

# DELL™ INSPIRON™ 6400

REVIEWERS GUIDE

***Versatile  
Entertainment***



# Dell™ Inspiron™ 6400

*Versatile Entertainment*

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# Dell™ Inspiron™ 6400

## Versatile Entertainment

Configuration options marked with a ✓ indicate those sent for this review.

### Processor

- Intel® Core™ Duo Processor T2500 (2GHz/667MHz FSB/2MB Cache)
- Intel® Core™ Duo Processor T2400 (1.83GHz/667MHz FSB/2MB Cache)
- Intel® Core™ Duo Processor T2300 (1.66GHz/667MHz FSB/2MB Cache)
- Intel® Core™ Solo Processor T1300 (1.66GHz/667MHz FSB/2MB Cache)

### Wide Screen Display (Active Matrix TFT)

- 15.4" WXGA (1280x800) display
- 15.4" WXGA (1280x800) display with TrueLife™
- 15.4" UltraSharp™ WSXGA+ (1680x1050) display with TrueLife™

### Memory

- 512MB shared\* Dual-channel\* 533MHz DDR2 SDRAM
- 1GB shared\* Dual-channel\* 533MHz DDR2 SDRAM
- 2GB shared\* Dual-channel\* 533MHz DDR2 SDRAM

### Hard drive

- 40GB\* 5400 RPM SATA HDD
- 60GB\* 5400 RPM SATA HDD
- 80GB\* 5400 RPM SATA HDD
- 100GB\* 5400 RPM SATA HDD
- 80GB\* 7200 RPM SATA HDD
- 100GB\* 7200 RPM SATA HDD

### Video

- Intel® Graphics Media Accelerator 950 (with up to 256MB of shared memory)
- 128MB ATI Mobility™ Radeon™ X1300 HyperMemory\*
- 256MB ATI Mobility™ Radeon™ X1400 HyperMemory\*

### Media

- DVD/CD-RW Combo
- DVD+/-RW with Dual Layer\* DVD+R write capacity\*

### Battery

- 6-cell 53Whr Li-Ion Battery
- 9-cell 85Whr Li-Ion Battery

### Communications

- Integrated 100/100 LAN and 56K Modem\*
- Dell Wireless 1390 802.11g Mini Card Wireless
- Intel Pro/Wireless 3945 802.11 a/b/g Mini Card Wireless

### Multimedia & Entertainment

- Dell MediaDirect
- 5-in-1 Removable Memory Card Reader
- S-Video
- IEEE 1394 (Firewire)
- 4 USB 2.0

### Operating System

- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center Edition 2005
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional

### Productivity Suite

- Microsoft Works Suite 2006
- Microsoft Office 2003

YOUR CONFIGURATION

# Dell™ Inspiron™ 6400

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The Inspiron 6400 is a 15.4" wide-aspect display mainstream entertainment / productivity system that provides ample configurability with the right balance of features and price. This system is ideal for home and small business customers looking for widescreen viewing and multi-media capability at an affordable price.

- **RICH ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCE**

Accessing your entertainment files on your mobile entertainment system has never been easier with robust features to get to your media where want it.

- **TrueLife™ Technology**  
Rich, vibrant color with crisp, clear text; up to a 10% higher contrast ratio over the same display with an anti-glare coating
- **Enhanced MediaDirect**  
Quick, easy, one-touch access to digital photos, music and video without booting into MS Windows
- **5-in-1 Card Reader**  
Flexible and easy access to digital content without cords and proprietary applications
- **ExpressCard™ modular expansion**  
Deliver high-performance, modular expansion to computers at a smaller form factor than PCMCIA standard with the new ExpressCard™ data exchange interface. For more information visit [www.expresscard.org](http://www.expresscard.org).

- **STRONG BALANCE OF FEATURES AND PRICE**

With dual core processors, high-end graphics and fast mobile memory and storage solutions, you have ample horsepower to run the latest entertainment and productivity programs.

- **Dual-core processors**  
Two processor cores for simultaneous processor multitasking today and fast single application performance in the future as more applications become multi-threaded
- **Broad graphics configurability**  
Up to 256MB graphics for a great mainstream gaming experience
- **Extended battery life**  
Intel® Centrino® technology and a 9-cell battery are available to extend your battery life while on the go

KEY BENEFITS

### TrueLife™ Displays

- **Dell now offers 15.4" WXGA and WSXGA+ displays with TrueLife™ for an extraordinary viewing experience.**
  - Dell combines a high resolution (1680x1050) 15.4-inch WSXGA+ display with TrueLife™, offering a viewing experience that is more crisp and more vivid than lower resolution displays with anti-glare coatings. Enjoy movies and photos like never before.
  - A TrueLife display has up to a 10% higher contrast ratio than the same display with an anti-glare coating.
  - TrueLife displays are an optional upgrade for 6400 notebooks.



