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e-Tips Newsletter

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**Save the Dates !
Eclipse Users Group
VirtuCon**

September 9-12, 2021

Presenters:

Chris Carfagno, Steve Kosmata, Jeremy Thorne,
Jennifer Thompson, Keith Vincent

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Keith Vincent

Add Two Screens To Any Notebook Computer

In e-Tip #178, I described how **you can use Eclipse10 and a small program called MiniCap to create realtime screenshots** that are especially helpful if you're doing remote reporting via Zoom or other meeting apps. My presentation during the Eclipse Users Group's Mini-VirtuCon in April included this information, but I emphasized that you did need to run Eclipse and the meeting app on **ONE** computer that had at least two active displays.

These days it's not uncommon to see desktop computers that are connected to two, three, four screens, but I honestly thought that a notebook computer would only allow you to connect one external display. That's until **an Eclipse user named Natalie let me know about XEBEC**. As she said, "I am able to have my CAT software on my main screen, Zoom on the right screen, and my email on the left screen. When I go to display settings on the computer to extend the display it will show three screens."



The XEBEC attaches to the back of your notebook computer's screen, and it adds two 10.1" screens with 1920x1200 resolutions. The screens are thin (6.5 mm), so they add no more than 2 pounds of weight. A kickstand on the back of the unit adds extra support for your notebook's primary screen. The setup is fast and great for reporters who travel a lot.

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Logitech C920 Webcam Still Reigns Supreme



Since we have been doing so many remote court reporting assignments and it looks like much of that remote work is here to stay, I thought that now would be a good time to look into what is the best webcam you can get. Believe it or not, **after much research, I have determined that the best webcam for the money is still the \$69 Logitech C920.** Many people just love this webcam and nothing has come along that is so superior as to knock it down off its perch as the best all-around web cam for reporting work.

There is a lot of competition among webcams. The C920 captures true-to-life video and has a companion app for your PC and is very reasonably priced. I even **thought I would upgrade and purchase the newer C930c thinking that it would be better. The reason that I do not recommend the \$79 C930c is because it defaults to a wide-screen view and shows much more of your room or office than I would prefer.** For instance, it would capture several people around a conference room table. Maybe you just don't want everyone seeing that much detail of your office or room.

The Logitech C920 produces great looking videos in its price range. Even in natural light Logitech's webcam produces sharp 1080p videos with natural looking skin tone. The video may get a little blurry in low-light conditions, but a ring light or inexpensive desk lamp easily remedies that. When compared against other webcams that I've tried, the difference in quality is significant.

You can attach the C920 webcam to monitors and laptop screens. I've also been able to attach it to a tripod using the universal tripod mount at the bottom.

If you like to have settings that you can adjust, the Logitech Capture software lets you tweak how you look on screen. It is easy to adjust the brightness, contrast and color saturation. You can even zoom in for a more cropped shot.



There are many **other webcams available.** I think the **best "budget" webcam is the \$30 Microsoft Lifecam HD-3000.** However, it provides only 720p resolution video and a wider field of view which I do not care for. There is also no companion software or a tripod mount.

Microsoft has a newly released \$69 Microsoft Modern Webcam that has good 1080p picture quality, a tripod mount and a built-in privacy shutter. In my opinion, it does not work as well in low light as the C920.

If you want something for TikTok videos, you may want to go with the \$149 Logitech StreamCam. I would not recommend it as the first choice for reporting work, though.

When purchasing, you will find **several variations of the C920 like the C920c, C920s, and C920X.** They are essentially the same webcam with a few subtle additions like a **privacy shutter, for instance, or a free three-month XSplit software subscription for broadcasting.** Any of those C920 models are great choices.

All in all, the C920, which was originally released back in 2012, is still the webcam to beat.

Add Two Screens to Any Notebook Computer

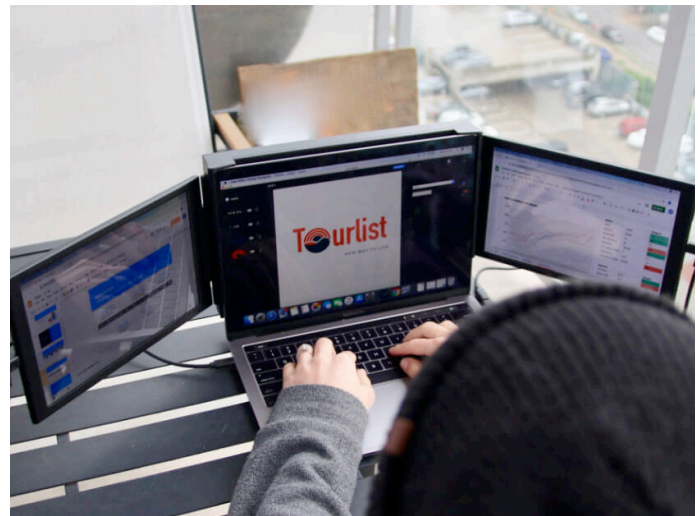
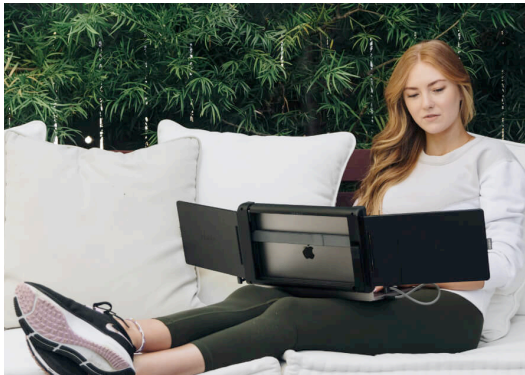
(continued from page 1)

Setting up XEBEC is quick and easy:

- 1) Put it on. Simply stretch the bracket to fit on your laptop's screen.
- 2) Slide it out. Use one screen or both. Then tilt the screens to your desired viewing angle.
- 3) Plug it in. Extend or mirror your display, whatever you want.

So how much does this cost? \$499. Details at TheXEBEC.com.

XEBEC works on almost any notebook computer and with every operating system. It will fit notebook computers with screens ranging from 12 to 20 inches. The photos here show the screens connected to two Thunderbolt ports, but there are actually several ways to connect.



Eclipse Users Group VirtuCon – September 9-12, 2021

In light of the continuing Coronavirus pandemic, the annual Eclipse Users Group convention will once again be offered as a **VirtuCon, September 9-12, 2021**. Please **Save the Dates!** Hopefully, an in-person convention will be possible in '22.

Detailed announcements regarding speakers and registration will be made via e-mail and will appear at EclipseUsers.com. You can look forward to presentations

by Jeremy Thorne, Keith Vincent, Jennifer Thompson, Chris Carfagno, and Steve Kosmata.

There will be evening classes on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 9 and 10. On Saturday the 11th, there will be classes at the basic, intermediate, and advanced level. Additional topics will be covered on Sunday the 12th.

As always, CEUs for NCRA and NVRA can be earned through the 2021 Eclipse Users VirtuCon.

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