

Intel makes the ability to upgrade RAM on laptops a thing of the past

Starting with the Lunar Lake CPU line for laptops, Intel will install RAM memory into the CPU itself, initially at 16 GB or 32 GB.

This means the end of the days when laptop users can replace RAM, an advantage that perhaps recent MacBook users have always felt jealous of, at least with this chip line.



Launched at Computex 2024, Lunar Lake's design is reminiscent of what Apple has done before with its Arm-based M processor line developed by its own Apple Silicon division. It will also be similar to what RAM on smartphones and tablets has today.

Essentially, that means the new Intel laptops will offer fewer choices for manufacturers and absolutely no options for users when it comes to upgrading RAM after purchase.

Intel senior vice president Jim Johnson said the company wanted a refined laptop that could compete with competitors in the ecosystem, and that's what the company built with Lunar Lake. . Intel believes that 16 GB and 32 GB are the right combination, so beyond this RAM level, users will not be able to upgrade.

The Lunar Lake package is available to laptop vendors using LPDDR5X memory, reaching a maximum speed of 8.5 GT/s. The memory on this SoC will save 'up to 250 mm²' in space. If you want to install or upgrade your own RAM or need more than 32GB, you may have to wait for new custom variants from Intel in the future.

According to Johnson, 'the next route will offer more traditional options'. Higher RAM capacity seems obvious, but 'more traditional options' may imply that whether or not laptop manufacturers or end users will have access to the ability Memory expansion capabilities.

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