



2026 RESIDUAL VALUE GUIDE

Market Values for Enterprise and
End User Computing

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Before we get into the numbers, here is some context on the current market conditions.

If you are considering remarketing servers in 2026 , then refer to the 2026 Only Section.

2026 SERVERS

The DRAM market entered a historic supply crisis driven by a perfect convergence of factors. Samsung, SK Hynix, and Micron, which together control roughly 70% of the DRAM market, began phasing out legacy DDR4 and mobile LPDDR4X production in 2024–2025 to focus on DDR5 and HBM. This deliberate capacity reallocation toward higher-margin AI memory products caused a severe supply crunch for the legacy memory that the vast majority of installed enterprise servers still use. Servers that shipped with substantial DDR4 RDIMM configurations are now worth materially more than pre-crisis residual models predicted. A Dell PowerEdge R640 configured with 256GB or 384GB of DDR4 RDIMM installed is suddenly carrying memory whose replacement value has increased 2–3x.

SERVERS

Brand & Tier Status:

Tier 1 brands (Dell, HPE, Lenovo) consistently command higher residual values than Tier 2. Enterprise buyers in the secondary market pay a premium for known support availability, parts supply, and firmware continuity.

CPU Generation & Architecture:

This is arguably the single biggest driver. Servers depreciate sharply when a new processor generation launches.

Memory Capacity & Type:

RAM is often the most valuable individual component in a used server. Memory can often be resold independently, which creates a "floor" on server value even when the rest of the system is aging.

Storage Configuration:

NVMe-capable systems command a strong premium over SAS/SATA-only platforms. Systems with more drive bays hold value better due to flexibility.

Form Factor:

- 1U rack servers (R640, DL360) are highly liquid in the secondary market due to density demand.
- 2U servers (R740, DL380) also hold value well due to flexibility.
- Blade servers depreciate faster because buyers need matching enclosures.

NETWORKING

Networking gear depreciates differently than servers because it's more software/feature-driven, and end-of-support dates have an outsized impact on value. Wireless Access Points depreciate the fastest of any networking category because Wi-Fi standards evolve rapidly (Wi-Fi 5 → Wi-Fi 6 → Wi-Fi 6E → Wi-Fi 7), cloud-managed APs (Meraki, Mist) are tied to non-transferable subscriptions, and physical installation costs make buyers prefer new hardware over used.

STORAGE & AI INFRASTRUCTURE

AI infrastructure is a unique asset class for residual value, it depreciates faster than any other IT category in some respects, yet GPU scarcity and insatiable demand have created anomalies where some equipment has actually appreciated or held value far above typical IT depreciation curves. The market is also only a few years old at scale, so curves are less established than for servers or storage.

NOTEBOOKS

Brand & Tier Status:

The most recognized Tier 1 notebook brands for residual value purposes are Apple, Lenovo, Dell, and HP. These brands consistently command 20–40% higher secondary market prices than equivalent-spec Tier 2 hardware (Acer, ASUS consumer, MSI) due to build quality perception, support ecosystem, and buyer confidence.

Processor Generation & Architecture

This is the single largest technical driver for Windows notebooks. The gap between generations has widened significantly with recent transitions with Intel and Apple Processors.

Memory Capacity & Type:

Display specification has become an outsized residual value driver in premium notebooks.

Storage Configuration:

The 2025–2026 memory crisis has had a direct impact here as well. Notebooks configured with 32GB or 64GB, once considered overkill, are now commanding a significant secondary market premium as buyers anticipate AI workloads requiring more local memory. Key points:

- 16GB is increasingly seen as the minimum viable configuration for professional use, depressing resale values for 8GB systems
- Soldered RAM (common in thin notebooks) means the installed configuration is permanent, buyers pay more for higher configurations at purchase knowing they cannot upgrade
- 32GB+ notebooks have seen residual value uplift of 8–15 percentage points versus pre-2025 models in the current memory pricing environment

NOTEBOOKS

Storage Configuration:

The market has clearly segmented:

