

USB-C is probably best known to most as the newer, reversible charging connector used on Android phones and the new iPhone 15. But if your new laptop has a USB-C port on it, it opens up a new world of external peripheral possibilities that can make your work life so much easier.

What is USB-C?

USB-C is an evolution of the ubiquitous USB connector (now known as USB-A) that has been in use since the late 1990's. It was developed by the USB Implementers Forum and finalized in August 2014.

It's a versatile connector that can transmit both data and power on a single cable. The big selling point of the USB-C connector is its rotationally symmetrical, which means that it can be plugged in either way up, making it more user-friendly than previous USB connectors. This fact has contributed to USB-C now being widely used in many devices, especially smartphones.

But it's ability to transmit extremely high speed data (up to 40 gigabits per second) and impressive amounts of power (over 100 watts) that makes it immensely useful to the owner of a newer laptop.

The New Docking Station

Laptop docking stations used to be bulky, proprietary devices that had to live on your desk and never move. But today, the USB-C docking dongle means all you need is one plug.

The Anker 553 USB-C Hub (\$69 at Amazon: <https://a.co/d/c8WI7K3>) combines all the functionality of the old laptop docking stations in a tiny package with only one connection to your laptop: USB-C.



This hub breaks out your USB-C port into 8 different connections: Two 4K capable HDMI ports for a dual monitor desk setup, two standard sized USB-A v3 ports, a memory card reader for both SD and microSD sized cards and a gigabit speed Ethernet port. It also features a USB-C input for up to 100 watts of power delivery to your laptop allowing you to run and charge your laptop battery while docked at your desk.

This one device with one small USB-C connection to your laptop allows you to use your portable computer as a full fledged, powerful desktop computer.

Next time you're ready to upgrade your business computer, consider a laptop. Have the flexibility to take your work into the field or on vacation while maintaining the comfort and usability of a desktop while back in the office thanks to a new breed of devices like the Anker 553 USB-C Hub.