



Buying Refurbished Computers for Your Company

A Complete Guide for
Business Leaders



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Overview

Most business leaders know that refurbished computers offer significant savings over new machines. But even with the promise of reduced IT costs, many are hesitant to purchase refurbished machines because of uncertainty about their quality, performance, or a litany of other issues. Sometimes people do not buy just because they do not understand the process or the features available to them when they buy from a supplier focused on providing refurbished machines to businesses. This guide will give you the answers you are looking for and help you understand what you need to be looking for as you consider buying refurbished machines for your business.

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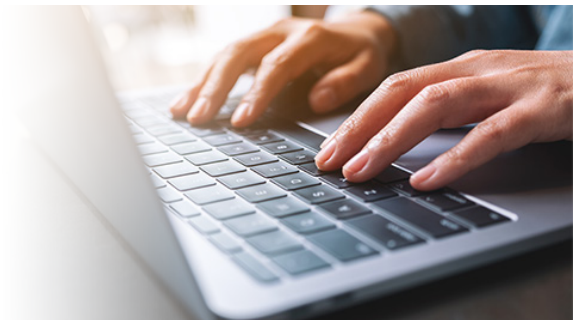


What About Quality?

It's the question on everyone's mind. Sure, the price is great, but am I going to end up buying a lemon that will not deliver the performance or reliability my team needs? You might be surprised to find that the opposite is very much true. Machines from a reputable refurbisher perform as well, or even better, than new machines.

Here's why, refurbished computers undergo a comprehensive refurbishment process that includes thorough testing and repairs, ensuring that any hardware or software issues are resolved. This meticulous examination helps identify and replace faulty components. This is even more attention to detail than a new machine, making the refurbished system at least as reliable as a new one. Moreover, reputable refurbishers often provide warranty coverage for their refurbished products.

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In addition, refurbished computers are often sourced from reputable manufacturers or reliable sources, such as businesses or organizations that upgrade their IT infrastructure regularly. These sources ensure that the computers being refurbished are of excellent quality and have been well-maintained during their previous use. Some refurbishers specialize in business-class computers (see below) which are designed to be more rugged and higher performing than consumer-class machines. As a result, refurbished business-class computers add an extra degree of reliability.

Finally, the refurbishment process itself can add an extra layer of reliability to the computers. During refurbishment, the computers are cleaned, inspected, and repaired if necessary. This attention to detail addresses potential hardware issues, such as faulty fans or loose connections, which may not have been addressed in a brand-new computer. Additionally, the refurbishers often install the latest operating systems and security updates, ensuring that the refurbished computers are up-to-date and protected against vulnerabilities.



How Much Will This Really Save Me?

You know buying refurbished machines will save you money, but realistically, how much? The bottom line is that purchasing refurbished computers can be a savvy financial move for most businesses, resulting in substantial cost savings. On average, businesses can expect to save around 45% when opting for refurbished computers compared to buying brand-new ones. This significant price difference can have a remarkable impact on the company's bottom line, freeing up valuable resources for other business needs.

How to Get an Extra Layer of Reliability

If you are concerned about the reliability of the IT hardware you purchase for your company, it would be wise to look for refurbishers that specialize in business-class computers. These machines are designed and optimized for professional use in corporate environments. Here are the key benefits of using refurbished business-class computers:

Durability and Reliability: Business-class computers are built with higher-quality components and undergo more rigorous testing than consumer-grade computers. They are designed to handle continuous usage and are built to last longer, reducing the chances of hardware failures. This increased durability and reliability minimize downtime and productivity loss in business environments.

Performance and Specifications: Business-class computers often feature more powerful processors, higher RAM capacity, and advanced graphics capabilities compared to consumer-grade counterparts. These specifications enable smoother multitasking, faster data processing, and better overall performance.



Security Features: Security is a critical concern for businesses, and business-class computers typically come with enhanced security features. These can include built-in hardware encryption, advanced biometric authentication options (e.g., fingerprint readers), Trusted Platform Module (TPM) chips for secure storage of encryption keys, and firmware-level protections.

Customization and Scalability: Business-class computers often provide more customization options to meet specific business requirements. These machines are designed for scalability, making it easier to expand or upgrade hardware components as the business grows or technology requirements change.

Long-Term Availability: Consumer-grade computers frequently undergo rapid product cycles and may become obsolete relatively quickly. In contrast, business-class computers are designed for longer product lifecycles, ensuring availability for an extended period. This is crucial for businesses that require consistent hardware compatibility, standardized configurations, and long-term support.

