Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 01:14:23 GMT
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Well, I've finally made a decision as to which video card I want to get, the product looks good to me, but I was hoping to run it past the computer geniuses here at RenForums.

Without much further ado, I give you...

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&category=40158&item=5108702435&rd=1&ssPageName=WDVW

The Derek Zoolander Center for Kids Who Can't Read Good!

...harumph....I mean, the video card I'm going to purchase probably tomorrow.

It looks fine to me, but will I be able to just open up my Dell 4300, pull out my GeForce 2 MX 440, plug the Radeon in to the slot on the motherboard, and swap out my power supply for a 400W one?

I think this may have been answered before, in a roundabout way, but I don't particularly like doing things where I don't fullly understand how it all works, so if anyone could clear this up, I would be most grateful. Thanks.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by mrpirate on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 01:50:24 GMT
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Make sure you uninstall all the drivers from your GeForce first, and remember to plug in your 9700.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by liberator on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 08:14:46 GMT
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Make sure there is clearance for the card. You don't want to shell out lots of $140 for something that won't fit in a $%##$% non-standard Dell case. Course you could gut it and drop it a cheap ATX.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by liberator on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 08:16:34 GMT
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liberatorMake sure there is clearance for the card. You don't want to drop 140 bones for

something that won't fit in a $%##$% non-standard Dell case. Course you could gut it and drop it a cheap ATX.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by Vitaminous on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 08:21:09 GMT
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Was it really necessery to quote yourself after two minutes?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by NHJ BV on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 09:23:13 GMT
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Swapping power supplies is a bit more difficult than swapping video cards, but from what I've been told it isn't very hard to do. When I got a new video card (from Geforce 4 MX 440 64 MB to a ATI Radeon 9600 Pro 128 MB) my system suffered from spontaneous reboots, mostly when playing heavy games like Splinter Cell: PT or UT2K4. I was convinced my 250W power supply couldn't handle my system anymore after the videocard upgrade, but after a week or so the spontaneous reboots stopped. To this day I still don't know what caused them (I was and am virus- and spywarefree), but the bright side was I didn't need to upgrade my power supply

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Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 13:51:21 GMT
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AprimeWas it really necessery to quote yourself after two minutes?

I did that once on the politics forum by accident - my bet is that he wanted to edit his post, but then clicked the quote button by accident, changed some text, and then posted again without realizing it was a new post.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by cheesesoda on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 13:59:01 GMT
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SuperFlyingEngiAprimeWas it really necessery to quote yourself after two minutes?

I did that once on the politics forum by accident - my bet is that he wanted to edit his post, but then clicked the quote button by accident, changed some text, and then posted again without realizing it was a new post.
I have often his posts are exactly the same.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 01:58:52 GMT
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...one last thing. I'm not sure, but going on Dell's website they say 4300s have 1 4x/2x AGP slot. Will a Radeon 9700 work in a 4x AGP slot? It also didn't say AGP slot, but AGP protocol bus or something.

http://support.dell.com/support/edocs/systems/dim4300/specs.htm#1101572

Will a Radeon 9700 Pro 128 Mb fit in this? Thanks so much for your continued support.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 03:55:59 GMT
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It will work but at AGP 4x speed.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 04:02:41 GMT
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...how will that affect performance?

Will it be only half as fast, or will it just be a small downgrade, or what?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 04:04:31 GMT
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Yes, I'm afraid to say that it's transfer cap will be at half the speed as a motherboard with AGP 8x support

---

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 04:10:48 GMT
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If I were to replace my motherboard with something AGP 8x compatible, how much would that cost me? I looked on pricewatch but I have no clue at all about motherboards. All I can discern is that they have big names.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 04:18:21 GMT
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Motherboards typically range in price from $80-$250 depending on quality and features. You'd have to check several manufactures to find motherboard models that fit your current processor and ram along with the AGP8x.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by liberator on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 07:59:51 GMT
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Of course, the Mobo would have to fit in the Dell case as well. Everything Dell makes is customized to some degree or another so you have to buy your parts from them.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by mrpirate on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 19:08:23 GMT
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SHOKAgentYes, I'm afraid to say that it's transfer cap will be at half the speed as a motherboard with AGP 8x support

That's a very misleading statement, considering his original question. There would be almost no difference between the performance of a 9700 Pro plugged into an 8x AGP bus, or a 4x AGP bus.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by Deactivated on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 19:15:02 GMT
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Because most games are optimized for 4x anyway.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 21:48:37 GMT
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mrpirateThat's a very misleading statement, considering his original question. There would be almost no difference between the performance of a 9700 Pro plugged into an 8x AGP bus, or a 4x AGP bus.

