

Pentium vs Celeron Processors

Q: How does Pentium differ from Celeron?

A: Intel makes two mainstream processors for PCs, the Pentium III and Celeron. There are technical differences, but the biggest difference is in the marketing. The Pentium III gets top billing and is Intel's show horse in the race with chip-marketing rival Advanced Micro Devices. The Pentium III costs hundreds of dollars more than the Celeron. Many users would be better off opting for the Celeron chip and pocketing the savings, or using the extra cash to add memory, buy a printer or a CD burner.

Pentium III chips are somewhat faster and meant for more expensive systems.

Celeron chips are a bit slower but are perfectly adequate for many users. If you compared a PC driven by a 700 MHz Celeron to a PC with a 733 MHz Pentium III, the difference would be pretty hard to detect.

Remember, the amount of memory in your system can have a bigger impact on performance than the processor.

Manufacturers continue to create faster processors and software manufacturers continue to create larger programs with more features which require more resources (RAM) to run.

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