

HP Blackbird 002

Contributed by CB Team
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It looks like HP are following in Dell's footsteps with the introduction of the HP Blackbird 002, a performance PC created for gamers.

The Blackbird was introduced at the company's "Your Life is the Show" event and it features an aluminum chassis with lots of lovely innovative goodies inside.

It welcomes gamers and PC enthusiasts to indulge in customization and performance tuning, with industry-standard components, tool-less architecture and other mod-friendly features.

"Hardcore and enthusiast gamers find consumer PCs underpowered for games performance and prefer stylish design. Boutique gaming PCs offer gamers power and style, but only at a premium price," said Billy Pidgeon, program manager, Consumer Markets: Gaming at IDC. "The HP Blackbird 002 combines style, performance and upgradeability at a price competitive with upper-end consumer desktops. This is great news for gamers: HP is serious about games, and high end gaming PCs are now more affordable."

HP Blackbird 002 is the first system to be developed by the HP Global Gaming Business Unit and sees HP join forces with VoodooPC who are renowned for their high-performance PC's.

Features

- The HP Blackbird 002 – from its aluminum chassis to the cast-aluminum foot – has a dynamic look to complement its performance.
- The HP Blackbird 002 is one of the only in its class to sport a full-system, maintenance-free liquid cooling, co-developed with Asetek, that draws heat away from the CPU, motherboard and GPUs. To further handle the heat, the CPU, GPU and power supply are housed in separate thermal chambers.
- For overclockers there are removable side panels, interior and back panel LED lighting, and Voodoo-style cabling that should make it easier for when you want to gain access to your Blackbirds innards.
- The Blackbird 002 features tool-less upgrading. All of its major components can be removed and installed without the need for tools.

- Gamers and PC enthusiasts can choose the best industry standard components, including the CPU (Intel/AMD), GPU (ATI/NVIDIA), memory (Corsair/Hynix/Samsung) and motherboard (ASUS/Intel), when configuring their personal HP Blackbird 002 systems. The system also ships with completely open BIOS to permit system overclocking.

Customers can purchase a limited-edition system called HP Blackbird 002 Dedication Edition starting Sept. 15 at www.hp.com/blackbird. It was created to recognize HP's first PC for the gaming market, designed by a small team of dedicated gamers who sought to bring innovation back to the desktop PC. It will feature a pre-set performance configuration, unique side panels, free games and more.

Starting Oct. 1, customers will also be able to configure their own HP Blackbird 002 at the site. Each HP Blackbird 002 will be hand-built in HP's production facility in Calgary, Alberta. Pricing is dependent on configuration, but will range from approximately \$2,500 to \$7,100 USD (£1232 and £3501 respectively). No news as to when this will be available in the UK.

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