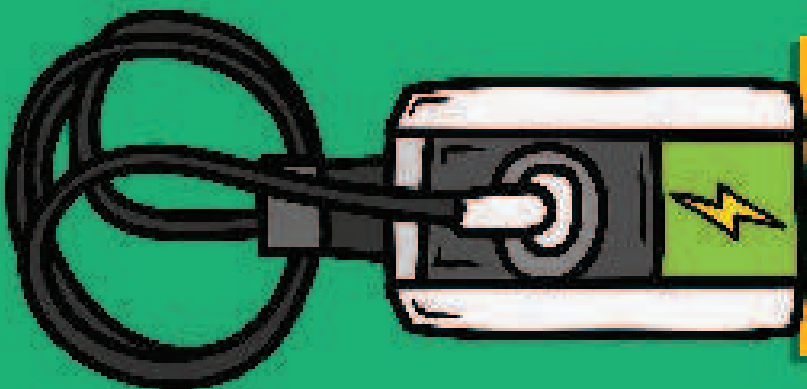


TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of *The Daily Star*

EMBRACING THE ELECTRIC LIFE



BOOKS THAT PROPEL YOUR CAREER
PAGE 3

POWERFUL PCs UNDER Tk. 80K
PAGE 6

ILLUSTRATION: ZAHIR RAHMAN

ইন্টেলিজেন্ট ইনভার্টার
টেকনোলজিসমৃদ্ধ ফ্রিজে

৭৫%

পর্যন্ত

বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয়

সর্ব স্তরে

ওয়ালটন ফ্রিজের Artificial Intelligence ভিত্তিক 3D Matrix Speed Optimization ইনভার্টার প্রযুক্তি কনসুমারের গতি নিয়ন্ত্রণের মাধ্যমে অধিক বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয় নিশ্চিত করে।

WALTON
Smart Fridge



For Details: 16000 waltonbd.com

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The Next-Gen Ford Everest features a 10-speed select shift automatic transmission which provides 210PS at 3,500 RPM and 500 NM from 1,750-2,000 RPM. It has a biodiesel capability of up to B20. The SUV also comes with 800 mm water wading capacity and a terrain management



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The latest Ford SUV also comes with driver assistance features which include front and rear parking sensors, semi-automatic parallel parking, adaptive cruise control, lane keeping system, forward collision warning, electronic stability control, cross traffic alert, etc. It also supports wireless charging with a SYNC 4A infotainment system. The starting price of the Next-Gen Ford Everest is Tk. 1.47 crore.

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Previously, it was announced that Fair Technology will produce



Hyundai Sedans and SUVs at its Hyundai Manufacturing Plant at Kaliakoir, Gazipur. Along with these passenger vehicles, customers will get original spare parts and after-sales facilities.

TikTok introducing Safety Ambassadors Programme in Bangladesh

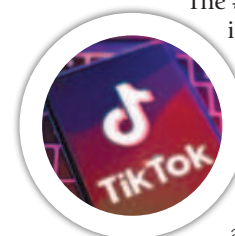
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7 books to read for career growth

Reading is an excellent way to improve your skills, knowledge, and mindset. Whether you're a professional looking to advance your career or a recent graduate seeking job opportunities, there are books that can help you grow and succeed. Here are our recommendations for some of the best books to read for career growth:

"The Lean Startup" by Eric Ries

This book is a must-read for entrepreneurs, startups, and anyone looking to innovate in their industry. It teaches you how to test and validate your ideas, create a minimal viable product, and iterate based on customer feedback.

"The 7 Habits of Highly Effective

"People" by Stephen Covey

This classic book covers the fundamental habits that lead to personal and professional success. It teaches you how to prioritize your tasks, communicate effectively, and create a proactive mindset.

"Mindset: The New Psychology of Success" by Carol S. Dweck

In this book, Carol S. Dweck explores the power of mindset and how it can influence your career and personal life. She shows how a growth mindset, which embraces challenges and sees failures as learning opportunities, can lead to success.

"The Power of Now" by Eckhart Tolle

This book teaches you how to live

in the present moment and find peace, happiness, and clarity. It's a great read for anyone who wants to cultivate mindfulness and eliminate stress in their daily life.

"The Art of Thinking Clearly" by Rolf Dobelli

In this book, Rolf Dobelli helps you identify and overcome common cognitive biases that can hold you back in your career. He provides practical tips and examples on how to improve your critical thinking skills and make better decisions.

"The Talent Code" by Daniel Coyle

This book explores the science behind talent and how to develop it. It covers topics such as motivation, practice, and learning strategies that

can help you excel in your career.

