

Meeting expectations for flexible work



Your employees' priorities have shifted. They know what's important in their lives. In fact, a recent work trend study showed that 53 percent of employees are more likely to prioritize health and wellbeing over work than before the pandemic.¹ Many have grown accustomed to work-from-home benefits and now want their future to include flexible work options.

As a result, employers are faced with the challenges of making a flexible work model work well for their business. It raises the questions:

- How do you make the work experience consistent for employees at home, in the office, on the road, or anywhere else?
- Can you ensure employees are always able to connect and fully participate in day-to-day work?

- Can your current technology provide the computing power and the right software for any job?
- Will your IT team have the capacity to make it all happen while still protecting people and the business from growing cyber threats?

Business and IT leaders are beginning to recognize that the need to empower their employees means investing in devices that can support flexible work—wherever it happens. They are looking for a portfolio of versatile devices that provide better experiences for flexible work, keeping people connected, secure, and productive. Devices designed for flexible work offer choice in how people collaborate and perform to get the job done. They are optimized not only for software, but for people and the ways they work.

This eBook discusses how laptops designed by Microsoft, including Surface devices equipped with Intel® processors, can help companies make flexible work a reality.

73%

of employees say they want flexible work options to continue in the future²

70%

of business leaders realize they need to upgrade technology to make hybrid work more successful²

¹Microsoft, 2022.

²Microsoft, 2021.

Let people work their way

Choose options for every work mode and work style

Whether your employees work from the office, the car, the coffee shop, or their living room, it's important that they can be their most productive selves. For some, a traditional laptop experience is preferred. Others enjoy the versatility of a touch screen or a tablet-like experience they can use on the go. Whatever their style, laptops designed by Microsoft and 2-in-1 Surface devices equipped with Intel® offer employees more choice in how to work and can help reduce the strain of getting essential work done.

Simplified and streamlined experiences such as Voice Typing and touchscreens save time and effort. Features like Snap Layouts keep workspaces organized.

Meetings run smoother with high-quality cameras, mics and speakers that let employees focus on the meeting agenda instead of the technology.

Employees can accomplish their tasks with less effort and greater focus.

Flexible work calls for flexible ways to collaborate and solve problems. Document sharing and co-authoring allow for seamless asynchronous work. Surface devices with Intel® bring another dimension with additional options such as digital inking with a Surface Slim Pen 2* for sketching and taking notes.

Employees are more satisfied when they're empowered to do their best work, anywhere. Surface and Intel® devices are designed for flexible work, giving them the consistent, positive experience they need to thrive.

11.6 hrs

gained per year for each employee through increased mobility³

30%

less employee time lost to security incidents³



*Software license required for some features. Sold separately.
³IDC, 2022.

Empower employees to connect and collaborate

Give everyone a seat at the table

With flexible work, maintaining connections between distributed colleagues and Teams is essential for work to get done. Business leaders are embracing this new reality. They are putting technology solutions in place to ensure employees can connect and collaborate anywhere. In the world of flexible work, everyone deserves a seat at the table—and Surface devices with Intel® make it easier to have one.

Surface devices make video calls come to life with Studio Mics, Omnisonic™ speakers, AI-powered HD cameras, Intel® Clear Video HD Technology, and Intel® Smart Sound Technology.

Teams can collaborate and co-create from anywhere—taking notes and sketching designs on touchscreens optimized for use with digital pens and tools such as Microsoft Whiteboard.*

Surface devices with Intel® processors have the performance power for a broader range of co-authoring, co-creating, and brainstorming applications. This ensures everyone can participate fully, wherever they happen to be.

Secure and reliable connections to virtual meetings, company networks, and web-based applications are never in question with devices that can connect from anywhere using WiFi and high-speed cellular options.

Providing tools for employees to connect and collaborate from anywhere is one of the keys to making flexible work, work. Surface devices equipped with Intel® processors, Microsoft 365, and Teams* give employees every opportunity to meet, create, and collaborate effectively—whether near or far.

40%

of technology decision-makers say that employees are asking for better devices and device management to support flexible work arrangements⁴



Microsoft Surface Pro 9 with 12th Gen Intel® Core processors and storage of 256GB and above are built on the Intel® Evo™ platform.

*Software license required for some features. Sold separately.
⁴Forrester, 2021.

Peak performance for every job

Make working everywhere more efficient

In a flexible work environment, employees need their workspace, or all of their workspaces, to be equally efficient. All should have the computing power, storage options, accessories, and battery life to let employees work as effectively at the office as they can on the road. Surface and Intel® offer a versatile portfolio of devices and configurations to suit any workspace.