**RoadReady™ Notebooks****-- Durable, Dependable, Dell**

- A design and testing philosophy applied to all Dell notebook products to help ensure uncompromised durability and reliability
- **Durable Design** - notebook products engineered to high standards for demanding on-the-go usage
  - StrikeZone™ hard drive shock absorbers
  - Use of strong, light-weight engineered materials
  - Latches, hinges, touch pads, buttons, and keyboards designed to withstand thousands to millions of cycles
- **Rigorous Testing** - exhaustive testing measures to help ensure dependable performance
  - Drop, shock, vibration, rigidity, and stress testing that simulates possible usage mishaps
  - Battery charging/ discharging, pressure chamber, humidity, and extreme heat and cold testing that simulates daily usage in a multitude of environments

## *One-button access to photos, music, and movies*

- ***True “instant on” functionality***  
Fast access to movies, music, video, and photos without the need to boot into Windows
- ***New dedicated button***  
Screened with “Home” icon intuitively ties functionality back to Windows Media Center Manager or Dell Media Experience based on configuration
- ***Great flexibility for digital content playback***  
Retrieve content from local storage devices (HDD, USB thumb drive, CD/DVD, 5-in-1 memory card reader, etc.)
- ***Wide media format support***  
Ability to play the most common file formats such as MP3, WMA, WMV, AVI, MPEG-1, MPEG-2, and more.
- ***Graphical User Interface***  
Windows-like interface including full mouse and keyboard with no need of specialized function keys



**Enjoy more of your entertainment all in one easy-to-use place!**

**Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center 2005 Edition**

Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center 2005 Edition is an operating system that enables you to enjoy some of the best in home entertainment, personal productivity, and creativity on your home PC in a simple, complete, and connected way.

- **Do Even More with Your Photos**  
Media Center Edition 2005 makes it easier than ever to create an instant slideshow, complete with a music soundtrack and pan-and-zoom video effects.
- **Get More Out of Music**  
Media Center Edition makes it easier than ever to play a music CD, copy it into your library, create and save playlists and edit album details. Also included is built-in support for audio CD burning directly from Media Center Edition (CD burner required for this functionality).
- **Instant Printing**  
In just a few clicks print photo's to your local printer





## **Paint Shop Photo Album**

Paint Shop Photo Album is a digital photography one-stop shop for acquiring images from a digital camera or scanner; quickly improving, organizing and cataloguing photos; creating greeting cards, fliers, and Web graphics, creating presentations; to sharing photos and online photos, customers can find it all in Paint Shop Photo Album.

## **Paint Shop Pro**

Paint Shop Pro is a great addition to Paint Shop Photo Album. It offers photo enhancement tools such as color adjustment, scratch and artifacts remover, cloning, retouching, histogram analyzing & adjustment; powerful graphics such as layering, masking, drawing, collage, flip (mirror imaging), animation, fliers, frames & special effects; and web design tools such as download optimization, image mapping to link different areas of an image to unique URLs, and more. Dell customers can choose to purchase a license for Paint Shop Pro Dell Edition after the trial period has ended.

## **Sonic DigitalMedia**

With Sonic DigitalMedia it's a snap to copy CDs and DVDs, and it takes just a few mouse clicks to share or protect photos, financial records, and other important data. Music lovers will enjoy creating custom music compilation CDs and Jukebox CDs for personal use, which can contain hundreds of legally appropriate MP3, WMA, or WAV files.

## **Sonic MyDVD**

Experience the perfect balance of MyDVD's interactive, drag-and-drop, WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) authoring. You can be burning your first DVD within minutes of launching MyDVD.

