



On Line With...

Haviland Telephone Company

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Haviland Telephone Company

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Mini-Laptops Are They Right For You?

Netbook. Mini-notebook. Laptot. The new compact laptops have many names to express their smaller size and tote-ability, but what is known about their practicality? Most reviews I've read online come down to the same basic pros and cons.

While they are not designed to be powerhouse computers, most mini-notebooks offer features you'd find in traditional laptops. These features include multiple USB 2.0 ports, Secure Digital (SD) card slots, Ethernet, Wi-Fi, microphone and headphone inputs, speakers and built-in webcams. On the downside, they lack optical drives, offer little in bundled software and do not have the Bluetooth capability. They are not recommended for image or video editing, but rather are best suited for e-mail, basic web browsing, word processing and spreadsheet work.

I recently tested out three 'laptots'; the Asus Eee PC, the Everex CloudBook and the Acer Aspire One. While all three were compact and lightweight, in my opinion only one of them went beyond that to prove to be a computer I would personally own.

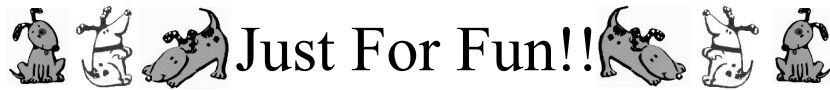
The Acer Aspire One was released in July 2008 and has quickly made a name for itself among mini-notebooks. It boasts a 6 hour 6-cell battery life and has an 8.9" LED display. The keyboard is one of the larger ones available on the mini's and it

comes in a variety of colors including sapphire blue and coral pink. As for actual performance the Aspire One connected to the internet quickly and browsing speeds were great. Video stream from www.youtube.com came in very clear and sound quality was exceptional. The touch mouse pad was by far the easiest of the three for me to use.

While the Everex CloudBook is a little smaller than the Acer One, it was not enough to win my favor. Video quality on this device was pretty good, although there was a slight hum over the sound. However, start-up was slow and the mouse pad defiantly takes time to get used to. It is a stamp size box located on the top right hand side of the keyboard portion of the device. The right- and left-click buttons are located on the top left hand side. These locations are supposed to make the CloudBook ideal for people on the go, who might want to browse the web while standing in lines or walking down the street. However, with handheld games and cell phones getting smaller every time we turn around, I find it hard to believe someone would actually want to walk around while trying to use this computer as a handheld web browser.

The Asus Eee PC is manufactured by Pegatron Technology. Its name is derived from and abbreviation of its

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Just For Fun!!

A dachshund was on safari in Africa when he became lost. Wandering about, he noticed a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the obvious intention of having him for lunch. The dachshund thought, "I'm in deep trouble now!" Then he noticed some bones on the ground close by, and immediately settled down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the leopard was about to leap, the dachshund exclaimed loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here."

Hearing this, the leopard halted his attack in mid-stride, as a look of terror came over him, and slinked away into the trees.

"Whew," said the leopard. "That was close. That dachshund nearly had me."

Meanwhile, a monkey, who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figured he could put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So, off he went. But the dachshund saw him heading after the leopard with great speed, and figured that something must be up.

The monkey soon caught up with the leopard, spilled the beans and struck a deal for himself with the leopard. The leopard was furious at being made a fool of and said, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine."

Now the dachshund saw the leopard coming with the monkey on his back, and thought, "What am I going to do now?" But instead of running, the dog sat down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hadn't seen them yet. And, just when they got close enough to hear, the dachshund said:

"Where's that monkey? I sent him off 1/2 an hour ago to bring me another leopard."

As a stranger entered a little country store, he noticed a sign warning: "Danger! Beware of dog!" posted on the glass door. Inside, he noticed a harmless old hound dog asleep on the floor beside the cash register.

"Is that the dog folks are supposed to beware of?" he asked the owner.

"Yep, that's him," came the reply.

The stranger couldn't help but be amused. "That certainly doesn't look like a dangerous dog to me. Why in the world would you post that sign?"

"Because," the owner explained, "Before I posted that sign, people kept tripping over him!"

A blind man walks into a store with his seeing-eye dog. All of a sudden, he picks up the leash and begins swinging the dog over his head. The manager runs up to the man and asks, "What are you doing?!" The blind man replied, "Just looking around."

One day after a nasty streak of bad weather, I asked my teen-aged son to take our dog out for a long walk after school. When I came home from work, I found my son stretched out on the recliner. He had the leash in hand while the dog trotted happily away on the treadmill.

Just a Reminder:

Bills are due on the 15th of each month. We pre-bill each month. This means the bill you receive around the first of January is for services for the month of January, with the exception of toll calls. Toll charges usually show up on your bill about 1 month behind.

Some 'Sites to See'

www.braingle.com - Brain Teasers

www.themovie spoiler.com - Movie Plots

www.hutehnews.com - Huteh News Online

www.customlabals4u.com - Personalized Items

Netbooks Continued...

advertising slogan 'the three Es': 'easy to learn, easy to work, easy to play'. I, however, did not find this device to be easy going. While it was the most compact of the three, it was also the slowest. I was not able to get online with it. I got irritated trying to open programs on it. My fingers were not dainty enough to type effectively on it. The Eee series was one response to the *One Laptop per Child* initiative, but with its slow speed I see it as more of a hindrance on learning than help.

Needless to say, my personal favorite of the three is the Acer Aspire One. I would recommend it to anyone who is looking for a smaller, travel-friendly laptop. The netbooks would also be ideal for anyone wanting a less expensive laptop for basic email and web browsing. You can find more information on these, and other netbooks, online. Simply type 'netbook' into any search engine and start shopping for your 'laptot' today!

Christmas Open House

The Haviland Telephone Company held a Christmas Open House Wednesday, December 3rd at its Haviland office. Coffee and Punch were served along with many delicious baked goods made by Beverly Whitney. Haviland Telephone Company would like to thank all of those who braved the weather to stop by and congratulate Vic Philpot and Karl Ballard. Vic won the drawing for the poinsettia give-away, while Karl won a Haviland Telephone traveling coffee mug.

DSL Services at Haviland Telephone

Basic DSL - 384k Speed - \$29.95/mo

Standard DSL - 6Meg Speed - \$49.95/mo

Premium DSL - 12Meg Speed - \$59.95/mo

These services are available with Haviland Telephone landline phone service. There are two one-time fees of \$49.50 for modem purchase and \$49.50 installation to get started. Also, each of these services come with a 1 year contract. If DSL is disconnected for any reason within the first 12 months, a \$99 early termination fee applies.

DSL w/o Phone - 6Meg Speed - \$69.95/mo

This service is available in our service area if you do not have or want a landline phone. There are two one-time fees of \$49.50 for modem purchase and \$49.50 installation to get started. Also, this service comes with a 1 year contract. If DSL is disconnected for any reason within the first 12 months, a \$292 early termination fee applies.