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## Toshiba Satellite Radius 12

Can this impressively specced Satellite make it into orbit?

**T**he Radius 12 is the first 2-in-1 laptop/tablet hybrid to flaunt an UltraHD (AKA 4K), multi-touch display panel; a pretty impressive feat for a device that's just 1.3kg. And to back that up, this hybrid has one of the latest Intel Skylake (AKA 6th-gen) Core i7 processors, plus 8GB of DDR3 RAM and a 512GB SSD. On paper, at least, that makes the Satellite Radius 12 an amazing little unit that could potentially take on the Surface Pro 4.

Where the Radius suffers a little is in its overall design and visual appeal. Uneven bezel thickness around the screen – it's different along the top, sides and bottom – throws the proportions off and makes the screen uncomfortable to look at, and though the keyboard is largely fine in use, the keys have been squashed a little vertically to fit the smaller 12-inch form factor, which could make it difficult to use for large-fingered folk.

But the real limitation is processing power; when you compare the Radius 12 against a Core i5 version of the Surface Pro 4 (an inferior processor to the Radius 12's Core i7) this Toshiba achieves less than two-thirds the work and general-usage benchmark scores.

Considering this 2-in-1 retails for just shy of 3,000 large ones, it's surprising that it performs in the vicinity of a \$1,200 to \$1,500 laptop.

The Radius 12 might be the first hybrid to pack a 4K screen, but it has seemingly had to sacrifice a lot in order to do so. We're not sure that imbalance is worth it. **JB**

### Verdict

A top-heavy unit that seems to sacrifice performance for a 4K screen.



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## Venom BlackBook 13 Zero

This zero is a genuine hero.

**M**elbourne-based Venom Computers' is known for its premium laptops that use high-quality parts and a variety of little tweaks to deliver an exceptionally reliable and enjoyable computing experience. So when Venom said that the 13 Zero was "the best computer we've ever made", we sat up and took notice.

The build quality here is fantastic: a sturdy MacBook-like unibody aluminium-composite chassis, stable and backlit chiclet keyboard and large matte-finish. Venom has multiple configs of the 13 Zero available, with this \$1,599 unit being the mid-range model, one step up from the \$1,399 basic unit.

It's incredibly well-specced for that price. We honestly say it's the best-value Windows ultrabook we've ever tested, with a Core i5-6200U mid-range processor, 8GB of RAM, heaps of storage thanks to a 256GB SSD and 500GB hard drive, and a balanced

13.3-inch 1080p IPS display that's driven by integrated Intel HD 520 graphics. There's two full-sized USB ports, a smaller USB Type-C, a full-sized HDMI out, and microSD port. The charger's compact, too. In short, it has everything you need to get stuff done on the go.

It's been genuinely tweaked and tuned for the pro/enthusiast. There's no bloatware. The only software extras are Firefox and Chrome and a full year's subscription to Norton Internet Security.

It's a passable 3:16 hours in the tough PCMark 8 Home test, but other similarly specced competitors can manage 5–6 hours. That shortcoming aside, this is an ultrabook we could happily use all day, every day.

### Verdict

The best-value ultrabook we've ever tested. It has everything you need for getting sh\*t done.

