



TOP OF THE RANGE

Gigabyte U2442T

£920 | \$1,319 Gigabyte packs value and style into the 14-inch touchscreen U2442T notebook

Screen
14in

There's no shortage of slender laptops that run Windows 8 well and give you a touchscreen for easy access to your favourite apps. However, few come with the gaming-class graphics and massive storage that Gigabyte (perhaps better known for its range of motherboards) has packed into the 14-inch U2442T.

Weight
1.7kg

The Core i5 and 8GB of memory would be speedy on their own, but you also get an Nvidia GeForce graphics adapter that kicks in when you're playing more demanding games, or running hefty image and video processing tools. This is a lot more power than you'll find in most Ultrabooks, and you get it without sacrificing too much battery life; we managed five hours on a single charge. If you need more disk space you can add a 1TB hard drive alongside the speedy 128GB SSD that has it starting up in under eight seconds.

Battery
297 mins

Along with a smattering of handy ports and a decent screen, it's hard to really fault the Gigabyte U2442T.





**NEW
ENTRY**

Screen

The standard resolution is 1,366 x 768, so if you want more detail go for the HD+ resolution version, which is 1,600 x 900.

Hardware

There's already a lot of power underneath the hood, but if you want a little more space you can always add a 1TB hard drive at a later date.

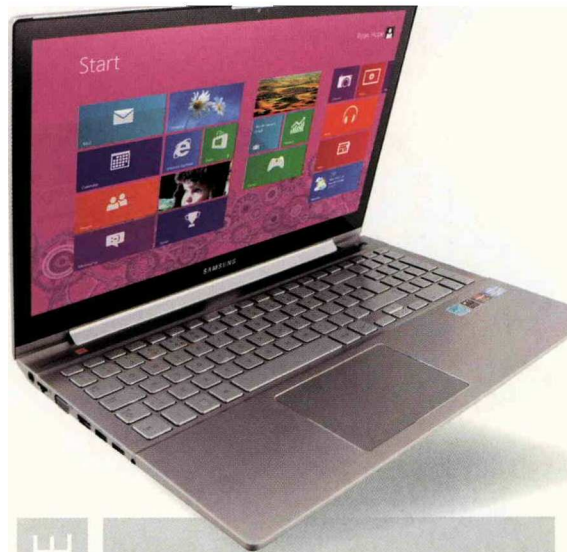
Connections

There's a full set of ports, including HDMI and an SD card slot. There are two fast USB 3.0 connections, plus two USB 2.0 ports.

Solid case and solid performance, plus all the ports you could want

Control

The extra large trackpad supports Windows 8 gestures, so you can swipe and scroll easily without having to reach up to the screen.



TOP ALTERNATIVE

Samsung Series 7 Chronos**£1,299 | \$1,550**

For those of us who want power, performance and comfort, this is ideal. There's an Intel Core i7 3635QM processor, 8GB of RAM, and an AMD Radeon HD 8800M graphics chip for improved gaming performance, too. The Chronos also has a full-sized keyboard and a Full HD screen. Battery life is shorter than average, though, and it's heavy at 2.5kg.

www.samsung.com

Screen
15.6in
Weight
2.5kg
Battery
327 mins