

# SLATE TABLET PCS

Pen computing at its best.

**F**or sheer portability, nothing beats a slate Tablet PC. At three to four pounds, these pen-based marvels pack computing power and a full version of Windows XP behind a touch-sensitive LCD screen. Handwriting and voice recognition are the primary inputs for Tablet users, but you can always attach them to any USB keyboard or mouse, as well as a docking station for a fuller selection of ports.

The platform has traction in vertical markets like health care and field sales, but now some students are using the built-in microphone to record lectures as they handwrite notes. Tablets are also a no-brainer for anyone in the graphic arts; the stylus makes precision drawings

directly onto the screen with powerful art programs like Alias Sketch-Book Pro.

Tablet PCs generally rely on lower-end 1.1-GHz CPUs and 40GB to 60GB hard drives, which are more than adequate for most common applications on this highly mobile platform. The diminutive form factor makes heat and cooling fan noise an issue, so give the likely candidates an extended test-drive to make sure a Tablet works for you. For extended use, the feel and screen responsiveness of the stylus is critically important. You may later embrace the Tablet's voice recording and playback strengths, so check out the microphone sensitivity and external speaker quality.



## Motion Computing LE1600

Motion Computing only makes Tablet PCs, a focus that is apparent in the many ways its new LE1600 design caters to pen-based computing. The unit leads with the same brilliant 12.1-inch display that distinguished its earlier models. This is the brightest and most usable of any model we have seen. A built-in fingerprint scanner is added for security, and in a unique twist the sensor enables you to scroll through Web pages. A multi-directional microphone picks up voices from any direction, and it boasts user-adjustable sensitivity settings and noise cancellation.

With the LE1600, Motion Computing pulls out all the stops and gives you the option of a fast 1.5-GHz Pentium M processor in addition to the pokier 1.1-GHz Celeron M processor for those that want to save money. The LE1600 uses the latest Intel 915GMS chipset and is slimmer and lighter (3.1 pounds) than previous models.

A new attachable keyboard/dock/charging station adds versatility and keeps things mobile. The LE1600 even has a DVI-D port for direct connections to digital external monitors. Of all the slates in the field, this is the most finely tuned to the specific needs of dedicated Tablet PC users.

\$2,299; [www.motioncomputing.com](http://www.motioncomputing.com)

