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Acer Aspire One Joins Mininote Parade

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By Mark Hachman

[Acer](#) on Tuesday launched the Aspire one, yet another in the increasing number of mininotebooks launched at this year's Computex show.

The new Aspire one is priced beginning at \$379, although Acer did not release additional details on whether or not a premium would be charged for Windows. The device can be configured with either [Windows XP](#) Home or Linux, and rival Asus has penalized consumers for choosing Windows by forcing them to buy an [Eee PC](#) with a less sophisticated hard drive.



ENLARGE ↗

The Aspire one is equipped with the Intel Atom processor, Linpus Linux Lite or Windows XP Home, and comes with 512 Mbytes or 1 Gbyte of RAM memory installed. Storage options include either an 8-Gbyte SSD or an 80-Gbyte internal hard drive. The Aspire one includes an 8.9-inch CrystalBrite LED backlit display.

It measures 9.8 inches x 6.7 inches x 1.14 inches and weighs a little more than two pounds, Acer said.

For communication, Acer said that the mininote comes standard with 802.11b/g WiFi, but will also be configured with 3G connectivity and and WIMAX later this year, most likely after the [delayed "Montevina" Centrino platform](#) hits the streets. The Aspire one also includes a Webcam. A 5-in-1 card reader is included, with a technology that apparently turns a memory card into an additional memory cache.

The Aspire one will be released in sapphire blue, seashell white, golden brown and coral pink.

Beware, however, for the Aspire one also comes with shovelware: dditional software such as OpenOffice 2.3, one Mail, Messenger, Acer eRecovery Management, Acer Launch Manager, Adobe Reader, McAfee Internet Security Suite, and Microsoft Office Trial 2007 are also preinstalled, Acer said.

The Aspire one joins the [Acer's upgraded Eee PCs](#) and the [MSI Wind](#) as new notebooks announced at this year's Computex.

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