- Ultra-thin and light (under 1.3kg / ~2.8lbs) commands the strongest premium, ThinkPad X1 Carbon, Dell XPS 13, HP Spectre, MacBook Air
- Standard business notebooks (1.4–1.8kg) hold moderate value, ThinkPad T series, Latitude 5000 series, EliteBook 840
- Workstation-class notebooks (MobilWorkStation, ThinkPad P, Dell Precision, HP ZBook) hold value well in niche professional markets (CAD, video, engineering) but have limited secondary market liquidity outside those segments
- Gaming notebooks depreciate fastest of any notebook category, GPU generations cycle rapidly, thermal design ages poorly, and the aesthetic often limits enterprise buyer appeal

Other Factors

- Screen quality (no dead pixels, scratches, backlight bleed) is disproportionately important
- Keyboard wear (shiny keys, worn legends) is an immediate quality signal
- Original charger and accessories present vs missing can affect value by 5–15%
- Original packaging, while rare in enterprise, adds modest value
- Enterprise-grade chassis materials (carbon fiber, magnesium alloy, machined aluminum) age more gracefully than plastic, supporting long-term value

2026 VALUATION ONLY: SERVERS



**DELL, HP, LENOVO, IBM
RISC, CISCO US, ORACLE**

12 Months 95%
24 Months 90%
36 Months 75%
48 Months 65%
60 Months 55%



WHITE BOX, ODM

12 Months 92%
24 Months 87%
36 Months 73%
48 Months 63%
60 Months 53%

SERVERS



**DELL, HP, LENOVO, IBM
RISC, CISCO UCS, ORACLE**

12 Months 65%
24 Months 45%
36 Months 35%
48 Months 22%
60 Months 15%



WHITE BOX, ODM

12 Months 58%
24 Months 38%
36 Months 27%
48 Months 18%
60 Months 12%

NETWORKING



**CORE ROUTERS, DC
SWITCHES, CISCO,
JUNIPER, ARISTA, HPE,
ARUBA**

12 Months 67%
24 Months 55%
36 Months 47%
48 Months 36%
60 Months 32%



FIREWALLS

12 Months 58%
24 Months 43%
36 Months 31%
48 Months 22%
60 Months 15%



ACCESS POINTS

12 Months 45%
24 Months 28%
36 Months 18%
48 Months 11%
60 Months 7%

STORAGE & AI INFRASTRUCTURE



**DELL/EMC, HP, NETAPP,
IBM, PURE, HITACHI**

12 Months 66%
24 Months 52%
36 Months 40%
48 Months 32%
60 Months 19%



H100, NVIDIA

12 Months 84%
24 Months 66%
36 Months 48%
48 Months 31%
60 Months 12%



A100, NVIDIA

12 Months 72%
24 Months 50%
36 Months 32%
48 Months 22%
60 Months 15%

NOTEBOOKS, DESKTOPS, TABLETS, PHONES



DELL, HP, LENOVO, MS SURFACE

12 Months 55%
24 Months 48%
36 Months 26%
48 Months 17%
60 Months 14%



CHROMEBOOKS, ASUS, ACER, OTHER

12 Months 47%
24 Months 40%
36 Months 18%
48 Months 9%
60 Months 6%



DELL, HP, LENOVO DESKTOP COMPUTERS

12 Months 43%
24 Months 37%
36 Months 33%
48 Months 30%
60 Months 24%



SURFACE TABLET

12 Months 52%
24 Months 5%
36 Months 40%
48 Months 37%
60 Months 23%

APPLE PRODUCTS



SAMSUNG PHONE

12 Months 28%
24 Months 20%
36 Months 16%
48 Months 13%
60 Months 12%



APPLE MACBOOKS

12 Months 68%
24 Months 54%
36 Months 39%
48 Months 26%
60 Months 27%



APPLE IMACS

12 Months 68%
24 Months 43%
36 Months 40%
48 Months 35%
60 Months 25%



APPLE IPHONES

12 Months 52%
24 Months 37%
36 Months 26%
48 Months 23%
60 Months 19%



APPLE IPADS

12 Months 52%
24 Months 45%
36 Months 40%
48 Months 37%
60 Months 23%

DON'T MISS ANY UPDATES

The supply and demand of the market does not remain stagnant throughout the calendar year. We have an online version that we encourage you to bookmark to see changes as they become available.