Surface devices equipped with Intel® Turbo Boost Technology give a burst of speed when it's needed to handle heavy workloads, and increased energy efficiency when it's not.

Maintain a full desktop setup while on the go with accessories enabled by Intel® Thunderbolt™ 4 Technology. Accessories such as Surface Dock 2, keyboards, mice, digital pens*, and Microsoft Teams certified headsets make any workspace feel like home base.

The right device performance matters for every role, whether employees spend most of their days working in email and web apps, multitasking between Microsoft PowerPoint, Teams, and Power BI, or running graphics-intensive applications that require powerful processors. Surface PCs equipped with Intel® offer configuration options that provide the performance needed for anything your employees need to do.

74 HRS

of increased employee productivity over three years with Surface devices³

32%

faster boot time, with 21% fewer reboots to keep employees working³



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³IDC, 2022.

Maintain control and keep everyone safe

Simplify remote device deployment and management

Deploying and maintaining devices for flexible work can be a challenge for IT—factor in the additional security risks of having employees located virtually anywhere, and IT staff have much less time for their other work. Laptops designed by Microsoft offer advanced security at every layer. Remote deployment and management capabilities free up IT resources to work on more strategic work.

Take advantage of zero-touch deployment with Windows Autopilot* for Surface devices equipped with Intel®. The experience reduces IT complexity and eliminates time-consuming corporate re-imaging by shipping and deploying devices straight to employees.

Protect against firmware-level attacks and malicious malware with Intel® Boot Guard and Intel OS Guard.

These help protect the system's pre-OS environment from viruses and malicious software attacks, and prevents planted malware from compromising operating systems.

Secure controls, accessible from anywhere, allow devices to be deployed and managed down to the firmware layer through the cloud with Microsoft Endpoint Manager* and DFCL.**

49%

fewer helpdesk incidents requiring IT support³

40%

less IT staff time spent on ongoing device management³

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**Surface Go and Surface Go 2 use a third-party UEFI and do not support DFCL. DFCL is currently available for Surface Go 3, Surface Pro 8, Surface Laptop Studio, Surface Laptop 4, Surface Pro 7+, Surface Laptop Go, Surface Book 3, Surface Laptop 3, Surface Pro 7, and Surface Pro X. Find out more about managing Surface UEFI settings.

³IDC, 2022.

Empower employees with choice

Invest in flexible work

The world has changed, and employees have new perspectives on what makes their job 'worth it'. The majority of employees want the option of flexible work, and many are willing to change jobs to get it.

Meanwhile, employee experiences are top of mind for business leaders, whether in human resources (HR), finance, IT, operations, or other roles. Equipping employees with the right technology to facilitate flexible work—keeping them connected, collaborative, safe, and productive—goes a long way toward a more satisfying employee experience.



Surface Pro 9 with 12th Gen Intel® Core processors and storage of 256GB and above are built on the Intel® Evo™ platform.

The right portfolio of technology, designed with flexibility in mind, can make the difference in meeting the needs of your flexible workforce:



Delivering better employee experiences that empower people to do their best, anytime



Supporting collaboration and connections to give everyone a seat at the table and the ability to be present and engaged from wherever they work



Enabling instant productivity anywhere with the power and performance to get tasks done—from email and web applications to workload-intensive applications



Reducing the strain on IT with easier remote device management and advanced security from chip to cloud, to maintain secure control from anywhere

Flexible work has a better chance of succeeding when there is a foundation of technology to enable it. Employees want to choose where they work, and you can give them the choice of how they work.

The payoff comes from greater satisfaction, better security, and a productive, efficient workforce. With more time to focus on the work that moves your business forward, your employees can do their best work, anywhere.

Discover which Surface devices can help you enable flexible work.

[Contact us to learn more about Surface and Intel® >](#)



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Sources

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¹Microsoft, "[Work Trend Index 2022: Great Expectations: Making Hybrid Work Work](#)", 2022.

²Microsoft, "[Work Trend Index 2021: The Next Great Disruption Is Hybrid Work – Are We Ready?](#)", 2021.

³Business Value of Microsoft Surface Devices", IDC Study commissioned by Microsoft, Dec - Feb, 2022. Cost & Savings findings based on average cost and time estimates provided directly by respondents; actual costs and savings may vary based on your specific Device Mix and deployment.

⁴Forrester, "[Understanding The Role Of Modernized PCs In Hybrid Work Environment Optimization.](#)" A commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting on behalf of Microsoft, July 2021.

