

Hardware Review: Logitech Cordless MX Duo Cordless Keyboard & Rechargeable Mouse

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The Freedom to Point and Click

There's much to be said about the many rewards of today's wireless technologies. One popular use is the wireless (or cordless) keyboard and mouse. How often have you been frustrated by having your keyboard and mouse wires snag, interfere, or hang up on some portion of your desk? Plus, going wireless with a keyboard or mouse bestows upon you the freedom to place your mouse and keyboard wherever you like—and still be precisely accurate with your input commands.

The Logitech Cordless MX Duo includes Logitech's Cordless Elite Keyboard paired with their award winning MX700 Cordless Optical Mouse. Both products are premium grade and represent a great value when purchased together in the MX Duo box. How much dinero? If you watch the papers (along with the many rebates) you can get your Cordless MX Duo ranging from \$65 to \$90. Many retailers sell the MX700 rechargeable mouse for \$70 alone! The astounding performance and feature set is uniformly matched by the coordinated black and silver satin finished mouse and keyboard. Being extremely conscious of my computer related equipment aesthetics, the MX Duo scores top marks in the looks department.

Rechargeable Rodents, Nice Features, and 5 Year Warranty

First, let's discuss the high performance MX700 Optical mouse with included "Rapid Charge Docking Base Station." When I mention high performance, I'm referring to Logitech's revolutionary MX optical engine with an 800dpi sensor capturing 4.7 megapixels every second! What does this mean? Accuracy—even the smallest movement ensures silky smooth frame rates for games (this is truly a great gaming mouse) and precision control on many surfaces. Although the RF cordless technology is old hat, Logitech has made enhancements in digital radio technology yielding faster data transmissions resulting in outstanding performance within a six foot range. The docking/recharging base station does double duty as the receiver and charger. When not in use, just put the rodent in the cradle and your attractive little friend will always be full of energy. I recommend Logitech products without wavering due to their outstanding quality, support, and warranty. The Cordless MX Duo is no exception sporting Logitech's solid 5-year warranty!

The Key...is the Keyboard

Logitech's "Cordless Elite Keyboard" will not disappoint. The symmetrical specialty key layout will give you the feeling of a flight control deck alongside your mouse. The Elite is a regular full size keyboard with a comfy ergonomic design. The keys have a nice responsive feel and are fairly quiet (only my mutt's astutely tuned ears know when I sneak online at 3:17 am). Programmable specialty keys makes the Elite keyboard plenty useful, practical, and fun. But the real genius is deferred to Logitech's refined software "iTouch," the heart of the Cordless MX Duo.

iTouch You, You Touch Me

The iTouch software is the control center used to configure and program the keyboard and mouse (Version 2.2 is the latest—update immediately if you need it). iTouch is simple to use. When installed, you can access it instantly from the system tray in the lower right area of your screen. Right clicking reveals the whole enchilada. Bring up "iTouch Configuration" to reveal the software's five tabbed interface. It is all very intuitive and simple to customize. Need assistance? Just select the detailed built-in help by right-clicking "Help" (for a little extra hand holding). Now for the good stuff! I love having the mute button right next to the huge master volume control switch. The really sweet ingredient is the on-screen displayed feedback corresponding to your selection...it interacts with your commands by illuminating a day-glow green colored word such as "Mute" or "Favorites" or "Cap Locks" or "Search"—get the picture? The other tremendous trick I mentioned earlier is the pre-programmed dual function F-keys. By toggling Logitech's iTouch F-Keys you get a whole new set of automated functions from your F1 through F12 keys. Simply click the "iTouch F" button again and the F-keys are back to normal!

Unplugging It All

There are just too many features to cover in this short review. You owe it to yourself to get a Logitech Cordless MX Duo—you won't be disappointed. Installation is a snap and even includes a step by step installation poster. When I think about all the added convenience and functionality the Cordless MX Duo brings to my computing experience, I will never go back to a lifeless boring keyboard and mouse. Between the multimedia controls, Internet buttons, hotkeys, or just working in a document, it's a pleasure to use many, if not all the features of the Logitech Cordless MX Duo. To learn more about the Cordless MX Duo or any of Logitech's other quality products, visit www.logitech.com. Reviewed on [Alienware](#) Area 51 Desktop.

What's In the Box?

- Logitech Cordless Elite Keyboard
- Logitech Cordless MX700 Optical Mouse
- Receiver/charging base
- AC power supply
- USB to PS/2 adapter
- 2 AA NiMH rechargeable batteries
- 2 AA alkaline batteries, CD with software, comfort guidelines and User's Guide
- Quickstart Poster
- 5-year limited hardware warranty

System Requirements—Win98, WinNT 4.0, Win 2000, Win Me, WinXP or Mac OS X. Available USB or PS/2 keyboard port and PS/2 mouse port, CD-ROM drive.