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Acer chromebook 15 charger

I made it no secret that I'm not a fan of ARM-powered Chromebooks. With low performance and battery life, ARM chromebooks from different manufacturers have never lived up to what Intel-powered models have to offer. Acer and NVIDIA have teamed up to challenge this bias with Chromebook 13 - Acer's fourth distinct Chromebook model and the first in its class to run the new Tegra K1 processor. But this machine is not just about the processor. The Acer Chromebook 13 also offers an elegant design, a good trackpad and several different models with wallet-friendly prices that also represent pretty solid value. Read along to my full review of how I break down the details of Acer Chromebook 13 and how it fares versus competitors. Acer is known for simple and utilitarian laptops rather than flashy and extravagant, and the Chromebook 13 fits right into this mantra. Unlike its previous generation cousin, the C720, the Chromebook 13 is flat, thin and rather basic in appearance. While the C720 had different textures and colors of plastic, the Chromebook 13 is made entirely of hard, semi-gleaming white plastic - the only two exceptions are the screen frame and the bottom, which are slightly more structured. It's shaped into a thin form factor that really tries to show how thin it is with an elevated screen hinge and a small port area on the sides. But this is not just an illusion - the Chromebook 13 is relatively thin at just 0.7 inches (17.78 mm) across the device. That's thanks to the Tegra K1 processor, which doesn't need a fan system and a series of just a handful of ports around the edges. Speaking of which, you get a standard Chromebook layout, with two USB 3.0 ports, an HDMI port, a headphone/microphone jack, an SDcard slot and a power port. One of the USB ports and hdmi connector are somewhat awkwardly placed on the back edge of the laptop, so you get around the computer to use them. In smart design, Acer inserted two LEDs into the top of the hinge to determine whether the device is charged and on. For how sleek and thin the Chromebook 13 is is not particularly light at £3.31 in total, putting on the wrong side of the fence what I consider a heavy 13-inch laptop nowadays. It's actually quite dense because of its minimal thickness, which means it feels solid, but also a tad heavy compared to other machines with more concentrated weight distribution. It never became a problem with me, but I definitely noticed it in my bag more than with an Air macbook. I quite like the design, because it really does not follow the standard cheap look of the Chromebook. It looks and feels just a little more premium than the price without trying to go overboard with shiny plastic paneling, flashy patterns or unnecessary colors. The fact that it only comes in white may be a problem for some, but it didn't bother me at all. After about two weeks of use, I noticed small ad adches that appeared even on the shiny white exterior. On the inside standout spec is the processor, because this is the first Chromebook with NVIDIA Tegra K1 inside. This processor, last featured in Shield Tablet, offers some serious performance that relies more on traditional laptop processors than those found in many phones and tablets. It is backed up with 2GB or 4GB of RAM and 16GB or 32GB of storage, depending on the model you choose. Category Features Display 13.3-inch 1920x1080 or 1366x768 Active Matrix TFT Color LCD (depending on the model) NVIDIA Tegra K1 quad-core processor at 2.1GHz Memory 4 GB or 2GB DDR3L (depending on the model) Storage 16GB or 32GB (depending on the model)SDcard expandable camera HD webcam Connection 802.11ac Wifi, Bluetooth 4.0USB 3.0, HDMI, headphones / microphone Software Chrome OS Battery 3220mAh 4-cell lithium Ion11 clock average use Dimensions 0.7 x 12.9 x 9 inches Weight 3.31 pounds Total there are four different models of Chromebook 13 to choose from. At the basic level, you're looking at \$279 for a 1366x768 screen resolution model, 2GB of RAM and 16GB of storage. Bump to \$299 and you get the same specs, but a resolution of 1920x1080 (the one I'm reviewing here) or 4GB of RAM and a basic display of 1366x768. At the top end, you can spend \$379 on 4GB of RAM, 32GB of storage and a 1920x1080 display. The display and speakers I have a bit of sound like a broken record at this point going on and on about the Chromebook display, but again one of the main brickbats I have with the Acer Chromebook 13 is how bad its display is. Again, we are looking at the manufacturer who put a 1080p display in the laptop to get it on the spec sheet, but went with a significantly lower type of TFT panel. Whether you know the technical differences between TFT and IPS or not, delta is clear - TFT panels have poor viewing angles, grainy visual clarity at every brightness level and lower contrast. Using a 13-inch laptop as most people have a full resolution 1920x1080 means nothing if the display features are otherwise terrible. I'd much rather see the Acer include an IPS display at 1600x900 or even a 1366x768 as a top-end model - even if it meant the price of the laptop was bumped up by \$50 across the board. Unlike the rather terrible display, chromebook 13 speakers are the highlight. They are louder than you would expect from a pair of speakers that are on the underside of the laptop, and just deform at the absolute highest level. They're not loud enough to support a dance party, as I like to say, but they're more than loud enough for a one-person podcast or listening to music, or even watching movies with a friend. Acer has equipped the Chromebook 13 with the same basic keyboard as the C720 with black textured keys in the standard Chrome OS layout. The keyboard felt a little the cheaper side unlike the rest of the