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Can I Get My Computers Loaded with the Software I Need?

Yes, but to get exactly what you want, you need to ask your refurbisher about two critical features: licensing and imaging.

Licensing: Licensing a refurbished computer refers to the legal authorization or permission to use software installed on the computer. It ensures that the software installed on the refurbished computer is properly compliant with the terms and conditions set by the software provider.



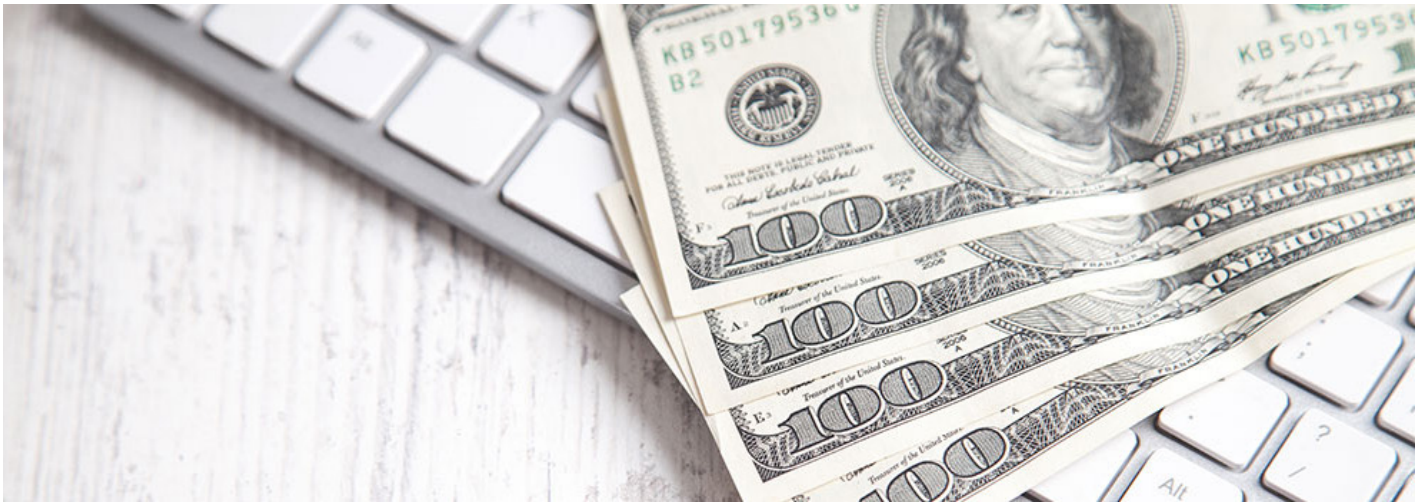
When a computer is refurbished, it typically undergoes a reinstallation or upgrade of the operating system and other software applications. To comply with licensing requirements, the refurbisher needs to include a valid software license for the operating system and any other software installed on the refurbished computer. This license grants the user the right to use the software within the terms specified by the software provider.

Licensing a refurbished computer is crucial for both the refurbisher and the end user. It ensures that the software being used is legal, authorized, and properly acquired, protecting against piracy and copyright infringement. It is important for businesses to verify the licensing status of refurbished computers to ensure compliance with software usage regulations and avoid potential legal consequences.

Imaging: Imaging is the process of creating a snapshot of a computer's operating system and installed software. During refurbishment, imaging allows refurbishers to efficiently deploy a standardized software configuration across multiple refurbished computers. This involves creating an image file that can be stored on a separate device or network location. The refurbisher can then use this image file to restore the computer to a desired state, including the operating system, drivers, applications, and settings. This process saves time and ensures consistency in the software environment.

Imaging services offered by companies like Enlivened Tech can save customers valuable time and money. By leveraging imaging technology, Enlivened Tech can customize the PC according to the customer's specific software requirements, ensuring a plug-and-play experience upon setup. With Enlivened Tech's imaging services, customers can enjoy the convenience of having their desired software pre-installed and ready to go, making the transition to their new hardware hassle-free.





Are There Ways to Spread Out My IT Budget Spend?

In an ever-changing economic climate, it is increasingly difficult for many companies to make the large capital expenditure required to replace their aging equipment. Reputable refurbished computer providers can mitigate this cost and spread it out evenly over time through an IT refresh strategy.

