

TOP 10 MOBILE PHONES AND SUBNOTEBOOKS

Mobile phones		Last month's position	First reviewed	Price with package (ex VAT)	Price includes contract?	Network support	Dimensions (width x depth x height)	Weight	Display (width x depth)	Phonebook memory	GPRS	HSCSD	Predictive text	Data support	IrDa support	Bluetooth support	Data cable	WAP	No of WAP settings	Battery type	Talktime battery life*	Other features
1	Ericsson T39m 0870 523 7237 www.ericsson.co.uk	1	Nov 01	£34	Y	triband 900/1,800/1,900MHz	50x96x18mm	86g	34x18mm	510 numbers	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	5	lithium-polymer	600 minutes	vibrate, clock, voice dial, profiles selection
2	Sony CMD-J5 0870 511 1123 www.sony-europe.com	2	Sept 01	free	Y	dualband 900/1,800MHz	45x122x16mm	85g	26x26mm	500 numbers	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	5	lithium-ion	135 minutes	vibrate, clock, calculator, calendar
3	Siemens S45 0800 458 5560 www.my-siemens.com	3	Dec 01	£60	N	dualband 900/1,800MHz	46x109x20mm	93g	31x24mm	500 numbers	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	5	lithium-ion	360 minutes	clock, calculator, calendar
4	Nokia 3330 0870 055 5777 www.nokia.co.uk	4	Aug 01	free	Y	dualband 900/1,800MHz	48x113x22mm	133g	33x24mm	100 numbers	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	5	NiMH	270 minutes	vibrate, clock, voice dial, profiles selection,
5	Siemens C45 01344 396 000 www.my-siemens.com	5	Jan 02	£17	Y	dualband 900/1,800MHz	46x109x23mm	107g	30x22mm	50 numbers	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	5	NiMH	300 minutes	vibrate, clock, calendar, profiles selection

Subnotebooks		Last month's position	First reviewed	World-Bench 2000	Price (ex VAT)	Warranty	Processor type/clock speed	RAM	Hard disk capacity	Modem/network card	Built-in Bluetooth support	Dimensions (width x depth x height)	Weight	Screen size/type	Maximum resolution	Graphics card & memory	Infrared	Dual-speed processor	CD/DVD drive speed	Claimed battery life*	Backup drive/disk capacity	Battery type	Operating system & other extras
1	AJP M722 020 8208 9700 www.ajp.co.uk	1	Nov 01	138	£1,174	1-year return to base	Intel Mobile Pentium III/ 850MHz	192MB	20GB	56K/Y	N	296x218x24mm	1.5kg	12.1in/TFT	1,024x768	4MB ATI 3D Rage LT Pro	Y	Intel Speedstep	24x/8x	210 minutes	N/A	lithium-ion	Windows Me, Microsoft Works 6.0
2	Sony PCG-SR31K 0870 542 4424 www.vaio.sony-europe.com	2	Oct 01	145	£1,534	1-year return to base	Intel Speedstep Pentium III/750MHz	128MB	15GB	56K/N	Y	259x209x32mm	1.4kg	10.4in/TFT	1,024x768	8MB S3 Savage MX 2X AGP	N	Intel Speedstep	16x/N/A	330 minutes	N/A	lithium-ion	Windows 2000 Pro
3	Rock Pegasus XS PIII-700 0870 990 9090 www.rockdirect.com	3	Jun 01	125	£1,299	1-year collect and return	Intel Speedstep Pentium III/700MHz	192MB	20GB	56K/Y	N	270x218x28mm	1.6kg	12.1in/TFT	1,024x768	4MB ATI Rage Mobility-M	N	Intel Speedstep	24x/8x	90 minutes	N/A	lithium-ion	Windows 98
4	Dell Latitude L400 0870 907 5668 www.dell.com	4	Jul 01	153	£1,414	3-year onsite	Intel Speedstep Pentium III/700MHz	128MB	10GB	56K/Y	N	272x220x26mm	1.6kg	12.1in/TFT	1,024x768	4MB ATI Rage Mobility-M	N	Intel Speedstep	24x/8x	150 minutes	N/A	lithium-ion	Windows 2000
5	Toshiba Portege 4000 01932 828 828 www.toshiba.co.uk	5	Nov 01	134	£1,699	3-year return to base	Intel Speedstep Pentium III/750MHz	128MB	20GB	56K/Y	Y	270x248x32mm	1.7kg	12.1in/TFT	1,024x768	16MB Ali Trident Napa 2	Y	Intel Speedstep	24x/8x	240 minutes	N/A	lithium-ion	Windows 2000 Bluetooth software

* Figures supplied by manufacturers and not tested

TOP 10 MOBILE PHONES

1 Ericsson T39m

Ericsson retains pole position once again this month with its sleek, comprehensive T39m mobile phone. At 50x96x18mm the device is not so tiny as to make it unusable, but it easily disappears into the smallest of pockets. Ericsson's looks aren't everything, however, as it also packs a great feature set for such a diminutive device. It's triband, so you can use it in the US, plus it incorporates HSCSD (high-speed circuit-switched data) and GPRS (general packet radio service), setting you up until 3G (third generation) services take off.

The T39m isn't perfect, but you'd be hard pushed to find a similar level of functionality elsewhere in such a small phone. The icing on the cake, however, is the price – for £34 with a new contract, it offers great value. If you want the latest technology without paying through the nose, the T39m is ideal.



