

USB Port Identification Chart

Identify every port on your laptop and what the little symbols next to it mean.

Connectors

Port	Looks like	Typical use
USB-A	Flat rectangle; blue or teal inside often means 5Gbps+	Keyboards, mice, flash drives, receivers
USB-C	Small rounded oval, reversible	Charging, data, video, docks (depends on the port)
Micro-USB	Small trapezoid	Older phones, controllers, gadgets
Lightning	Thin flat blade	iPhone 14 and earlier, older AirPods
HDMI	Wide trapezoid	TVs and monitors
DisplayPort	Rectangle with one cut corner	PC monitors, high refresh rates
Ethernet (RJ45)	Square with a clip notch	Wired internet
SD / microSD	Thin slot	Camera, drone and phone memory cards

Symbols next to USB-C ports

Symbol	Meaning
Lightning bolt	Thunderbolt: 40Gbps+, displays, docks, fast NVMe drives
“SS” or “SS10”	SuperSpeed USB: 5Gbps or 10Gbps data
“D” shape (DP logo)	Supports DisplayPort video output
Battery or plug icon	Charging input or charges devices while the laptop sleeps
No symbol	Check the manual: may be data-only or charge-only

Tip: on a Mac, choose Apple menu → About This Mac → More Info → System Report → USB/Thunderbolt to see what each port supports.

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