**HELP SECURE YOUR NOTEBOOK – McAfee Security Center**

## Flexible and Comprehensive Protection

- In today's world, multiple layers of security software protection are essential in safeguarding computer data. Through regular use of scheduled virus scans, blocking hackers with a firewall, and safeguarding your sensitive information with privacy software, you can experience a high degree of data security as well as peace of mind.
- Only get the services you need with the McAfee Security Center with access to subscription services including:
- McAfee VirusScan Online - This industry-leading solution employs the same state-of-the-art virus detection and removal technology found on many corporate desktops.
- McAfee Personal Firewall Plus – Helps prevent hackers from accessing important personal and financial information, providing a comprehensive, multi-layered PC security solution when combined with VirusScan Online.
- McAfee Privacy Service - Stops the exploitation of personal information, blocks cookies and online ads, and helps protect children from accessing inappropriate content on the Internet.
- McAfee Security Center is offered as a 90-day introductory trial or an optional 15-month subscription

*Note: For maximum effectiveness against computer viruses, hackers and privacy theft, software updates, upgrades and virus definitions must be updated on a regular basis. This is most easily accomplished through the use of long-term subscription upgrades. Dell strongly recommends that customers extend their security software subscription. For customers who stay with the 90-day trial, they will be notified in 90 days that their complimentary subscriptions are about to expire: at that time, they can renew their subscriptions online for one year, ensuring continued protection.*

**PC Security Customer Education Campaign**

Dell is committed to helping our customers get the most out of the technology they own and providing them with tools to guard against unwanted programs like worms, viruses and spyware.

As consumers' No. 1 PC technology partner, Dell wants to help our customers get secure.

In July 2004, Dell launched an aggressive PC Security awareness campaign to educate our customers about cyber threats, how to protect themselves, and what to do if they get infected. For more information, visit [www.dell4me.com/security](http://www.dell4me.com/security)

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## **Dell PC Restore by Symantec**

Your Inspiron 6400 system is equipped with powerful software to restore this system's original factory settings - *exactly the same way it was custom built for you*. Dell PC Restore will restore the operating system and all the original applications, but will not save your personal files, such as email, MP3s, videos, web pages, etc. Remember to save your personal files before using Dell PC Restore. Windows XP is equipped with a backup program to help you save your personal data before using Dell PC Restore.

## **How does Dell PC Restore work?**

It works *very fast!* PC Restore can restore your complete system in less than 10 minutes saving you time and getting you back to what you want to do. A copy of your Dell factory-installed operating system and all of the original applications are saved to a special place on the hard drive, occupying no more than 4GB\*.

## **Do I have to do all the work?**

Should you need to restore your system, the Dell PC Restore application automates the install process helping to minimizing any confusion you might have. This is a significant improvement to manually installing the operating system and all your applications from multiple CD, which could take hours and require multiple calls to tech support.

## **Where can I learn more?**

Customers can find out more about Dell PC Restore in their Owners Manual. An operating system CD is available for the advanced or technical user for complex installations for an additional fee.

*NOTE: Since PC Restore restores the system to the state it was in when it was received from Dell, it will delete all data (photos, files, applications, etc.) that have been added since it was received. Customers should back-up needed data before using Dell PC Restore.*

# AUTOMATIC SUPPORT

## **Dell™ Inspiron™ 6400**

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### **Dell Support 3.0 UK ONLY**

Your Inspiron 6400 system is equipped with an intelligent software service that is factory-loaded and can be personalized by you to provide automatic updates and notifications. This self support assistant will help you keep your system running at it's optimal level without the headache of trying to find out if an update is needed.

This Dell-exclusive software service is constantly updated with Dell's technical knowledge to enable real-time health scans of your computing environment (PC, peripherals, network devices), proactive alerts, automated "fixes," software updates and other relevant self-support information. You can tailor the control settings for the level of support that is right for you. All of these proactive and personalized features are designed to keep your Inspiron 6400 system updated and operating the way you want it.

Dell Support 3.0 is a small program but can be a big help with it's "Learn & Fix" presentation style as you can control when and how updates are displayed. It can also present auto-fixes before you realize a problem exists, saving you time and headaches trying to make sure your Inspiron 6400 has all the necessary updates.

