

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Buying a refurb laptop from Ebay](#)

bevc - October 22, 2022, 6:34 am

Good idea or no? I want to buy a cheap laptop to beat up on, probably something with a fair amount of RAM (might want to run virtual machines and/or a chunky application or two), but don't need a lot of storage. I won't be using it for gaming or anything like that, what I'm actually hoping to use it for is to study for the ccna.

I'm thinking a refurb is the way to go rather than buying new, but I don't know what to look out for (beyond a seller's ebay rating), or whether it's a good idea. Any thoughts?

Thanks.

skull - October 22, 2022, 6:38 am

Why laptop then? You can get more juice in a stationary

bevc - October 22, 2022, 6:44 am

(Oct 22, 2022 06:38 AM)skull Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Why laptop then? You can get more juice in a stationary I might need to carry it around with me.

webdev77 - October 22, 2022, 8:10 am

Nothing wrong with most refurbs other than battery life being garbage. But that's pretty true of most laptops anyways.

bevc - October 22, 2022, 8:23 am

(Oct 22, 2022 08:10 AM)webdev77 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nothing wrong with most refurbs other than battery life being garbage. But that's pretty true of most laptops anyways.

So you think just get any old refurb with some decent RAM, and replace the battery? I don't think I need to be too worried about battery life for my purposes, not that I can think anyways.

webdev77 - October 22, 2022, 8:24 am

(Oct 22, 2022 08:23 AM)bevc Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So you think just get any old refurb with some decent RAM, and replace the battery? I don't think I need to be too worried about battery life for my purposes, not that I can think anyways.

Pretty much. Remember you still get what you pay for. If you buy junk, you get junk. If you get something fairly premium, it'll be reflected. Finding something with a good SSD is probably your most important spec as that'll be most apparent in perceived performance.

Pentatonix - October 22, 2022, 2:12 pm

What budget are you looking at? Newegg and Amazon both have pretty decent sections for renewed devices.

Charlie Sheen - October 22, 2022, 6:29 pm

(Oct 22, 2022 06:34 AM)bevc Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good idea or no? I want to buy a cheap laptop to beat up on, probably something with a fair amount of RAM (might want to run virtual machines and/or a chunky application or two), but don't need a lot of storage. I won't be using it for gaming or anything like that, what I'm actually hoping to use it for is to study for the ccna.

I'm thinking a refurb is the way to go rather than buying new, but I don't know what to look out for (beyond a seller's ebay rating), or whether it's a good idea. Any thoughts?

Thanks.

I'd look on Newegg, Amazon, Walmart or Best Buy. I would not buy one from eBay. All the others have great deals on renewed.

Velma - October 22, 2022, 6:47 pm

Nothing wrong with a refurbished laptop, good for saving money, but I would not trust the storage device on that it being HDD or SSD, Once you get it dash the HDD in the bin and buy a good solid one with the money that you saved.

bevc - October 23, 2022, 12:15 am

(Oct 22, 2022 02:12 PM)Pentatonix Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What budget are you looking at? Newegg and Amazon both have pretty decent sections for renewed devices.

I was wondering myself about budget, I don't want to spend a lot because I already have a couple of decent machines, this is more a 'beater' kinda device, but I don't want to buy something, then find it won't run packet tracer properly because I didn't spend the extra \$40, or whatever.

(Oct 22, 2022 06:29 PM)Charlie Sheen Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'd look on Newegg, Amazon, Walmart or Best Buy. I would not buy one from eBay. All the others have great deals on renewed.

I'm not in the US so can't do Walmart or Best Buy I don't think, and I like newegg but some of the shipping costs are outrageous - I didn't know they did refurbs though, have to check that out.

(Oct 22, 2022 06:47 PM)Velma Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nothing wrong with a refurbished laptop, good for saving money, but I would not trust the storage device on that it being HDD or SSD, Once you get it dash the HDD in the bin and buy a good solid one with the money that you saved.

Interesting, thanks. I was thinking of doing some speccing myself anyway, put new RAM sticks in and that kind of thing, if it's cheaper to do that.

bevc - October 23, 2022, 12:42 pm

(Oct 23, 2022 12:18 PM)phantomman55 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) why do you need it for the CCNA exam?

I don't really need it. I want it. I find it helpful to compartmentalise my mind - so I have my work machine, and I have my study machine. If I'm going to be futzing around with odd programs, command line stuff, virtual machines etc, I don't want to do it on my daddy-big-balls-poppa-bear computer.

Deany - October 23, 2022, 12:44 pm

Are you in US? I have 2 spare Thinkpad T480's that I'm trying to get rid. Will let them go pretty cheap, convo me for more info etc.

bevc - October 23, 2022, 12:45 pm

(Oct 23, 2022 12:44 PM)Deany Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Are you in US? I have 2 spare Thinkpad T480's that I'm trying to get rid. Will let them go pretty cheap, convo me for more info etc.

I'm not in the US - thanks though.

Deany - October 23, 2022, 12:48 pm

Ok well I'd recommend a Thinkpad T480. Good bang for your buck if you can find it for about \$250-260 shipped.

bevc - October 23, 2022, 12:50 pm

(Oct 23, 2022 12:46 PM)phantomman55 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) who's daddy-big-balls-poppa-bear computer? Why can't you use your work computer? You can get a refurb but I would think it's a waste of

money because it might work and might not work. You can easily waste money. Long term it's cheaper to buy new.

That's just my opinion. Either buy new or used. I have had bad experiences with refurbs.

Thanks dude, that's kinda what I'm asking - whether refurbs are actually worth it, or you're better off just buying new.

Blame - *October 28, 2022, 2:51 pm*

Good idea. 100%. Go for it man.

pwnedcrypto - *October 28, 2022, 6:20 pm*

I purchased a refurbished T440s with 8GB of RAM and a 256GB SSD. Loaded it with Linux and it works flawless. Just search around on eBay for deals and you should come across something.

LeetSpeed - *October 29, 2022, 12:50 pm*

Sure why not? I used to sell off lease laptops on ebay.

TB12GOAT - *October 30, 2022, 3:05 am*

Just do your research and ask for more pics/info before purchasing.

Cooligan - *October 30, 2022, 5:18 pm*

Good idea? Uhh, not sure if buying any type of tech (especially expensive) from eBay might be the best idea, but I mean at the same time there are definitely some real solid deals out there from honest people.

In a way it's almost one of those "in the moment gut feeling" type of decisions.