



Lifecycle Analysis- Original Design

iBook G3 Clamshell

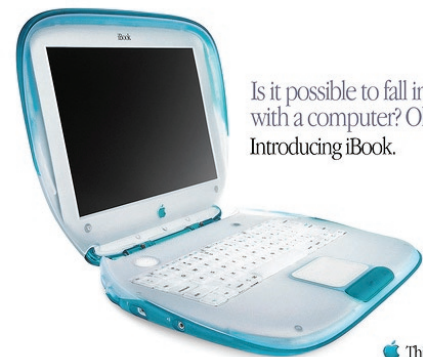
Purchase

The computer is purchased by the consumer as “the portable iMac.”

Primary Use

The consumer uses the computer until it no longer functions as a fully-functional modern laptop. Damaged parts and worn batteries can be replaced to extend its functional life. The computer can also be upgraded by expanding its hard drive, RAM, and (sometimes) upgrading the processor.

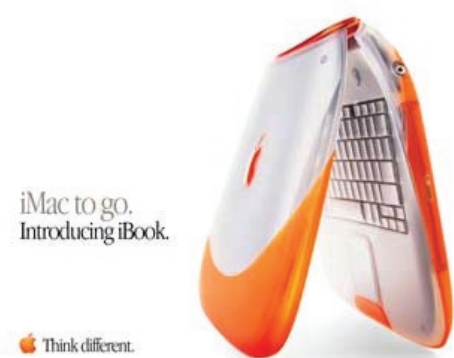
These factors can only extend the computer's useful life for a couple years before the computer can no longer be upgraded or the cost of upgrading exceeds the value offered by a new computer.



1999 advertisement

Obsolescence

After about four years, newer applications, games, and operating systems require the speed and power of newer computers and the still functional computer becomes obsolete. Occasionally, the laptop may be donated to a school or Goodwill, or used as a backup computer, but it often simply collects dust or is disassembled to repair similar units.



1999 advertisement

Discardation

Once all possible use has been worked from the computer, it is eventually discarded by the last user, and most (if not all) of its components are lost.