What is the Intel NUC?

Intel has taken the lead by designing compact devices that provide nearly the same performance as a large setup, and calling them Next Unit of Computing or NUC.

Desktop computers are usually big, bulky devices. However, many feel this is a reasonable trade-off for the extra performance these devices offer, compared to laptops or tablets. However, in recent years, technology has evolved so desktop computers can fit into smaller spaces.

Intel has taken the lead in this market, designing compact devices that provide almost the same performance as a large setup, and calling them **Next Unit of Computing** or **NUC** .

Here is everything you need to know about the Intel NUC.

What is the Intel NUC?

In front of laptops, desktops are huge gadgets that need their own space. They do not fit indoors. A powerful PC is really very inconvenient and expensive. The appearance of laptops has changed this. You are no longer forced to sit at a desk if you need to use a PC.

Intel NUC
However, laptops have very little ability to improve performance. Intel took note of this and set up to create a compact PC, called the Next Unit of Computing.

The first generation of NUC was launched in 2013. The headless computer - without an integrated monitor - was designed as a PC set. The small case, usually square, is equipped with the motherboard, integrated CPU and power.

The remaining components need to be purchased separately. All specifications will be at the owner's liking. Intel also doesn't include peripherals, so you'll want to consider buying one of the best wireless keyboard and mouse combos. The same is true of the PC operating system and memory.

Although you can choose any hard drive that fits with the NUC, there will be no software included. So if you intend to install Windows 10, you'll need a separate copy. However, you don't need to spend a lot of money on this, as there are still many ways to get Windows 10 free or cheap.

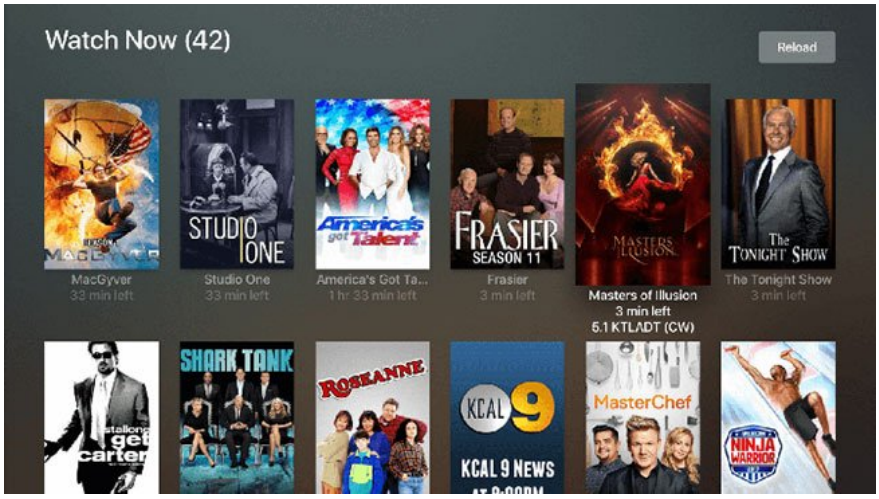
How does the NUC work?

Intel NUC devices allow you to customize your setup
Unlike Mac mini, which is also a headless computer, Intel NUC devices allow you to customize your settings. The Mac mini is pre-assembled, so you can only buy it exactly as Apple offers. However, NUCs are more flexible and cost effective. Depending on what you want to use, you can choose either maximum or minimum supported RAM.

Similarly, other components are also easy to change. If budget is a concern, you can use parts with lower specifications and then upgrade over time as there is enough money. In many ways, the Intel NUC product line lies between the Mac mini and the Raspberry Pi. However, NUC devices are more powerful and more expensive than Raspberry Pi.

To maximize the space-saving potential, each NUC comes with VESA brackets so they can be attached to the back of the screen. Due to size requirements, NUC computers often cannot include a dedicated graphics card, but instead rely on integrated graphics. However, in early 2020, Intel launched its first NUC with support for graphics cards, NUC 9 Extreme.

Uses of Intel NUC



NUC is the ideal choice for office environments

Because NUCs are portable, versatile and often cheaper than traditional desktops, they are ideal for office environments. To create a comfortable workspace, you need to minimize clutter but still have the right equipment. With its small size, NUC is also suitable for those who are often on the move but tend to prefer desktop setup.

You can install a bootable operating system on USB. However, the NUC is a lot stronger, especially if you choose the highest-spec components for your setup.

For home users, the NUC can become a perfect home theater setup. Combined with software like Plex or Kodi, you can build a great PC media center. Because you can customize your device, if you need it to perform more complex operations, you can increase memory, attach peripherals, select your preferred display and connection options.

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