusting the box or the salesman to make the choice for them. This is a mistake! Understanding what makes a computer tick is far from impossible, and once you've got the basics down you can find the specific laptop that works the best for you.

Not all laptops are the same, and few of them measure up to the same tasks. In fact, you could easily end up paying more than you need if you're not careful. Stick with me and let's take a crash course in computer specs.

**RAM:** This stands for Random Access Memory. Think of it as a computer's intuitive, reflexive memory. It helps the computer complete tasks more quickly, since it doesn't need to reach into its hard drive for the information. More of this is always better, but higher RAM costs more and is really only necessary for gaming or the most intense of rendering programs.

**Processor:** These come from two manufacturers: Intel and AMD. The differences are argued about all over the internet, but unless you're a diehard loyalist you just need to pay attention to maximum Ghz. This is a measurement of the computer's speed in calculation. The higher this is, the better your laptop will be at multitasking and running complicated programs.

**Resolution:** This is the same as in cameras or TVs. It measures how clear the picture is, and more is always better. Keep in mind larger screens often need higher resolution to present a good image.

**Hard Drive Space:** This shows how much your computer can have stored or installed at once. In general, pictures and video take up a lot of space. If you plan on putting a bunch of media on your laptop, prioritize this.

**Accessories/Extra Features:** These are things like Bluetooth capability, webcams, etc. Most laptops come with Bluetooth, but not all. Many laptops also come with DVD-drives, which is great for gaming or watching movies. These are nice to have and they might be a thing on your list, so keep an eye out to see if the laptop with good specs also has the right accessories. These usually don't increase the overall price too much.

See, that wasn't so complicated!

Break down your needs into these general categories and start hunting. You don't need to pay for a big screen, for instance, if you're going to use the laptop for work or more basic operations, or if you're going to take it to school. In fact, you probably want a lighter laptop in that case.

Or let's say you want to game. Aim for a laptop that offers a high RAM and processor speed combination. A bigger screen can't hurt, since that makes the images you're seeing all the better and enhances the experience. However, keep in mind that bigger screens usually increase the price in tandem with the laptop weight.

Something like a Chromebook is great for work, school or for collaborating with others. It's not designed for gaming or heavy-duty tasks, however, and it doesn't come with a DVD drive. That's a common mistake first-time laptop-buyers often make.

So you can see that all of those qualifiers on the back of the laptop box are there to help you, not hinder you. Read them carefully, check the prices, and go with the laptop that best fulfills your criteria!

## Conclusion

Shopping for laptops can be fun, especially when you compare the myriad machines and look at all the ways they compete. You don't need to break the bank or go with the laptop that has the most bells-and-whistles; that's a surefire way to waste money on perks that you will never use. On the other hand, there's nothing better than selecting the perfect laptop and turning it on for the first time. Now, you can have that same experience knowing that you've grabbed the right kind. And all for lower than \$600!