

## Dell Latitude C840



- Product: Dell Latitude C840
- Price: \$3,256 direct
- Specifications: With 1.8-GHz P4-M, 256MB DDR SDRAM, 37GB hard drive, second battery, 15-inch display
- Company Info: 800-388-8542, [www.dell.com/latitude](http://www.dell.com/latitude)

✓ Editor's Rating: ●●●●○

✓ Reader Rating: ●●●●●

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By [Cade Metz](#)

If you're looking for a true alternative to your [desktop PC](#), consider one of our Editors' Choices, the Dell Latitude C840, which can deftly handle all the power apps you need to run. With a hefty 8-pound system weight (9.3 pounds travel weight), it has a 1.8-GHz P4-M processor, a 15-inch display, and a 37GB hard drive, and for those times when you decide to hit the road, it can accommodate a CD-RW/DVD drive and two full-size batteries. The C840 also has an integrated wireless option via mini-PCI card.

Naturally, the system is a bit bulky, measuring 2 by 13 by 11 inches, but it gives you ample room to rest your wrists while typing. Though not quite as comfortable as an [IBM ThinkPad keyboard](#), the C840's keyboard is firm enough—and quiet enough—for you to type for long periods of time. The C840 is the only desktop replacement system that gives you a touch pad and a pointing stick.

The system really shines in its ability to run content creation applications. Equipped with the new nVidia GeForce4 440 Go graphics chip set along with the P4-M, it came in first on Content Creation and gaming tests. It came in third on Business Winstone 2001 and on both versions of our BatteryMark tests. In wireless testing, though, we were disappointed to see it lag behind the others.

The system does give you plenty of battery life, lasting 2 hours 56 minutes on our BatteryMark test when equipped with one battery and 4 hours 40 minutes when running two. Both batteries slide neatly out of their front drive bays, letting you quickly replace them with other modular devices, including a second optical drive, a floppy disk drive, or an Iomega Zip Drive.