#### ***Reviews resources:***

*[www.support.dell.com/DellSupportUpgrade](http://www.support.dell.com/DellSupportUpgrade) provides information on Dell Support 3.0 benefits and features.*

## INTEL® MICROPROCESSOR

Processor type	Intel® Core™ Solo & Duo processors
Processor speed support	Up to 2GHZ 667MHz
Internal L2 cache	2MB
External bus frequency	533MHz or 667MHz
Math coprocessor	Internal

## CHIPSET AND SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

System chipset	Intel 945GM or 945PM
Processor Data bus width	64 bits
DRAM bus width	64 bits (Dual channel*)
Processor Address bus width	36 bits
PCI bus (PCI-Express for video)	x16

## SYSTEM MEMORY

Architecture	DDR2 shared* SDRAM up to 667MHz
Memory module capacities	256MB, 512MB, and 1GB
Memory module socket	Two SODIMM socket
Minimum RAM	256MB
Maximum RAM	2048MB

## 5-IN-1 MEDIA MEMORY CARD READER

5-in-1Memory Card Controller	Ricoh R5C832
5-in-1Memory Card Connector	5-in-1 Combo Card connector
Cards Supported	MS, MS Pro, SD/SDIO, MMC, xD CD type I/II, & IBM Microdrive through ExpressCard adapter
5-in-1 Memory Card Connector Size	36.8 x 29.3 x 4.75 mm

## EXPRESSCARD SPECIFICATIONS

Express Card Connectors	One ExpressCard slot 54mm 1.5 V and 3.3 V
Cards Supported	ExpressCard*/34 (34mm) ExpressCard*/54 (54mm)
PC Card Connector Size	26 pins

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## TECHNICAL SPECS

### I/O PORTS SPECIFICATION

<b>Video</b>	VGA (15-hole)
<b>TV-out</b>	S-Video
<b>IEEE 1394a</b>	4-pin mini, non-powered connector
<b>Audio</b>	Microphone-in connector, stereo headphone/speakers connector
<b>USB</b>	four 4-pin USB 2.0-compliant connectors
<b>Network Adapter</b>	RJ-45
<b>Modem</b>	RJ-11

### VIDEO SPECIFICATION

<b>Discrete Video Options</b>	128MB ATI Mobility Radeon X1400 HyperMemory* or 256MB ATI Mobility Radeon X1400 HyperMemory*
<b>Integrated Graphics Options</b>	Intel® Graphics Media Accelerator 950 with up to 128MB of shared memory

### 15.4" LCD SPECIFICATION

<b>Type (active-matrix TFT)</b>	WXGA; WSXGA+
<b>Dimensions</b>	
Height	222.5 mm (8.8 inches)
Width	344.5 mm (13.6 inches)
Diagonal	391.2 mm (15.4 inches)
<b>Max Resolutions/Colors</b>	
WXGA	1280 x 800 at 16.7 million colors
WSXGA+	1680 x 1050 at 16.7 million colors
<b>Refresh Rate</b>	60 Hz
<b>Viewing angles</b>	
Horizontal	+/-40° (WXGA) +/-65° (WSXGA+)
Vertical	+15° /-30° (WXGA) +/-50° (WSXGA+)
<b>Pixel Pitch</b>	0.258mm (WXGA) 0.197mm (WSXGA+)

## INTEGRATED AUDIO

<b>Audio Controller</b>	High Definition Audio (HDA) bus
<b>Stereo Conversion</b>	24-bit (analog-to-digital & digital-to-analog)
<b>Interfaces</b>	
Internal	HDA bus
External	Microphone-in connector, stereo headphones/speakers connector
<b>Internal Speaker Amplifier</b>	2-W channel into 4 ohms
<b>Volume Controls</b>	Volume can be controlled through key combinations or application program menus

## COMMUNICATIONS

<b>Modem Type</b>	v.92 56K* MDC
<b>Modem Controller</b>	softmodem
<b>Modem Interface</b>	Internal High Definition Audio (HDA) bus
<b>Network Adapter</b>	10/100 Ethernet LAN on system board
<b>Wireless</b>	Internal PCI-e Mini-Card WLAN support; Internal card with Bluetooth® wireless technology

## KEYBOARD

<b>Number of Keys</b>	87 (US & Canada); 88 (Europe); 91 (Japan)
<b>Layout</b>	QWERTY/AZERTY/KANJI

## TOUCH PAD

<b>X/Y position resolution (graphics table mode)</b>	240 cpi
<b>Size:</b>	
Width	73.0-mm (2.9-inch) sensor-active area
Height	42.9-mm (1.70-inch) rectangle

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## TECHNICAL SPECS

### BATTERY

**Type** 9-cell (80Whr) "Smart" Lithium Ion  
6-cell (53Whr) "Smart" Lithium Ion

#### Dimensions

**Depth** 60.1 mm (2.37 inches) (9-cell)  
49 mm (1.93 inches) (6-cell)  
**Height** 24 mm (0.94 inch)  
**Width** 206.8 mm (8.14 inches)

