

Acer's Chromebook Spin 714 is worse than its predecessor

Acer's Chromebook Spin 713 has been at the top of our Best Chromebook list for a few years running now. It's one of the most beloved Chromebooks of the past several years, and it had a laundry list of things going for it: blazing fast Intel processors, a crisp and high-resolution 3:2 screen, a generous port selection with Thunderbolt 4, all-day battery life, and one of the better keyboards you could find in the Chromebook space. I had very high hopes for its sequel, the Chromebook Spin 714.

So it brings me no pleasure to report that the Chromebook Spin 714 is worse than the 713. That doesn't make it a terrible computer – and at my Core i5 / 8GB / 256GB unit's MSRP of \$729.99, many of these flaws are more forgivable than they would be at a price of, say, \$1,000. But I do see it, unfortunately, as a step back. Here's why.







6 Verge Score

Chromebook Spin 714

\$ 499

```
ul]:py-0 my-12 [&gt;ul>li]:mb-6 [&gt;p]:mb-8 [&_*]:font-polysans-  
mono [&_*]:text-14 [&_ul]:font-light [&_p]:font-light  
[&_strong]:font-medium [&_li]:leading-130  
[&_li]:marker:text-franklin border-t border-franklin  
[&_a:hover]:shadow-highlight-franklin [&_a]:shadow-underline-  
black md:first:pr-16 md:last:pl-16 md:w-1/2 md:border-t-0  
md:first:border-r">
```

The Bad

- Battery life worse than last year
- Thin audio
- microSD slot is gone

`a:hover]:text-black [>a]:shadow-underline-gray-13 [>a:hover]:shadow-underline-black text-gray-13">`*This is verified through Intel Evo.*

This is also, in my opinion, a slightly better-looking computer than the 713. I won't go so far as to call it a good-looking device – the design is still somewhat boring and drab, and an "Antimicrobial Corning Gorilla Glass" logo etched into the top bezel is particularly unappealing. Still, there are some nice accents around the touchpad that make everything look more professional. And the finish is high-quality – this device was battered around in my backpack without a scratch. Visually and materially, this device is a step up from the 713. (But, I cannot overemphasize, it still looks boring.)





**a: hover]: text-black [>a]: shadow-
underline-gray-13 [>a: hover]: shadow-
underline-black text-gray-13">USB-C and
USB-A on the right.**





```
*:last-child>*:last-child]:mb-0 w-full  
bg-[#F8F5FF] rounded-sm bg-gray-200"  
readability="11.5">
```

```
a:hover]:shadow-  
highlight-franklin  
[&>a]:shadow-underline-  
black  
dark:[&>a:hover]:shadow-  
-highlight-franklin  
dark:[&>a]:shadow-  
underline-white
```

**md:text-30">But then
there's everything else**

**Okay, time to talk
about some of the more
puzzling changes Acer
made. First, the
display. So, yes, the
Spin 714's screen is
slightly larger.
However, the Spin 713
had one of the most
exceptional screens
that has ever been put
on a Chromebook. It was**

3:2 with 2256 x 1504 resolution. It was so roomy, there was zero glare, colors were vivid, and all of this was a *huge* part of the reason that Chromebook 713 was topping Best Chromebook pages all over the internet. I am picturing that screen right now, and I miss it so much. Please come back to me.

Anyway, that's not the screen the 714 has. This device sports a 1920 x 1200, 16:10 panel. It reaches 340 nits of brightness, whereas the 713 easily passed 400. Look, this screen is fine, but like... meh. It's fine.





```
a: hover]: text-black  
[&>a]: shadow-underline-  
gray-13  
[&>a: hover]: shadow-  
underline-black text-  
gray-13">You can put it  
in all the usual
```

***convertible laptop
modes, if you are so
inclined.***



***:last-child>*:last-
child]:mb-0 w-full bg-
[#F8F5FF] rounded-sm**

```
bg-gray-200"
readability="7">
```

```
*:last-
child>*:last-
child]:mb-0      w-
full            bg-
[#F8F5FF]
rounded-sm      bg-
gray-200"
readability="7"
>
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md: text-2
68s > Chrome

· ChromeOS
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in
screen

**reader
(ChromeV
ox) .**

**· ChromeOS
supports**

**dictatio
n,
accessed
in
Settings**

■

· **High -
contrast
mode can
be**

toggled

with

Ctrl +

Search +

H.

· Captions
appear
in the
bottom
center

**of the
screen .**

**The
followin
g**

**caption
features
are
adjustable:**

size,

font,

color,

opacity,

shadow,

**backgrou
nd**

color,

and

backgrou

nd

opacity.

The

following

g

keyboard

keys can

be

remapped

:

Search,

Ctrl,

Alt,

Escape,

Backspace

**e,
Assistan
t, and
Caps
Lock.**

**The top
row can
be
remapped
to act**

as

function

keys .

The

followin

g

keyboard

features

can be

toggled:

sticky

keys,

onscreen

keyboard

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**highlight
t object
with
keyboard
focus,**

highlight

t text

caret

when it

appears

**or
moves,
navigate
pages
with**

**text
cursor,
and
switch
access.**

**The
following
cursor
settings
can be**

**adjusted
:
color,
size,
speed,
click**

strength

, and

haptic

feedback

. The

**following
g can be
toggled:
mouse
accelera**

**tion,
reverse
scrollin
g, tap
dragging**

**, tap -
to -
click,
touchpad
accelera**

tion,

and

automatic

click.

· ChromeOS

**includes
a Snap
Layout
feature,
accessed**

**by
pressing
and
holding
the**

**Maximize
button
on an
open
window.**

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