"The Charisma Myth" by Olivia Fox Cabane

In this book, Olivia Fox Cabane teaches you how to develop your charisma and leadership skills. It covers topics such as body language, communication, and emotional intelligence, and provides practical tips on how to increase your influence and impact.

These books can help you develop your skills, mindset, and leadership abilities, which are essential for career growth. By reading and implementing the concepts covered in these books, you can increase your chances of success and achieve your career goals.



Building a stronger and safer nation for 70 years
Our victories are for the people



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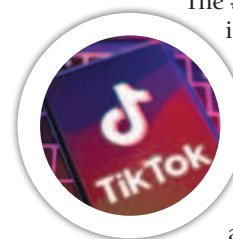
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Core i5 and i7 laptops under Tk. 80k: our recommendations

ABDUS SALAM SHAWN

If you are a blue team (Intel) fan and want a higher-mid-range laptop, you are probably looking for the ones with the latest generation i5 and i7 processors. These laptops are capable of taking on moderate amounts of 3D as well as media production workloads.

Hence, Engineering students and content creators on a medium budget should look at our picks for the best i5 and i7 laptops under Tk. 80,000.

Keep in mind that price and availability can vary across stores.

HP

15s-du3039TX

Price: Tk. 78,000/-
Processor: Intel Core i5-1135G7 (8M Cache, 2.40 GHz up to 4.20 GHz)
GPU: Nvidia GeForce MX450
RAM: 8GB



Storage: 1 TB SSD
Display: 15.6" FHD (1920 x 1080)

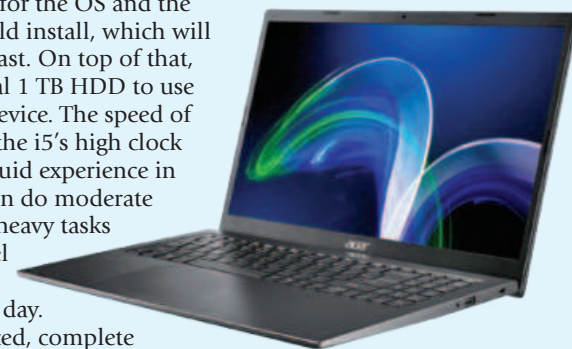
We had to scratch our heads for 15 minutes straight to decide on our final candidate, and we are happy to say that the HP 15 deserves this place. The lack of an SSD at this price is a letdown, no question, but it makes up for it with a dedicated, high-performing GPU. The MX450 performs well in gaming with medium to high settings. You should not expect a constant 60 FPS from current titles, but it is a decent little powerhouse. The dedicated 2 GBs of graphics memory will help you with 3D works, video editing and graphic design. The 11th gen i5 and the dual channel 8 GB RAM are all waiting to be pushed to their limits. You might want to add an SSD to this machine to fully harness its power. Although it would push the budget beyond the Tk. 80k boundary, it will be well worth it.

Acer Extensa 15 EX215-54-596B

Price: Tk. 62,000/-
Processor: Intel Core i5-1135G7 (8M Cache, 2.40 GHz up to 4.20 GHz)
RAM: 8 GB DDR4
Storage: 256 GB SSD+1 TB HDD
Display: 15.6" FHD (1920 x 1080)

We start with a superb deal, a featureful and budget-friendly Extensa 15. It has a surprising amount of goodies compared to its competitors at this price - for example, a 256 GB SSD and 8 GBs of RAM. The SSD

can be used as a host for the OS and the applications you would install, which will help them load very fast. On top of that, you get a conventional 1 TB HDD to use as a reliable storage device. The speed of the SSD, paired with the i5's high clock speed, will ensure a fluid experience in daily use. You can even do moderate amounts of graphics-heavy tasks with the i5 as the Intel Iris Xe graphics have become better day by day. It is a moderately priced, complete package you can pick up and start working with right away.



Realme Book Core i5

Price: Tk. 74,000/-
Processor: Intel Core i5-1135G7 (8M Cache, 2.40 GHz up to 4.20 GHz)
RAM: 8 GB DDR4
Storage: 512 GB SSD

Display: 14" 2K (2160 x 1440)

The Realme Book Core has three aces up its sleeve: a beautiful 2K IPS display, a lightweight and slim aluminium body and 8 GBs of noticeably high-speed RAM. Although the display is a bit low at 14 inches, it makes up in clarity and quality. If you watch a lot of Netflix, now you can binge away in bliss. The sharper display will also be a huge plus

for content creators. Moreover, the Realme Book Core has superb build quality with an all-aluminium body, a very thin structure and a minimal border around the display. It even has a backlit keyboard. A tradeoff is that you will have to deal with a lack of USB ports as it has only one in addition to a USB-C port. The RAM has a surprisingly high bus speed of 4266 MHz, which will communicate with the i5 much faster than the others on this list. It also has a HARMAN sound system with noise cancellation and a fingerprint sensor on the power button. Overall, it is an attractive laptop for designers, video editors and media consumers.

