

AI-01500 Refurbished Macbook Pro

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Used Macbook pro from under \$700.00. Tell me what versions has problems and what is good.

Used and Refurbished MacBook Pro Laptops from OWC

With a budget of \$700, you have a good range of options for a used MacBook Pro. Here are some recommendations and models to avoid:

Recommended Models

1. MacBook Pro (2015)

- **Pros:** Known for its reliability, good performance, and robust build. It features a Retina display, decent battery life, and a variety of ports (USB-A, HDMI, SD card slot).
- **Cons:** May have some cosmetic wear and tear if bought refurbished[1].

2. MacBook Pro (2017)

- **Pros:** Improved performance with newer processors and better graphics. The 2017 model also has a more reliable keyboard compared to the 2016 version.
- **Cons:** Limited ports (only USB-C), and the butterfly keyboard can still be a concern, though less problematic than the 2016 model[2].

3. MacBook Pro (2018)

- **Pros:** Features the updated butterfly keyboard, which is more reliable than earlier versions. It also has better performance and battery life.
- **Cons:** Still limited to USB-C ports, and some users have reported issues with the Touch Bar[2].

Models to Avoid

1. MacBook Pro (2016)

- **Issues:** Known for its problematic butterfly keyboard, which can be prone to failure. Some users have also reported issues with the Touch Bar and battery life[2].

2. MacBook Pro (2019 16-inch)

- **Issues:** This model has been reported to have issues with overheating and reliability when using external monitors[2].

3. MacBook Pro (2012 and earlier)

- **Issues:** These models are quite old and may not support the latest macOS updates. They also tend to have worn-out batteries and slower performance due to outdated hardware[1].

Tips for Buying

- **Check the Battery Health:** Ensure the battery is in good condition. A battery with many cycles may need replacement soon.
- **Inspect for Physical Damage:** Look for any signs of damage, especially around the screen and keyboard.
- **Verify the Seller:** Buy from reputable sellers or platforms that offer some form of warranty or return policy.

Would you like more details on any specific model or tips on where to find good deals?

References

[1] [Pre-Owned and Refurbished MacBook Pro - Best Buy](#)

[2] [Refurbished Apple MacBooks Deals - Discount Electronics](#)

When looking for a used MacBook Pro under \$700, it's important to consider both the strengths and potential issues of different models. Here are some insights:

Models to Avoid:

1. 2016-2019 Models with Butterfly Keyboards:

- **Issues:** These models are known for their problematic butterfly keyboards, which can be prone to failure due to dust and debris¹.
- **Recommendation:** If you do consider these models, ensure the keyboard has been replaced or is covered under Apple's extended keyboard service program.

2. 2011-2013 Models:

- **Issues:** These older models may have issues with graphics card failures and are generally outdated in terms of performance and software support².
- **Recommendation:** Avoid these unless you find a well-maintained unit at a very low price and only need it for basic tasks.

Good Models to Consider:

1. 2015 MacBook Pro:

- **Strengths:** Known for its reliability, good performance, and traditional scissor-switch keyboard². It also has a variety of ports, which can be very convenient.
- **Price Range:** You can often find these models within your budget, especially the 13-inch version.

2. 2019 MacBook Pro (if you can find a deal):

- **Strengths:** Improved keyboard (though still butterfly), better performance, and more modern features¹.
- **Price Range:** These might be harder to find under \$700, but it's worth checking refurbished options.

3. M1 MacBook Air:

- **Strengths:** While not a Pro model, the M1 MacBook Air offers excellent performance, battery life, and reliability³. It might be available close to your budget if you find a good deal on a used or refurbished unit.
- **Price Range:** Typically slightly above \$700, but worth considering for the performance boost.

General Tips:

- **Check Battery Health:** Ensure the battery is in good condition, as replacements can be costly.
- **Inspect for Physical Damage:** Look for any signs of wear and tear, especially on the screen and keyboard.
- **Verify Seller Reputation:** Buy from reputable sellers or platforms that offer some form of warranty or return policy.

Would you like more detailed information on any specific model?

Here's a summary of common issues reported with various MacBook Pro models by year:

2011-2013 Models

- **Graphics Card Failures:** Particularly in the 2011 models, users reported issues with the discrete graphics card failing¹.
- **Keyboard and Trackpad Issues:** Some users experienced problems with unresponsive keyboards and trackpads¹.

2016-2019 Models

- **Butterfly Keyboard:** These models are infamous for their butterfly keyboard mechanism, which is prone to failure due to dust and debris².
- **Thermal Throttling:** The 2018 models, especially the 15-inch version, had issues with thermal throttling, affecting performance under heavy loads³.

- **Flexgate:** The 2016-2017 models had a display issue known as "Flexgate," where the display backlight would fail due to a fragile flex cable³.

2020 Models

- **Battery Drain:** Some users reported excessive battery drain issues, which were later addressed through software updates³.

General Tips for All Models

- **Battery Health:** Over time, all models can experience battery degradation. It's important to check the battery health before purchasing a used MacBook Pro.
- **Physical Damage:** Inspect for any signs of wear and tear, especially on the screen, keyboard, and ports.

Would you like more detailed information on any specific model or issue?