

# Selecting the **right** **Chromebook** for your cloud workers

To select the right device for your cloud workers, it's important to consider what type of work they do and the device specifications they need to be productive at work.



This document walks you through four steps to help you choose the right Chromebook for each employee:

1

Identify the primary use case, or how the device will be used.

2

Map out the device specifications required for these use cases.

3

Make recommendations for devices that meet these needs.





4

Compare across the device ecosystem and find the right device.

## 1






## Primary use cases for the device

To select the right Chromebook for an employee and meet your business goals it's important to understand what the employee needs to do on their device. Generally, there are four primary use cases:

-  **For browsing & single tasks**
-  **For collaborating**
-  **For apps & virtualization**
-  **For power usage**

For example, frontline workers may find that a simple device that supports web browsing is all they need. Information workers and executives may need collaboration tools, as well as more apps and virtualization. Analysts and designers may need devices built for power usage.

The chart below lists the key functionality typically required to support each use case.





Primary use case	Increasing workload intensity 			
	 <b>For browsing &amp; single tasks</b>	 <b>For collaborating</b>	 <b>For apps &amp; virtualization</b>	 <b>For power usage</b>
Web browser tab load <sup>(1)</sup>	Medium	High	High	High
Email	✓	✓	✓	✓
Google Workspace / Web productivity apps	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	✓	✓	✓
Video conferencing	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	✓	✓	✓
Android productivity apps (eg Office 365)	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	✓	✓
Always-on VDI/Persistent streaming	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	Note <sup>(2)</sup>	✓	✓
Run Linux beta				✓
Display support	Notebook screen	External monitor	Dual external monitor via docking station	4K monitor

1. Web browser tab load is the number of concurrent web browser tabs open. Medium refers to 14-25 and High is 26+.
2. May be able to handle single tasks e.g., Google Workspace, Video Conferencing, VDI (e.g. Citrix), Android Apps each in isolation and provided that there are no other concurrent system intensive applications. However, if the user needs video conferencing and/or VDI and/or productivity apps concurrently then the "For apps & virtualization" configuration is recommended.

## 2 The device specifications required for each use case

To optimize the experience for users, it's important to get the device specifications right. The chart below maps out recommended specifications for each use case.





Note: Based on Google device testing data. We intend to refresh this periodically to reflect changes in software and apps over time.

Device specifications	 For browsing & single tasks	 For collaborating	 For apps & virtualization	 For power usage
Minimum CPU*	Intel Celeron AMD MTK 8183	Intel Pentium, AMD Athlon, Qualcomm 7c  Fanless Intel i3	Fan Intel i3, i5, i7 AMD Ryzen 3,5,7  Fanless Intel i5, i7	Fan Intel i5, i7 AMD Ryzen 5, 7  Fanless Intel i5, i7
Minimum RAM	4GB	8GB	8GB+	Fan: 8GB Fanless: 16GB

\*This table applies to N (current) and N-1 (previous) generation processors. Some configurations may only be available in select markets. Please contact your OEM representative regarding availability of specific devices and configurations.

## 3 Hardware guidance for each use case

Below is a mapping of the use cases to a broad set of worker profiles. Also listed are the form factors and features that would provide an ideal experience for each worker profile.

 For browsing & single tasks	 For collaborating	 For apps & virtualization	 For power usage
<b>Frontline worker</b>			
12-15" Clamshell (ruggedized), Chromebox, Tablets (Detachable)			
<b>Information worker</b>			
13-15" Clamshell/Convertible, Chromebox, Chromebase Feature rich: fingerprint sensor, privacy screens, backlit keyboard Storage: 128GB or higher			
<b>Executive / Mobile professional</b>			
12-14" Convertible, thin & light, narrow bezels, <2.9lbs, <15mm Wi-Fi 6 or LTE Aesthetics: Stylus, Backlit keyboard, Fingerprint sensor, Privacy screen, 400 nits, 2K+ resolution			

## 4 Finding the right device for your customer

In the following pages you will find a list of devices. The tables on the previous pages should help you identify the device specifications your employees need. Find the right device that matches their required specs and suits their needs.

Some configurations may only be available in select markets. Please contact your OEM representative regarding the availability of specific devices and configurations. We will update with additional devices twice per year.

**Devices marked in the tiers on the right can be leveraged for those on the left but not vice versa.**

Example - Devices marked 'For Apps & Virtualization' will be able to handle all the workloads in the tiers to the left e.g., 'Collaboration which includes an optimal video conference experience as well browsing'. However, the devices marked as 'Browsing & Single Tasks' will not be able to handle video conferencing and/or VDI streaming reliably when used concurrently.

Devices mapping to work profiles is simply a **recommendation** based on alignment of features and form-factor to the work profile needs. **It is not a must-have or a requirement.** For e.g., A device may not be mapped to a frontline worker use case, but that should not preclude it from being used in that context if necessary.

**All devices are eligible for Chromebook Enterprise (CBE)** which means they will be able to support business capabilities of Chrome OS unlocked.

**Many devices support zero-touch enrollment**  
For the most updated list of devices enabled for zero-touch enrollment, reference [here](#).

**|| Denotes devices that currently support Parallels**  
The minimum recommended hardware specifications are Intel® Core™ i5 and i7, 16 GB Memory, and 128 GB HDD/SSD - click [here](#) for the most updated system requirements. The most updated list of devices eligible for Parallels is available to reference [here](#).

**Note on peripherals:** [Works With Chromebook](#) is a peripherals certification program ensuring compatibility across all makes of Chrome devices. [Here](#) is the list of certified peripherals across various categories including headsets, webcams, mouse, external storage, cables & adapters, wall chargers and others.



For browsing &  
single tasks



For collaborating



For apps &  
virtualization



For power usage

Frontline  
worker

**Clamshell:**

14A [A6, 4/8GB]

**Clamshell:**

14 G6 [N4xxx, 4/8GB]

Pro c645 [Athlon,  
4GB]

**Chromebox:**

G3 [Celeron, 4/8GB],  
[i3/i5/i7, 4GB]

**Clamshell:**

Pro c640  
[Pentium, 8GB]

Pro c645  
[Athlon, 8/16GB]

**Clamshell:**

Pro c640  
[i3, 8/16GB]

Pro c645  
[Ryzen 3, 8/16GB]

**Chromebox:**

G3  
[i3, 8/16GB]

**Clamshell:**

Pro c640  
[i5/i7, 8/16GB]



Pro c645  
[Ryzen 5/7, 8/16GB]

**Chromebox:**

G3  
[i5/i7, 8/16GB]

Information  
worker

Executive /  
Mobile  
professional

**Convertible:**

Elite c1030  
[i3, 8GB]

**Convertible:**

Elite c1030  
[i5/i7, 8/16GB]



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Denotes devices that currently support Parallels. The minimum recommended hardware specifications are Intel® Core™ i5 and i7, 16 GB Memory, and 128 GB HDD/SSD. Click [here](#) for more information.