We're extremely impressed by Dell's new XPS 13, thanks in part to its new Alpine White finish. In fact, we're so impressed by Dell's new XPS 13 design that it's earned TechRadar's Best in Class award for laptops once more – and it's still the best 13-inch laptop on the market right now. Although it comes with the biggest design revision in years, it's also more expensive than ever.

Price and availability

It's a little more expensive than it's been in the past, but the Dell XPS 13 makes up for the higher price tag by noticeably boosting the performance and design.

Thankfully, this time even the least expensive edition comes rocking a quad-core processor, namely a 1.6GHz (up to 3.4GHz with Turbo Boost) Intel Core i5-8250U. It'll set you back $999 (£1,269, about AU$2,190), but you'll also be in for a 1080p non-touch display, 4GB of RAM and 128GB of SSD storage.

Similar to most flagship laptops in 2018, you can choose to beef up your configuration, complete with the specs that you need for your daily workload. If you need a faster processor, there are two models featuring a 1.8GHz Intel Core i7-8550U (4GHz with Turbo Boost) to pick from.

In total, the Dell XPS 13 we reviewed here would set you back $2,349 (£1,899, about AU$3,004), which is a lofty sum to pay for the average user. It does, however, come with a 4K display, 1TB of storage space and 16GB of RAM. While we enjoyed the display on its own, other accounts have stated that it looks worse than the base model's 1080p screen because of its lower color accuracy and contrast.

Another issue is the fact that the Rose Gold on Alpine White version of the Dell XPS 13 is a bit pricier than its standard, silver-on-black model in the US, by adding an extra $50 regardless of configuration. Worse yet, this edition is only available in the US at the time of writing.

All configurations for the new Dell XPS 13 include three USB-C ports (two of which are Thunderbolt 3), a microSD card reader and a 3.5mm audio jack.

If you're keeping track, the only flagship laptop that can match the Dell XPS 13 in price, is the Google Pixelbook. Both the 13.5-Inch Surface Book 2 and the MacBook Pro are more expensive to start for similar or inferior hardware configurations.

### SPEC SHEET

Here is the Dell XPS 13 configuration sent to TechRadar for review:

- **CPU:** 1.8GHz Intel Core i7-8550U (quad-core, 8MB cache, up to 4.0GHz)
- **Graphics:** Intel UHD Graphics 620
- **RAM:** 16GB DDR3 (2,133MHz)
- **Screen:** 13.3-inch, Ultra HD (3,840 x 2,160) UltraSharp InfinityEdge touch display
- **Storage:** 1TB PCIe SSD
- **Ports:** 2 x Thunderbolt 3 (USB-C), 1 x USB-C 3.1, micro SD card reader, headphone jack
- **Connectivity:** Killer 1435 802.11ac Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.1
- **Camera:** Widescreen HD (720p) webcam with 4 array digital microphones
- **Weight:** 2.67 pounds (1.21kg)
- **Size:** 11.9 x 7.8 x 0.3-0.46 inches (30.2 x 1.99 x 0.78-1.16cm; W x D x H)

I would be very pleased to receive a laptop with these specs!

Yung