An IT refresh refers to the strategic process of planning and budgeting for the replacement of outdated or aging IT hardware within an organization. An IT refresh aims to ensure that the equipment remains up to date, maintaining optimal performance, reliability, and security. By proactively managing the lifecycle of IT hardware, businesses can minimize disruptions caused by sudden failures or obsolescence, as well as avoid the need for major capital expenditures all at once.

A well-executed IT refresh strategy allows businesses to systematically cycle through their hardware, upgrading or replacing components or devices over time. This gradual approach ensures that the equipment remains current without requiring a significant financial investment all at once. By spreading out the replacement process, organizations can allocate their budget efficiently, minimizing the strain on their capital expenditures. This approach enables businesses to take advantage of advancements in technology, optimize productivity, and maintain a competitive edge in the rapidly evolving IT landscape, all while minimizing disruptions to their operations.



How Long Will It Take to Get My Machines?

If you're looking to buy refurbished computers, it is critical to ask your supplier how long it will be until you take delivery. Providers that are understocked may take weeks or even months to be able to deliver the hardware you need.

Top-rate suppliers, however, are able to deliver computers as fast, if not faster, than new computer manufacturers. Smaller orders can be shipped out in two to three days. Larger projects take longer, but your provider should work with you to provide a specific timeline for delivery. Ask your refurbisher about their track record for meeting their delivery goals.

“Refurbished computer suppliers have the capacity to provide large volumes of the same computer model”



What About Consistency?

Obviously, new computer manufacturers can provide almost unlimited volumes of the same model computer. If you have a large organization, you may be concerned that providers of refurbished equipment can do the same. After all, aren't they limited to the used machines they can find?

In reality, refurbished computer suppliers have the capacity to provide large volumes of the same computer model. Larger refurbishers will have high volumes of the most popular machines in stock.

In addition, by working closely with reliable suppliers and refurbishment teams, these suppliers can obtain significant quantities of identical computer models. This allows them to meet the demands of clients who require uniformity across their IT infrastructure, such as businesses undergoing expansion or educational institutions seeking standardized equipment for classrooms. With their established networks and efficient processes, refurbished computer suppliers can ensure a consistent supply of large volumes of the same computer model, enabling clients to streamline their operations and achieve cost-effective solutions.



What Should I Look For In A Refurbished Computer Provider?

When looking for a refurbished computer provider, there are several factors you should consider to ensure you get a reliable and quality product. Here are some key things to look for:

Reputation and Reliability: Research the provider's reputation by reading customer reviews and testimonials. Look for companies that have a positive track record and a reputation for providing high-quality refurbished computers.

Warranty and Return Policy: Check if the provider offers a warranty on their refurbished computers. A reputable provider will typically offer a warranty that covers any potential issues that may arise after your purchase. Additionally, review their return policy to understand the options available to you in case you're not satisfied with the product.

Quality and Testing Process: Inquire about the provider's refurbishing process. A reliable provider should have a comprehensive testing and quality control procedure in place to ensure that the computers are in good working condition. Ask about the steps they take to refurbish the machines, such as hardware checks, software updates, and data wiping.

Selection and Availability: Consider the provider's selection of refurbished computers. Look for a provider that offers a wide range of models and specifications to meet your specific needs. Also, ensure that they have sufficient stock and availability of the computers you're interested in.

Price and Value: Compare prices from different providers to ensure you're getting a fair deal. However, remember that the cheapest option may not always be the best. Consider the overall value you're receiving, including the quality of the refurbishment, warranty coverage, and customer support.

Customer Support: Check if the provider offers reliable customer support. It's important to have assistance available if you encounter any issues or have questions regarding your refurbished computer. Look for providers that offer responsive and knowledgeable customer support via phone, email, or live chat.

Sustainability and Environment: Consider if the provider follows environmentally responsible practices. Look for providers that emphasize recycling, energy-efficient operations, and proper disposal of e-waste. Supporting a provider that prioritizes sustainability aligns with eco-friendly values.





How We Can Help

Enlivened Tech provides refurbished computers and IT disposal services to companies of any size. Our experts are available for a free consultation to find a custom solution that fits the unique needs of your business. We provide complete IT solutions including lifecycle management and secure disposal of your aging hardware.

If you're ready to explore how refurbished computer solutions can save your business money while keeping maximum performance and reliability. Contact us today:

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