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Congratulations, it's a Tablet!

Whether you're just curious about tablets or thinking about replacing an aging computer there is many reasons to consider a tablet for your next technology purchase. The tablet has its roots in the personal digital assistant. Tablets have come a long way since then, with the first potential computer replacements coming out in the early 2000s. Read more about the history of tablets on businessinsider.com.

Users' needs vary. Some people may very well be able to use a tablet for all of their Internet access, emailing, social media, and even some business needs. Popular software for bookkeeping, graphic design, photo editing, and more is now available in online versions or as apps for mobile devices. Even if you decide to upgrade your desktop or laptop you may enjoy having a tablet as well. Below are a few reasons to consider using a tablet for your computing needs.

Convenience. You simply can't beat the portability and convenience of a tablet over a laptop. The battery life on most tablets is longer than that of a traditional laptop. Having a touch screen makes navigating the Internet quick and easy. The screen only design makes a tablet's profile smaller than any laptop making it more convenient to take with you on the go.

Mobile first. The Internet is moving towards putting the mobile experience first. That means websites are now specifically designed with smaller touch screens on tablets and smart phones

in mind. In many cases it's not necessary to have a full computer in order to complete various tasks.

Robust apps. We've all heard Apple's tagline- There's an app for that™. And it's true. There is an app for almost every task the typical person could want to perform on a computing device. Apps is short for applications which is a trendy way of saying software that runs on mobile devices. Even feature rich products like Microsoft Office or Adobe Creative Cloud are available as apps that run on many tablets.

Keyboard. The humble keyboard maybe one potential drawback for many potential tablet owners. All tablets feature a soft keyboard that pops up on the screen as needed. Some soft keyboards are better than others. The native Apple soft keyboard is hard to beat with its layout, key size, and input accuracy. However, the native Android keyboard is not too shabby either. If a physical keyboard more suits your fancy many tablets have the ability to add one on via wireless Bluetooth connectivity. Microsoft even offers their Surface line of tablets with a detachable keyboard.

Whether you're considering a top of the line Apple iPad, for over a grand, or the entry level Kindle Fire, for under 50 bucks, a tablet may very well be a viable option for your next personal computing device. There is pros and cons to each model, brand, and operating system so be sure to do your homework and decide what works best for you before heading to the store or online to make your purchase. Read more about tablets vs laptops on lifewire.com.

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