Mood Board for Different Mouse Models

Wired Mouse



**A wired mouse** connects directly to your desktop or laptop, usually through a USB port, and transmits information via the cord. The cord connection has several advantages. Wired mice provide fast response time, as the information is carried through the cable. They can also be more accurate than other designs. This makes wired models good for gamers, digital artists, and users who rely on accurate work.

Wireless Mouse



**Wireless mice** transmit radio signals to a receiver connected into the computer. The computer gets the signal and decodes how the cursor was moved or what buttons were clicked. The freedom or range with wireless is convenient but there are some disadvantages. The decoding process means that a wireless mouse is sometimes not as responsive to movement as a wired mouse. Gamers might find the lag frustrating. But there are specific wireless mice especially for gaming that address the latency issue in their design and have quicker response times. For most users, however, the lag or lost accuracy with a wireless model will be negligible.

Bluetooth Mouse



Wireless mouse and **Bluetooth** mouse designs look very similar, as neither need a wired connection to function. Most wireless mice models use a dongle that connects to your PC, and the mouse receives information in that manner. A Bluetooth mouse uses an internal Bluetooth connection on your computer, meaning you can connect the mouse to many devices.

Trackball mouse



**A trackball mouse** looks like an upside-down mouse. These mice have a ball with sensors that move the cursor on the screen when the ball is moved with your thumb. A trackball requires less effort to move around than a wired or wireless mouse and is easier for scrolling. This makes non-trackball styles better for gaming and computing activities that need heavy mouse use.

Optical Mouse



Technically, all mice are optical and take images thousands of times per second as the mouse is moved. The **optical mouse** uses a red or infrared LED light projected onto a surface to track movement. The remaining data passes over 10,000 digital images each second. The result is smooth movement and accurate pointing on your display that doesn't require a mouse pad and even allows the mouse to work over a glass surface.

Laser Mouse

An optical mouse and **laser mouse** are alike in design but have one major difference. While optical mice use infrared LED light to bounce off surfaces to track movement, laser mice utilize an LED outside the visible spectrum and appears to have no light at all. Both types are goood, but laser mice models have a bit more accuracy. Either way, both mouse types are excellent choices.

Magic Mouse



**The Magic Mouse** was first developed for use with Apple computers. It works like a traditional mouse. However, Apple also created multitouch technology that allows for swiping and scrolling by moving your hand over the surface of the mouse. These features can make regular tasks more efficient. Windows has also developed compatible drivers that allow Magic Mouse models to work on a PC as well.

**USB Mouse**



**A USB mouse** is the most common of mice and has been a part of computer basics since the USB Standard was set in 1996. USB computer mice may be wired or wireless. The wired mouse plugs into a USB slot on your PC, while a wireless mouse usually has a transmitter that plugs into the USB slot and communicates with the mouse. These are good standard mice for all PC activities.

Vertical Mouse



**A vertical mouse** is an ergonomic design that places the wrist in a "handshake" position rather than flat against a desk. This reduces the pressure on the underside of the wrist and the internal rotation of the shoulders. The unique design can take some getting used to, but it may help reduce the chance of muscular stress-related conditions like carpal tunnel.

Gaming Mouse



**Gaming mice** are available in both wired and wireless designs and may include additional features beyond standard models to improve your gaming experience. In general, these mice models are designed to do everything a normal mouse can do while offering higher accuracy, less latency, and more ergonomic designs.

Other key features that can be found with gaming mice are the inclusion of more buttons (which may be programmable for unique in-game use), flashy designs, DPI control, and customizable drivers that can be tailored to your specific gaming needs. Some gaming mouse models even have adjustable weights, which can make a difference when making repeated movements with your mouse over long gaming sessions. And, of course, you can still use your gaming mouse for non-gaming day-to-day activities as well.