The stunning improvement in laptop battery life

The 2020s have witnessed a remarkable increase in the longevity of laptop batteries – with the average time between charges doubling from around 9.5 hours to 17.5 hours



BEST LAPTOP BATTERY LIFE
(by year of release)

Average of all laptops that year
Best new laptop that year

2026	*17 hrs, 25 mins*	***HP OmniBook 3 16*** **34 hrs, 5 mins**
2025	*12 hrs, 22 mins*	***HP OmniBook 5 14*** **28 hrs, 19 mins**
2024	*11 hrs, 45 mins*	***HP OmniBook X 14*** **25 hrs, 12 mins**
2023	*9 hrs, 9 mins*	***Apple MacBook Pro 16*** **24 hrs, 34 mins**
2022	*8 hrs, 38 mins*	***Apple MacBook Pro*** **20 hrs, 53 mins**
2021	*9 hrs, 17 mins*	***HP Spectre x360 14*** **14 hrs, 22 mins**
2020	*9 hrs, 41 mins*	***M1 MacBook Air*** **15 hrs, 33 mins**



OmniBook 3 16
$520-$1,370

Note: Battery life increases come down to several factors, such as more power-efficient displays, smaller, more compact processors, RAM being moved directly onto processors, and overall smaller internals – meaning bigger batteries can be fitted. Laptop tests are carried out by streaming YouTube video continuously, with screen brightness set to 50% and audio set to headphones, until battery dies

Source: CNET Illustration: Google Gemini, Picture: HP © GRAPHIC NEWS