

Panasonic CF-19 Toughbook

State Users:

Pros:

- It's tough!
- Screen is fairly readable in most conditions.
- Seems to run most programs well.
- The built in GPS is handy.
- Overall, we are very satisfied!

Cons:

- AutoCAD and Carlson programs run well except when using an image. The image size may be a challenge to the processor.
- It's a tad heavy.

What I like most is that it can be used as a tablet pc and laptop with a keyboard.

The screen size is good but doesn't display all that well in bright sun conditions.

Personally I would prefer a slimmer-lighter weight unit.

The processing speed and size of hard drive is okay but recommend that you have maximum RAM.

The GPS is okay but the accuracy varies a lot depending on the day, time and location it is being used.

Rather than purchasing another Panasonic Toughbook, I would try to find a unit with better readability in sunlight on a unit that is lighter in weight with about the same screen size at the Toughbook.

OSM Users:

The main reason I like / require a Toughbook is that it is the only ruggedized laptop/tablet convertible out there... I need/use the tablet in the field to control GPS and RTK surveying equipment... a laptop would be too cumbersome to accomplish that... tablet for field / data collection , and a small, but usable keyboard for “desk” use is especially convenient...

I do not recommend the built-in camera... resolution is OK, but control is extremely cumbersome (i.e., instead of providing button control, picture capture requires touch screen or stylus control... difficult if not impossible to hold unit steady with one hand while touching screen to take a picture...

Another “side” annoyance is that the Toughbooks seem to draw extra scrutiny when passing through airport security...

Pros:

Integrated Keyboard

Integrated GPS

Ability to interface with other units (GPS and total stations)

Ability to run software such as ArcPad, ESRI ArcGIS, AutoCAD and Carlson

Cons:

Weight - could get heavy in the field

Screen glare - very hard to read in direct sunlight

Neither:

I don't remember having too much of an issue with battery life.

Also can't remember if they were wi-fi compatible, but that's come to be more important lately (my hotels this month haven't offered land line internet, just wi-fi).