2 Sony CMD-J5

The Sony CMD-J5, which is available from Virgin Mobile, offers features you would expect to find on a more expensive mobile phone. There's no line rental to pay with Virgin, so it can also work out a far cheaper deal over time. The CMD-J5 features a jog dial (or wheel) for navigation, although its position in the top left corner makes it more comfortable for left-handed users.

The sleek, silver casing will make the Sony CMD-J5 particularly appealing to the image-conscious mobile user, however, this is not a triumph of style over substance. There's Microsoft's Mobile Explorer for WAP and web browsing, and you can check your email via the built-in client. The phonebook has room for 500 contacts (with multiple numbers per name), and there's also a calendar, alarm clock, calculator and four games in case you get bored.

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TOP 10 SUBNOTEBOOKS

1 AJP M722

AJP holds on to the top spot this month for portability, if not for practicality. Although it is stripped of all its drives to keep it at a feather-light 1.5kg, the M722's lean lines are spoilt by the large lithium-ion battery on the back. One bonus, though, is its pleasant typing slope. The AJP's WorldBench 2000 score of 138, courtesy of an 850MHz Mobile Pentium III processor, 192MB of RAM and a 4MB ATI Rage LT Pro graphics card, is average. So why is it sitting at the top of the chart, you may ask yourself? Well, the answer is simple – its price. The M722 provides you with a sufficiently powerful subnotebook plus all the necessary extras for £1,174 – a total bargain.



However, since all the drives have been stripped out, if you do need to access a CD, DVD or floppy disk you will have to plug in two external drives.

2 Sony PCG-SR31K

The PCG-SR31K is a slim, light subnotebook that packs a fair amount of power. The 750MHz Mobile Pentium III chip, combined with 128MB of RAM, produced a good WorldBench 2000 score of 145. The hard drive is a little small at 15GB, but it does come with an external PC Card CD-ROM unit that draws its power from the slot.



This Sony device is a lightweight 1.4kg and measures 259x209x32mm. The 10.4in TFT screen offers a good display, and is powered by an 8MB S3 Savage chip. There's built-in Bluetooth, so you can communicate wirelessly, and Sony's intuitive BlueSpace software helps make the process even simpler.

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TOP 10 MOBILE PHONES

3 Siemens S45

Siemens is jumping on the GPRS (general packet radio service) bandwagon with the S45, offering this high-bandwidth service to users whose networks support it. Using any new phone is often a baffling business and the S45 is no exception. For example, finding your contacts book within the menu system is a bit of a mystery. However, quick access to phone numbers is simple – just press the down arrow on the navigation pad. Putting together a message is a breeze, however if you want to correct a word suggested by the predictive text system you have to use the two selection buttons at the top of the keypad, which are situated a bit too close to the call/hang up buttons. The Siemens S45 is small, without being so dinky that it is hard to use, and we loved the small charger, which is more compact than anything else on the market.



4 Nokia 3330

Aimed at the mass market, the 3330 features all the things you would expect from a Nokia phone, such as changeable faceplates, customisable logos and a raft of ring tones. The 33x24mm screen is big enough to make the WAP browser usable. WAP also makes its way into the games menu, allowing you to update the built-in games if you get bored with them. The 3330 also includes Chat SMS, which is a bit like instant messenger over SMS (short messaging service) although, at around 10p a message, it's not cheap. Available free on contract, this phone should satisfy most users who want to make a few calls, send the odd text message and browse a couple of WAP sites.



5 Siemens C45

The C45 brings personalisation into a new realm, allowing you to create your fascias from your own images. For £39.99 you can exchange the standard Clipit covers for ones sporting a picture of your choice (such as Albert the cat). It has EMS (enhanced messaging service), which allows you to send images and sounds as well as text messages, and WAP 1.2 for surfing WML websites. Games performance has been improved too, with the inclusion of BM Kung Fu, which supports interactive multiplayer action. It's simple to use, the only minor gripe being that the select and up and down controls are all part of the same button, which can mean you end up pressing the wrong one.



TOP 10 SUBNOTEBOOKS

3 Rock Pegasus XS PIII-700

Rock's slender Pegasus XS machine looks a million dollars, but has a sensationally low price tag of just £1,299. This is a PC you can slip into your bag and carry around. The floppy disk and DVD-ROM drives can be used simultaneously and there's a glut of ports and connectors. The good-quality keyboard and display facilities add to our positive impression. The 700MHz processor and 192MB of memory only produced a WorldBench 2000 score of 125, however, it has enough power to perform everyday tasks.



4 Dell Latitude L400

This 1.6kg entry from Dell is fairly bulky, but the Latitude L400 combines a considerable turn of speed with a reasonable price tag. It features a Pentium III 700 processor which turns in a great performance, demonstrating how well Dell has set up this subnotebook. The 128MB of RAM isn't particularly generous, nor is the 10GB hard drive. However, the Latitude's 12.1in screen is vivid and colourful and the sound and network facilities are up to scratch. The eight-speed DVD playback and three-year onsite warranty are top-notch. For a subnotebook with the highest levels of performance, the Dell Latitude gets our vote.



5 Toshiba Portege 4000

The Portege 4000 sees Toshiba moving away from the plain boxy notebooks, which made its reputation as a corporate favourite, towards a funkier image. A sleek, silver metallic case takes the place of bland black, and smooth curves replace sharp edges. The Portege 4000 is not the most powerful unit, but the choice of a 750MHz low-voltage Pentium III processor has been made for a reason. By choosing a less powerful processor Toshiba hopes to prolong battery life. It's a shame the Portege's high price prevents it from featuring further up the chart.

