

# Tough SSD drives



## Adata SD700 256GB

> £105 > FROM Adata, [adata.com](http://adata.com) >

**FEATURES** 256GB mSSD drive, USB 3.1, IP68 certified

### Durability ★★★★★

The drive is IP68 certified, so can survive a dunking in water as well as a rain shower. It happily survived falling from tabletop height (70cm) on to a wooden floor too, thanks to its rubberised casing.

### Performance ★★★★★

The SD700 is the quicker drive of the two, despite being edged out in some read benchmarks. Its file-write speeds were very impressive – 430MB/s in extended file tests, 208 MB/s in standard write tests – and it's quick in real-world tests too, writing 10GB of small files in under a minute.

### Connectivity ★★★★★

The drive has a separate, replaceable cable with a standard Micro-B SuperSpeed connector. At 30cm in length, it should be adequate for life on the road. The USB port is protected by a rubber cover when not in use.

### Portability ★★★★★

It's not as small as the Freecom, but the SD700 still only spans 8.4x8.4x1.4cm. The need for a separate cable makes it less self-contained, but at least that cable ensures a perfect connection to any port on your MacBook.

Reviewed by **NICK PEERS**



## Freecom Tough Drive Mini SSD 256GB

> £156 > FROM Freecom, [freecom.com](http://freecom.com)

> **FEATURES** 256GB mSSD drive, USB 3.0, IP55 certified

### Durability ★★★★★

The Freecom is IP55-certified, which means that it's splashproof, but not likely to survive total immersion in water. It claims to be resistant to 4m drops too, and it certainly survived our tabletop drop test.

### Performance ★★★★★

The Tough Drive Mini is reassuringly fast thanks to the USB 3.0/SSD combo. It edged the SD700 in most read tests (peaking at 434MB/s in the extended test), but fell away in the write tests. That said, it's no slouch, managing 179MB/s (standard) and 301MB/s (extended).

### Connectivity ★★★★★

This drive has a major weakness: its cable is all of 3cm long, which is awkward to fit. The connection isn't always secure – macOS kept reporting the drive disconnecting when plugged into our MacBook's right-hand USB port.

### Portability ★★★★★

This drive measures just 8.7x5.3x1.7cm, thanks to the fact that it houses an mSSD drive, which is much smaller than a regular 2.5-inch drive. The USB cable tucks away neatly in the end when not in use, and it'll fit in the tiniest pocket.

> It may not be as small, but this drive's more competitive price, slightly superior performance and better use of cables make it our pick.



**Mac  
FORMAT  
VERDICT**

> It's small, fast, light and durable, but is let down by that ridiculously short cable – Freecom should have shipped an extension cable as standard.