HP 15s-fq5489TU

Price: Tk. 77,000/-
Processor: Intel Core i5-1235U (12M Cache, 1.30 GHz, up to 4.40 GHz)
RAM: 8GB (4+4)
Storage: 512 GB SSD
Display: 15.6" FHD (1920 x 1080)

If you are looking for nothing but the latest processor, the HP 15 has you covered. The new 12th-gen i5 processor is better in performance, power efficiency and offers more

value for money than the previous gen. It has performed 26.45% higher in single-core and 39.42% higher in multi-core tests run by PassMark. The 10-core processor, compared to the last gen's 4-core one, is significantly more powerful and makes a video editor, graphics designer or a 3D artist's day a lot easier. Other than the processor, there are only good things to talk about in the notebook such as the NVMe SSD, the narrow-bezel display and the abundance of ports.



Walton Tamarind MX711G

Price: Tk. 76,000/-
Processor: Intel Core i7-1165G7 (1.2GHz - 2.8GHz, Up To 4.7GHz)
RAM: 8GB DDR4
Storage: 512 GB SSD

Display: 14.0" FHD (1920x1080) IPS

For an i7 laptop, we of-

fer you a native candidate which meets all the standard expectations at a reasonable price and gives you a multi-language keyboard with Bangla font. Although we cannot find a 12th gen i7 under Tk. 80,000, the 11th gen i7 is a reliable and robust performer in both CPU and GPU segments. Accompanied by the Iris Xe graphics and an NVMe SSD, daily tasks would be a doddle for this machine. The RAM is upgradable to 32 GBs. It comes with genuine Windows 11 installed and features an LED-illuminated keyboard.





7 Google search shortcuts you didn't know

In today's world of instant communication, finding terms or concepts via Google searches has become an irreplaceable daily practice. Whenever we need to find information about a topic or need to remember a random detail about basically anything - a quick lookup on Google will save the day. However, despite using Google 24/7, you might not know about some search indicators that will make your searches easier. Here are seven easy ones listed below.

Use a minus to eliminate unwanted results

If you want to look up a range of search results but want to exclude a specific term from appearing, you can use the minus (-) sign right before the word you want to exclude. For example, if you want to look up 'best cars' but want to exclude results from 2021, you can type 'best cars -2021', and Google will automatically remove all instances of 'best cars' from the year '2021' from your search results.

You can also exclude multiple terms this way by adding multiple words after the minus sign. Following the previous example, you can look up 'best cars -2022 -2023' and you will not get any results from the years 2022 and 2023.

Search exact keywords using quotation marks

When you're looking up a bunch of keywords together, Google will often provide mixed results which may or may

not contain all the keywords you were looking for. To make your Google search more specific, you can use quotation marks around the keywords you want to find exactly those words in your results.

For example, if you type in: "best new movies", you will receive search results of articles/links that use the exact words 'best new movies' in them.

Use a tilde symbol to match synonyms

The tilde (~) symbol is generally used to denote a phonetic pronunciation of words in certain languages like Spanish and Portuguese. In mathematics, the same symbol stands for 'is similar to'. Similarly, the tilde in Google searches can help you find synonyms.

Type ~ (Shift + ` button on your keyboard) and then, without spaces, type the word you are looking for. You will get results containing your desired word and any associated synonyms. For example, if you search '~chicken', you will get results related to not only the bird but chicken item recipes, varieties of chicken, facts about chicken, etc.

You can also mix and match this search operator to get more optimised results. For example, if you search 'Facebook ~tips', you will not only get tips and tricks related to using Facebook but also guides, marketing strategies and other helpful articles.

Double dots to indicate number ranges

For number-based searches, using double

dots between two numbers will indicate a range that Google will search for. For example, if you type 'movies 2000..2010', your results will include a list of movies that were released between the years 2000 and 2010.

You can also use this search function to find the price range of specific products. For example, if you type 'laptops 50000..70000', Google will show you links with laptops that are within the Tk. 50,000 to Tk. 70,000 price range.