#### Weight

0.48kg (1.06lbs) – 9-cell Li-Ion  
0.32kg (0.70lbs) – 6-cell Li-ion

#### Voltage

11.1VDC

#### Capacity

9-cell (85Whr), 6-cell (53Whr)

#### Battery Life

TBD – 9 cell Li-Ion  
TBD – 6 cell Li-Ion

#### Battery Charge Time

Approximately 2 hours (6-cell)

#### Lifespan (approximate)

300 discharge/charge cycles

#### Temperature Range

**Charge/Discharge** 0° to 35°C (32° to 95°F)  
**Storage** -40° to 60° (-40° to 140°F)

### AC ADAPTER

**Input Voltage** 90 to 264 VAC

**Input Current (Maximum)** 1.5 A

**Input Frequency** 47 to 63 Hz

**Output Current** 4.34 A (maximum at 4-sec pulse)  
3.34 A (continuous)

**Output Power** 65W

**Rated Output Voltage** 19.5 VDC

#### Physical

**Height** 28.2mm (1.11 inches)  
**Width** 57.9mm (2.28 inches)  
**Depth** 137.2mm (5.4 inches)

**Weight** 0.4kg (.9lbs.)

#### Temperature Range

**Operating** 0° to 35°C (32° to 95°F)  
**Storage** -40° to 65°C (-40° to 149°F)



### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Height	36mm (1.44 inches)
Width	356mm (14 inches)
Depth	265.5mm (10.45 inches)
Weight	Weight: Starting at 2.8kg (6.18lbs)* (WSXGA+ display, 6-cell battery, DVD combo drive)

### SYSTEM OPERATING CONDITIONS

#### Temperature

Operating	0° to 35°C (32° to 95°F)
Storage	-40° to 65°C (-40° to 149°F)

#### Relative Humidity

Operating	10% to 90% (non-condensing)
Storage	5% to 95% (non-condensing)

#### Maximum Vibration

Operating	0.9 GRMS
Storage	1.3 GRMS

#### Maximum Shock (measured with HDD in head-parked position)

Operating	122 G
Storage	163 G

#### Maximum Altitude

Operating	-15.2m to 3,048m (-50 ft. to 10,000 ft.)
Storage	-15.2m to 10,668m (-50 ft. to 35,000 ft.)



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Subject to availability, prices and specifications are correct at date of publication and may change without notice. Terms and Conditions of Sales,

Service and Finance apply and are available on request or at [http://www.dell.com](#). Insert local address. Dell cannot be responsible for pricing or other errors, and reserves the right to cancel orders arising from such errors.

- \* **Shared Memory:** Between 128 and 224 MB of system memory may be allocated to support graphics, depending on system memory size and other factors.
- \* **Dual-channel memory:** requires 2 each of the same capacity memory DIMMs
- \* **Hard Drives:** GB means 1 billion bytes; actual capacity varies with preloaded material and operating environment and will be less. On Dimension, XPS, and Inspiron systems, for Norton Ghost 10 and Dell DataSafe users, up to 25% of the stated hard drive capacity may be utilized by your system as dedicated backup space.
- \* **DVD±/RW:** Discs burned with this drive may not be compatible with some existing drives and players; using DVD+R media provides maximum compatibility.
- \* **Dual-layer DVD writer:** Special media required, and third party software may also be required.
- \* **Modem Speeds:** Download speeds are limited to 53Kbps. Upload speeds are less (about 30Kbps). Speeds can vary by line condition and modem manufacturer. Analog phone line and service required.
- \* **128MB ATI Mobility™ Radeon™ X1300 HyperMemory:** The total of local and shared system memory used by this graphics card is up to 128MB. Local on-board memory is 64MB. Up to 64MB of system memory may be allocated to support graphics, depending on system memory size and other factors.
- \* **256MB ATI Mobility™ Radeon™ X1400 HyperMemory:** The total of local and shared system memory used by this graphics card is up to 256MB. Local on-board memory is 128MB. Up to 128MB of system memory may be allocated to support graphics, depending on system memory size and other factors.
- \* **Weight:** Starting weight of 6.18 lbs includes 15.4" WSXGA+ LCD, 6-cell (53 W/Hr) Li-Ion battery, DVD combo drive. Weights vary depending on configurations and manufacturing variability.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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RETURN INFORMATION