

## Portable One MX Specs

### Form & Design



### *Portable One MX*

This notebook has a great look and feel. I really love it. It is all black with silver accents. Very low-key but still exudes a “business” look. Not boring or dull looking like the IBM T43. It feels solid and sturdy in every way. It doesn’t have the “plastic feel” of Dell or HP. The keyboard is solid and sturdy, no flexing at all for me. But, I am not one to be picky about keyboards.



*Portable One MX top view*



*Front side of Portable One MX*



*DVD drive*



*Rear view with ports covered*



*Rear view with ports revealed*



*Right side of Portable One MX*

## Screen



### *Portable One MX Screen*

This is one of the best features of the MX laptop. The picture is sharp, clear, and bright. It really is a fantastic screen. My LCD came with no dead pixels. Make sure you don't mind a high resolution screen though. The screen runs at 1400 x 1050. If you are used to a 1024 x 768 the icons and text will be very small compared to what you are used to looking at. I really do not mind the high resolution because it is combined with such a sharp display that things are still easy to read. I must say this screen is sharper and much better than any of the XBrite screens I have seen on the Sony VAIO notebooks in my local Best Buy. DVD's look great on this screen and text is sharp and clear. I give the screen an A+. **Speakers** The speakers are not that great. I do not consider this a negative. You should not expect great

speakers from a thin and light notebook. If you want to listen to music while you are on your notebook then get some decent headphones or external speakers.

**Processor and Performance** The MX comes with a Pentium M 1.8Mhz Dothan Processor. You can upgrade to a Pentium M 2.0Mhz processor for an extra \$150. I chose to put my money into upgrading from 512MB to 1GB of RAM instead. Getting the extra RAM will improve your system performance more than the small increase in CPU speed.

The MX is very fast, quick and responsive. For basic everyday programs and video editing it is very fast, period.

**Benchmarks** Following are some benchmark results for those interested in raw numbers performance of this particular MX notebook configuration.

**Super Pi Benchmark Results (measures processor speed):** Calculating Pi to 2 Million digits of accuracy = 2 minutes 3 seconds

**HD Tune 2.10 Results** Transfer Rate Minimum: 18.5 MB/sec Transfer Rate Maximum: 40.0 MB/sec Transfer Rate Average: 30.8 MB/sec Access Time: 14.6 ms Burst Rate: 80.7 MB/sec CPU Usage: 4.0%

Temperature: Started at 89 degrees Fahrenheit and went up to 102 degrees Fahrenheit at the end of the test. Still, the notebook did not feel “hot” to the touch, just warm.

## **Battery Eater Pro Test Results**

### Benchmark Options

Resolution: 1050x1400x32 Full Screen: Enabled Mode: Classic

## Results

**Total time** 1:42:59

## **Keyboard and Touchpad**



*Keyboard view* The keyboard is laid out well and is very solid. It does not flex at all and feels very sturdy. Not quite as sturdy as a T43 but still very good. The only quirk about the keyboard is the Delete Key and Function Key are switched. This takes a little getting used to but is not really a big deal. I rarely use a touchpad, I prefer a mini-mouse. Therefore, I have only used the touchpad a few times. It does seem a little “jumpy” compared to the touchpad on my old Dell Inspiron. This doesn’t matter to me at all, because I hardly ever use it.

**Input and Output Ports** The MX comes with the following inputs/outputs:

- One VGA port/Mini D-sub 15-pin for external display
- Four USB 2.0 ports
- One EPP/ECP parallel port/D-sub 25-pin
- Two Audio jacks : Head phone or SPDIF, Mic-in
- One RJ-11 for modem
- One RJ-45 for LAN
- One 1394 B (Firewire) Type jack
- One Infrared ports support IrDA
- One Port Replicator connector
- PC Card Slot w/ PCMCIA 2.1 supports one Type II

The inputs and outputs on this laptop have just about everything you need. The four USB ports are especially nice for hooking up whatever devices you may have. It also comes with a memory card reader. The other feature that is nice is the Firewire 1394B input. This super fast Firewire input lets me hook up my external HD with a converter cable and transfer at twice the speed of a USB 2.0 input. This is great when I am transferring files between computers or backing up my HD. My only complaint about the input/outputs is the lack of a DVI output. When I am home and using my 19" LCD I would really like to have it hooked up through a DVI port. I would think it would have been a no-brainer to put a DVI out in the MX. I would rather the MX have a DVI Out than the Serial Printer Out that it currently has. This would have been much more useful for me. I can use a USB port for my printer, but not my monitor.

**Wireless** So far my wireless performance has been solid. I have been able to take my MX all around my apartment and I still get a very good signal. I have not tested the range other than that. I have had no problems with the wireless

performance. You can get Bluetooth pre-installed in your MX for an extra \$50. The MX also comes with an infrared port built-in.

**Battery** At the time of writing this I have only had my MX for a week. Therefore, I have yet to make a road trip with my MX and fully test the battery life. It is an 8-cell battery, which will provide a solid 3 hours at the least if you are doing basic tasks. The system specs say it will last 6.5 with the main battery but that is probably slightly exaggerated. I would anticipate being able to watch a full 2.5 hour DVD and then some on a long flight. The 8-cell battery is a really nice touch. Most notebooks in the sub 5 lb weight class only have a 6-cell. The 6-cell often makes it hard to get through a full 2 hour long DVD. This extra battery life gives you the freedom to comfortably watch a DVD on a long flight and still have some left for any work you might want to get done. I definitely prefer the 8-cell to the traditional 6-cell that is found in this notebook category. I did run Battery Eater Pro Benchmark on the notebook as you can see above. It lasted for 103 minutes in the Classic test mode.

**Operating System and Software** This is another area where the MX shines. It comes with a very basic and very CLEAN set-up. It comes preloaded with the VCOM Security Suite which has been a pleasure to use. It takes up very little system resources and gets the job done admirably. It also comes with Nero, which is a very capable and easy to use CD burning utility. Also included is a premium subscription to Inspice Trace and Recover for 3 Years. This is very easy to set-up and gives you some extra security.

## **Specifications**



Intel Centrino M Dothan 745 1.8GHz w/2MB L2 Cache  
400Mhz  
1GB(1x1GB) DDR 400 PC3200 SODIMM(2GB Max)  
Vivid 14.1" SXGA+ TFT (1400×1050) Resolution  
Intel 855GME Extreme Graphics  
TravelStar 60GB 7200RPM HD  
Modular Combo DVD & CDRW Drive  
High Capacity 8-Cell Battery  
4 USB 2.0 Ports & IEEE1394 FireWire  
V.90 Modem & 10/100Mbps LAN  
Integrated Intel PRO/Wireless 802.11 a+ b/g Wireless  
LAN  
Carbon Fiber Alloy Encasing  
Windows XP Pro  
4.9 lbs w/Battery & Optical Drive  
Product/Company Website:  
<http://www.PortableOne.com>

**Warranty and Customer Support** Portable One provides a 1 Year Warranty free of charge. You can also add a 3 Year Warranty for an extra \$100. I purchased my MX with my American Express card which automatically adds an extra year on to my warranty. A two year warranty is plenty for me. The Customer Service at Portable One is bar-none as I stated before. You will not find the personal level of service they provide from any of the big name manufacturers.