Asterisk as placeholder

In operating systems such as Linux and DOS, the asterisk (*) sign generally refers to one or more unspecified characters. In Google, the asterisk sign performs a similar function and can be used as a placeholder in your searches. For example, if you type 'best * laptops', Google will find results that start with the word 'best' and ends with the word 'laptops', and fill in whatever words in between.

As such, with 'best * laptops', you will find: 'best budget laptops', 'best Mac laptops', 'best Windows laptops', 'best overall laptops', etc. This search indicator can also help find people's names. For example, if you type in 'Shams * Tonmoy', you will find names of people that start with 'Shams' and end with 'Tonmoy'.

Filter locations

If you want to look up a particular object or person but only regarding a

specific location, you can type 'location:' followed by the location's name in your Google search. For example, you can type 'Elon Musk Location: Bangladesh' to get Bangladeshi articles about Elon Musk.

You can also localise this search indicator further. For example, if you want to search for places to visit that are only in Sylhet, you can type 'places to visit Location: Sylhet' to get a more optimised result.

Make use of advanced search

If you feel Google isn't providing you with the search results you are looking for, you can narrow your search down further with the advanced search option. On desktop, you can access this from the 'Settings' menu on the bottom right corner of Google.com. Alternatively, you can find this option on the top-right 'Quick settings' whenever you have Google search results open.

Using Google's Advanced Search, you can narrow down your desired results' language, region, last update time, file type, etc. You can even choose how the keywords will appear on your search - anywhere in the results, on the title only, on the text only, etc. Advanced Search also lets you find results according to file types such as .doc, .ppt, .pdf, etc.

You can also further refine your searches by using the other word-related functions that Google outlines in the first section of Advanced Search.



Bangladesh wins 13 awards at 24th Int'l Robot Olympiad

AHMAD TOUSIF JAMI

Hosted annually, the International Robot Olympiad (IRO) is a global event that awards students from all over the world in robotics. This year, in the 24th iteration of the IRO, Team Bangladesh won a total of 13 awards, including 1 gold medal, 2 silver medals, 2 bronze medals and 8 technical medals.

The 24th International Robot Olympiad was held from January 12 to 15 in Phuket, Thailand. This year, about 1,500 participants from all around the world participated in the global event, with Bangladesh competing with a 14-member team consisting of students from different schools and colleges in the country.

In the 'Robot in Movie' category, Maisha Sobhan, Samia Mehnaz, and Marjia Afifa Prithibi from Team Aficionados won the gold medal from the challenge group. Silver medalists from the junior group are Zaima Jahin Wara, Mahruz Mohammad Ayman and Shabnam Khan from Team Robosparkers.

In the challenge group of the 'Creative Category', Nusaiba Tazreen Tanisha, Sadia Anjum Puspo, B. M. Hamim from Team Zeroth won the silver medal.

Nusaiba Tazreen Tanisha, Sadia Anjum Puspo, B. M. Hamim from Team Zeroth and Nasheetat Zainah Rahman

and Quazi Mostahid Labib from Team RoboTigers won the bronze medal from the challenge group of the 'Robot in Movie' category.

The technical medalists were Zaima Jahin Wara, Mahruz Mohammad Ayman, and Shabnam Khan from Team Robosparkers in the junior group of the 'Creative Category'.

Other technical medalists included, also in the 'Creative Category' were Nasheetat Zainah Rahman, Quazi Mostahid Labib, and Abrar Shahid from Team Robotigers; Mahir Tajwar Chowdhury from Team Xfanatics in the challenge group of the same category; Team Xfanatics consisting of Mahir Tajwar Chowdhury and Abrar Shahid in the challenge group of 'Robot in Movie' category.

Technical medals were also awarded to Nusaiba Tazreen Tanisha and Marjia Afifa Prithibi in the 'Physical Computing'

category, Mahir Tajwar Chowdhury in the 'FPV Racing Simulator' category, Md. Omar Karim in the 'Energy Saving', 'Cart Rolling' and 'Robot Gathering' category.

Regarding the achievement, Gold Medal winner Samia Mehnaz says, "If the same me six months ago were asked about this journey, she wouldn't have believed it." She shares that the journey has been incredible but possible with the support of our parents, the guidance of our mentor, and our passion for our ambition.

According to Prof. Dr. Lafifa Jamal, President of the Bangladesh Robot Olympiad Committee, Bangladesh has participated in the International Robot Olympiad since 2018 and has won multiple awards each year, including gold medals. She believes the hard work and effort of Team Bangladesh and its mentors led to this consistently outstanding performance.