

Tech Tools to Help Build a Secure and Collaborative Virtual Office

As more small businesses adjust to working remotely, it's crucial to equip employees with practical tools that help them connect online and continue to collaborate.

If you're looking for ways to boost productivity when working from home, we're here to help you with tailored technology, security and software solutions.

Overcoming Remote Work Challenges With Tech

Working from home comes with advantages, like the ability to save time and money not commuting. But there are some challenges to working remotely, with one of the biggest hurdles being communication. As the ways we communicate change, businesses must adapt. Conversations that used to take place over coffee now happen over team chats and video conference calls, making discussions about the latest projects potentially more fragmented. Leaders should stay vigilant to breakdowns in communication, like miscommunication around objectives, and help fill in the gaps when teams are physically separated.

Supplying business-ready PCs is one way to help ensure every employee has the most up-to-date technology that fosters communication and collaboration. When you're searching for tech that can help teams pivot into working from home, laptops that combine security, productivity features and extensive battery life are key.

“Having the right technology can make a huge difference when you're working remotely.”

– Greg Caplan,
Founder and CEO, Remote Year

[Dell Latitude](#) laptops are ideal for employees working remotely. Compact, lightweight and stylish, these laptops and 2-in-1s are designed for on-the-go productivity, extended battery life, durability and serviceability. The [Latitude 9510](#), for example, boasts a battery life of up to 34 hours¹, so you and your team can stay running longer, no matter where work takes you. Latitude laptops also feature Dell Optimizer², a built-in AI technology that not only learns the way you work but also responds to improve application performance³, dynamically extend runtime⁴ and offers a choice of audio settings. Combined with wireless and LTE⁵

options, you'll have the ability to simplify working remotely with next-level tech and accessories to suit your exact needs. But business owners who have successfully assisted their teams in adapting their setups to flexible, remote workspaces know that it doesn't end with PCs. Providing employees with additional tech, like docking stations and monitors, will help to optimize productivity. These [accessories](#) make connecting multiple devices quick and easy, letting employees view more than one document at a time. It all comes down to creating a workspace that empowers and supports every employee in all their tasks while allowing for an easy transition between work, home and remote locations.



Security in the Virtual Office

Coupled with the right PC and accessories, security is another important aspect to consider when working remotely. The SonicWall TZ series of firewalls is designed specifically for the needs of small business, delivering enterprise-class security without the enterprise-grade complexity. With Zero-Touch Deployment and simplified centralized management, installation and operation is easy. Detect sophisticated threats, including encrypted attacks, with advanced networking and security features and with additional optional features, create a unified security solution for wired and wireless networks.

But what about remote access? By setting up a Virtual Private Network (VPN), your employees will get to work with secure access to email, files and other systems — wherever they are. SonicWall Secure Mobile Access (SMA) is a unified secure access gateway that enables your business to provide access to any application — anytime, anywhere and on any device.



SMA application-level VPN and advanced authentication with single sign-on enable businesses to move to the cloud with ease and embrace BYOD and mobility in a hybrid IT environment.

Boost Collaboration With Software

Virtual offices sometimes need a little help to bridge communication gaps. Give everyone access to connect from anywhere with [Microsoft Teams](#).

Powered by Microsoft 365⁶, Microsoft Teams enables employees to securely chat, meet, call and collaborate, all in one place virtually. It integrates with the full suite of Office 365 apps, in addition to your company's line-of-business applications, so teams can seamlessly share content across platforms and programs. Bring everyone together again; meetings can be as big or as small as you need, with the ability to unite internal and external audiences of all sizes, for a truly inclusive virtual meeting experience.



We Are Ready To Help

We understand that every business's needs are unique. Our Dell Technologies Advisors are ready to help you source the right combination of technology and software to keep your team productively collaborating from anywhere.



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¹Battery life is based on testing Latitude 9510 with Intel Core i5-10310U, 16GB RAM, 256GB SSD, 88Whr battery and FHD non-touch display, using the Mobile Mark 2014 benchmark test available at www.bapco.com. Test results are for comparative purposes only. Actual battery life may be significantly less than the test results and varies depending on product configuration and use, software, operating conditions, power management settings and other factors. Maximum battery life will decrease with time. The stated Watt Hour (Whr) is not an indication of battery life. ²Dell Optimizer available in 2020 devices, not available in OptiPlex 3000 series, Latitude 3310 2-in-1 and Latitude Chromebook Enterprise. Feature availability and functionality varies by model. ³Dell Optimizer Express Response must be enabled in the Applications feature. DO learns how user uses the selected application(s) over several hours. Based on Dell testing using Sysmark 2018 benchmark running productivity applications, March 2020. Improvement will vary based on product configuration, use, application and other factors. ⁴ExpressCharge with Dell Optimizer (DO) requires 14 days to learn the user's behavior, then dynamically applies appropriate battery settings. DO Adaptive Battery setting must be enabled in the Power feature settings labeled "Adaptive Battery Performance". Improvement will vary based on product configuration, use, software, operating conditions, power management settings and other factors. Improvements may decrease over time. System performance may be impacted. ⁵Subject to service provider's broadband subscription and coverage area; speeds may vary. Additional charges will apply. Contact your service provider for details. ⁶Microsoft 365/Office 365 subscription is required for Microsoft Teams.