

Let's talk USB-C

5 Things You Should Know



USB Type C, or USB-C for short, is the next generation of USB connector: smaller, faster and more versatile. Now users can charge their laptops or phones with a single cable that delivers power, video and data. Simple! But with new technology comes new risks. USB-C performance varies widely, so there are pitfalls for even tech-savvy customers to navigate.

Before your organisation makes the transition, here are 5 things you should know:

1. THE BASICS OF USB-C

USB-C is designed to simplify the cable and connector universe, now becoming the standard port at both ends of the USB cable.

It is a smaller physical port than its USB-A predecessor. It's also reversible, meaning no more frustrating second attempts at plugging in USB devices.



It's powerful

USB-C can power a huge range of devices, from phones and tablets to monitors and printers.



It's fast

USB-C supports data transfer rates of up to 10Gbps (USB 3.1 Gen 2), so a 2GB video file could take as little as 1 second to transfer.



It supports 4K

When used with compatible devices, USB-C can replace HDMI or DisplayPort cables for ultra-high resolution video.

USB-C can do all these things at the same time, through one cable, meaning it can even help to reduce the overall number of cables your business uses.

2. USB-C VERSUS USB 3.1

It's a common misconception that USB-C and USB 3.1 technology are the same thing... they're not.

USB-C is a connector type, which can carry different USB standards or speeds. USB 3.1 is the new standard that's being driven. That means USB-C can support USB 3.1 Gen 1 (5Gbps) or Gen 2 (10Gbps) data transfer rates but it's also backwards compatible with previous USB standards such as 2.0 and 3.0. So by using the right cables and adapters you can continue to use your existing USB peripherals with your new USB-C devices.

How long does it take to transfer a 2GB film using USB-C?



USB 2.0

High Speed 480Mbps



USB 3.1 gen 1

SuperSpeed 5 Gbps



USB 3.1 gen 2

SuperSpeed+ 10 Gbps

3. USB-C WILL CHANGE THE WAY WE WORK



In the office

We will see new USB-C docking stations, cables and hubs to support different working environments and styles. The workspace is transforming and USB-C will help to define this in the coming months and years.



At a meeting

Employees and visitors can use a single cable or adapter to transfer video, data and power. That means no more time wasted trying to set up at the beginning!



On the go

Carry one cable and adapter to connect and charge all your USB-C devices: phone, tablet and laptop. So there's no need to cart around multiple power bricks and adapters.

4. NOT ALL USB-C DEVICES ARE CREATED EQUAL

It's not a one-cable-fits-all solution, some manufacturers are producing dangerous, non-compliant or non-universal products.

USB-C can support multiple Power Delivery (PD) Profiles, that's why it can charge a range of devices from your phone to your laptop. But there's a catch. Unless the cable or adapter you're using includes the necessary circuitry, it can overwhelm your device, frying your tech and even compromising employee safety – and it's not just unbranded products that have been failing. That's why it's crucial to work with a vendor you can trust.

Targus is all about being universal, that's why we're #1 in docking stations and the only vendor with universal powered docks. We are delivering USB-C advice and workspace solutions to some of the world's biggest companies. All our solutions are built around the latest USB PD standards.

5. USB-C MIGHT BE HERE TO STAY, BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH THE TRANSITION

Did you know there are 10 billion USB devices around the world?

USB-C ports have been appearing in devices from Lenovo, Dell, Apple, Google and Samsung since early 2015, but it's going to take years for USB-C to replace the USB-A port we're familiar with.

Before you make the transition there are multiple factors and risks to consider, particularly if you're part of a large/enterprise-level organisation. For now, you'll need a range of accessories to make new USB-C hardware work with legacy USB infrastructure. Targus solutions will support organisations as they transition to USB-C over the coming years: from universal power today to tomorrow's hybrid cables and adapters towards pure USB-C solutions in the future.

LET'S TALK TARGUS

Targus is redefining how today's mobile workspaces flow and connect, making them effortlessly productive, engaging and secure.

We help organisations empower, protect, and connect in the office or on the move – with our family of bags and cases to carry your tech, universal power, smart connectivity accessories and privacy screens. The Targus USB-C range is available now.

Get in touch to find out more

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