

TYPES OF NOTEBOOK COMPUTERS

The categories of notebook computers are constantly changing and a bit bewildering. We won't explain every possible category here because many of them are inappropriate for a law office (such as "gaming" laptops).

ULTRABOOKS (AND EVO LAPTOPS)

Think ultra-thin, ultra-fast and ultra-light. The specs for ultrabooks have been promulgated by Intel. The official specs that an ultrabook should conform to have been updated by Intel over time, and you can read them at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultrabook>. In a nutshell, an ultrabook is a very thin, light and powerful notebook PC with great battery life, touchscreen capability and advanced security. Good examples include the Lenovo ThinkPad X1 Carbon and the Dell XPS series. Ultrabooks are also being replaced by a successor specification called Evo (see <https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/products/systems-devices/laptops/evo.html>). These new Evo laptop specifications from Intel require that a manufacturer's laptop support Wi-Fi 6, Thunderbolt 4, and get at least 9 hours of battery life.

ULTRABOOK 2 IN 1

These devices attempt to blur the line between a laptop and a tablet and are also sometimes referred to as hybrids (see <https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/products/systems-devices/laptops/2-in-1s.html>). The screens detach, flip or slide into position so that the device is more of a tablet than a laptop. Examples of detachable 2 in 1s would be the Microsoft Surface Pro 7 or the HP Elite x2 models. Good examples of connected screen models include the Lenovo Yogas or the HP EliteBooks.

OTHER CATEGORIES

If you look at reviews of laptops on a site like www.Laptopmag.com, they use categories like best ultrabook, best gaming laptop, best laptop/tablet (see 2 in 1 above) and best business laptop. In our professional opinion, you're better off looking for a business laptop. Some ultrabooks are aimed at business users and others are not so you want to pay attention to the product positioning, because there are definite differences.