machine, though, because a few keys are loose and unbalanced only slightly, recalls that you spent only \$299 on chromebook 13. Smooth black stickers indicating key functions clearly protrud from textured keys (something you can't from-see once you notice) again repeats the price point. More: Buy Acer Chromebook 13 on Amazon (\$299) The Trackpad is one of the best I've used on a Chromebook. Acer really hit the perfect amount of smoothness and drag that makes one and double-finger gestures easy to perform, while offering a big palm and another finger rejection when you're working. The trackpad is just an average size - nowhere near anything like a 13-inch MacBook Air - but I find it offers more than enough space even for my big hands. The whole trackpad is clickable, and I never found that it only took the right amount of pressure to make withdrawals. Battery life Unlike previous members of the ARM Chromebook family, the Chromebook 13 actually lives up to its lofty expectations of battery life. Acer quotes 11 hours of life (13 hours on 1366x768 models) from this machine and I find it not hard to actually push this number. Taking your Chromebook 13 off the charger and opening up with some light work, I can easily see an estimated battery life of 11 or 12 hours. Higher screen brightness will significantly affect battery life, but that's something you'll need to balance depending on how long you'll be away from the power cord. With heavier use, including about 10 tabs open, Google Play music streaming, and 50 percent screen brightness, I could get somewhere between eight and nine hours of actual use from Chromebook 13. This is a whole day's work for most people, and it was more than enough to get me through a long session of my typical working day (including researching and writing this review) without having to worry about power. This heftily beats the battery life I experienced on the BayTrail-powered Asus C300, while offering comparable or better performance than this model. In my few weeks using Chromebook 13, I rarely opened it to see how much battery was left before leaving the house for the afternoon. Not once did I bring a power cord in my laptop bag with me, even when leaving for a day trip or weekend where my computing requirements weren't that hard. This is the first Chromebook I've used that never cares about battery life, and it's really impressive. The power cord, when you need it, is about as standard as they come. It's white plastic as well as a laptop, and has a standard large cable + power brick + slim cable layout. It's not nearly as elegant as ASUS or HP chargers, but I managed to do it. The tip that sticks to the laptop is a bit on the small side and is somewhat loose inside the port, but luckily you won't have to use a laptop with the charger often connected, and the real use of the Tegra K1 processor showed its ability to control Android tablets and single-line computers, but a full-fledged laptop with Chrome OS is a higher level of power consumption. As I mentioned above in the battery life section, the Chromebook 13 offers performance at par or slightly above what I get from basic Intel BayTrail Chromebooks with the same about RAM. Since both processors are (relatively) low performance and operate without fans, comparable performance seems appropriate. Chromecasting cards on the TV worked without a hitch, including streaming video to the full screen, as well as multitasking while listening to streaming music. This is pretty impressive for what would normally be considered a mobile device processor, and is essentially unheard of when it comes to ARM-powered CHROMEBOOKS. Of course, the performance of one card without background tasks was exactly where you want it to be. At one point where I found the Tegra K1 to be more powerful, it is in multi-tab browsing with several different features going on as I rarely saw the card crash or lock completely, as I did on the ASUS C300 Chromebook (again with 2GB of RAM in both machines). When rescheding or opening several tabs at once, the machine definitely slowed down, never getting to the point of freezing specific tabs - chromebook 13 just trembled and the process was done. If I had a choice of Chromebook 13 models to buy I would probably go with one that has 4GB of RAM in an attempt to give the processor some breathing space in multitasking situations. But even bumping into memory can't bring this Chromebook with the Tegra K1 up to par with the higher intel haswell celeron and core i3 models. For once, the performance offered on Chromebook 13 hopes arm chips are on track to be powerful enough for even the most demanding Chromebook apps of the future. But right now it's still a bit of a compromise - at least you're getting a great battery life as a compromise this time. Bottom line Acer did what I didn't think was possible - to keep a Chromebook with an ARM processor in it that I would actually want to use regularly. That's pretty much the performance given the heavy workload I expect to give my Chromebook, and the Acer Chromebook 13 actually does this while providing solid battery life at the same time. While it's on the wrong side of 3lbs and has a below average screen, the hardware experience as a whole is worthy of praise even for a laptop that could set you back for as little as \$279. I can say that the Acer Chromebook 13 has been pushed up to the top of the pile when it comes to Chromebooks with larger screens, provided you're ok with a slightly slower processor and heavier weight than some competitors. If you're going to be bothered by the screen, you should probably postpone buying your Chromebook completely until something with IPS comes along but if you're willing to take on a Chromebook 13 to know its flaws from the start, it will be a great choice for a good number of people out there. There.