

Microsoft Wireless Laser Desktop 6000 v2

One word. Beautiful. That is the best word to summarise the Wireless Laser Desktop 6000. The system is very well made and very comfortable to use. This article will show how it meets this specification.

Ergonomically

This keyboard is very well crafted and Microsoft has implemented the comfortable curve design to add to the slim keys. The design also regulates a leather palm rest, making it very comfortable to use and relaxing. The system is priced at £60 so its not too much of a stretch for a high end keyboard and mouse. Microsoft has been known to not have such a high quality keyboards after time. They loose their durability. The only way we can determine whether or not this is true is with time. The keyboard is designed to have a gadget side to it as well, separating the keyboard from the functions of the system. This makes the keyboard much better when typing on it, particularly as you will not accidentally press a button when typing. This makes the system far more satisfying when you are operating it than the older split designs which you would accidental press zoom with. The laser mouse is absolutely wonderful. The mouse also features two buttons which make it easy to go back and forward between websites and they are in a location where it is difficult to press them accidentally.



Figure 1 - the Wireless Laser Desktop 6000

Features

The mouse has an “invisible” laser which means that we cannot see it, unlike optical mice which sit and flicker when the room is dark, which is particularly annoying when you sleep in the same room as your computer is in. Obviously, they are wireless, which is a great help. Sadly, they are not Bluetooth, which may be considered an advantage in the sense that there is *normally* less interference. However, Microsoft has decided to use a 2.4GHz frequency – so there will be interference from most other wireless devices that operate on the 2.4GHz band. The keyboard features 10 parts to the left hand section which is dedicated to control features. This section contains Backwards, Forwards, My Documents, My Pictures, My Music, Web home, Mail and Windows Live Call. The other parts are dedicated to the zoom feature which has become well renowned now and the Gadgets on your Windows Live page. The next section of the keyboard is the top. Well first off, the F keys. These have been made specifically with all of



Figure 2 - the features

the usually features for instance Help on F1, Undo on F2 (Ctrl-Z is just as quick) and F8 is occupied with Forward for instance. All of these Function keys are very useful for the average user, but if you know all the shortcuts, they don't really appeal that much. The top of the keyboard is really dedicated to multimedia. From left to right; Play/Pause, Previous Track, Next Track, Mute, Volume Down, Volume Up. The next part of the top is on the same section as the media keys, but it is a

standard Microsoft move to do this; the 1 – 5 keys. These keys can be set up to do various different tasks, normally running executable files. I set a few of my own made programs to these keys, but you can set up anything including files. The Favourites button on the very right allows you to quickly change these buttons. On the very right hand side of the keyboard, directly above the seldom used number pad is the Calculator and Log Out buttons. This is standard for Microsoft now. Log Out should perhaps be changed to Lock as it is more frequently used. The keyboard also features an LED (light emitting diode) which will tell you \approx how much battery you have left.

Appearance

To keep it simple, it is the nicest keyboard I have ever used. You would not be embarrassed to have one of these keyboards in your office or house, just make sure that it stays that way.



Figure 3 - the Logitech LX 710

Price

The Desktop 6000 is the cheapest keyboard which is so functional and beautiful and is well worth every penny. Its arch enemy, the Logitech Cordless Desktop LX 710, competes very well and it may be an equal competitor, but I haven't tried it yet, but it looks like it would never compete in terms of functionality with the Desktop 6000. The £60 or \$105 deal is not a bad one to take and it is worth it without a doubt.

Conclusion

Worth buying? Yes
Price fair? Definitely
Gadget rich? Definitely
Quality? High

I even decided to buy one of these for myself I feel that its that good.