What is the difference between a 4x bus and an 8x? Because if I get a Radeon 9700, I would like it to last for at least a year or two, and become outdated about when my GeForce 2 is, when new games start coming out with features the card can't handle. Would, say, Splinter Cell: PT run well

with a 9700 in a 4x slot?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by PhrozenUnit on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 22:15:37 GMT
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8X is a waste. SC:PT will run just fine in a 2X Slot.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 22:23:42 GMT
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mrpirateSHOKAgentYes, I'm afraid to say that it's transfer cap will be at half the speed as a motherboard with AGP 8x support

That's a very misleading statement, considering his original question. There would be almost no difference between the performance of a 9700 Pro plugged into an 8x AGP bus, or a 4x AGP bus.

Maybe for games released within the past 5 years. :rolleyes:

If you want to have decent quality graphics for the new generation of games without taking a blow in FPS because there's half the bandwidth then if it was AGP8x enabled, go ahead and stick with the outdated AGP4x slot. I recently got a new motherboard just for this reason. AGP4x will soon be obsolete, especially with the rise in production of PCI Express.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by mrpirate on Sat, 17 Jul 2004 23:50:21 GMT
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... get a clue, SHOK.

I'd estimate there's about a 5% difference between AGP 4x and AGP 8x on a Radeon 9700 Pro.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by Gernader8 on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 14:35:03 GMT
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I am also in the market for a new video card but I have my eye on this one.

http://www.newegg.com/app/ViewProductDesc.asp?description=14-127-127&depa=1

Yes, yes I know it is not made by ATI(well the chipset was), but it was gotten nothing but excellent

---

reviews from several websites. The thing that I like about it is that it can be overclocked to exceed the Radeon 9800XT off the shelf performance.

If your willing to spend $60 more dollars I would get that, and then you can test it for me

---

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 15:52:50 GMT
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Wow...that card looks really good, and I may shell out an extra 60 dollars for it..However, I need to go to the supreme computer parts authority for this one...

mrpirate, what do you think?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by mrpirate on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 17:01:55 GMT
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hahaha

If you've got the extra $60, you should go for it.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 18:25:23 GMT
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Cool, well, I guess I will. And it says it's a 4x/8x AGP Bus, so I should be fine on that...

I just gotta check the 'ole bank and I'll probably drop 50 bucks on it. Thanks for the find, Gernader, and I'll tell you how it works.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by Gernader8 on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 18:54:54 GMT
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No problem, I hope it does work well or else I kinda screwed you over Do not feel anyway 'pressured' into this, if you feel more comfortable get your first choice.

But New Egg is a great company and its easy to send stuff back and be refunded.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Sun, 18 Jul 2004 21:39:23 GMT
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Ah, don't worry about it, I honestly think that this card is worth the extra $50, because of the extra software and the extra horsepower. And yes, I have trust in Newegg. Thanks for the find.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 02:30:19 GMT
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One last thing - my dad thinks that a 1.6GHz processor would place a bottleneck on a Radeon 9700 Pro or some other fast card because it can't send enough data fast enough to make the card useful. Will there be a certain point where a 1.6GHz processor just won't get enough data to the video card to make it useful? Should I be thinking about a 9500 instead, to save some money, but not really lose any performance?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by Alkaline on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 06:40:48 GMT
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its not a bad card, but renegade runs a lot better on nvidia cards....
anyway should be set for half-life 2 when it comes out.
I think you can buy these new for like 164.00 shipped :/

http://www.imagestore.us/product.asp?pf_id=HY%2DRA9700%2D128P

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by bigejoe14 on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 07:14:00 GMT
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Quote:renegade runs a lot better on nvidia cards....
Bullshit.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 07:28:44 GMT
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bigejoe14Quote:renegade runs a lot better on nvidia cards....
Bullshit.

I wouldn't doubt it. There's been plenty of misinformation in this thread.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 14:17:40 GMT
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Alkalineits not a bad card, but renegade runs a lot better on nvidia cards....
anyway should be set for half-life 2 when it comes out.
I think you can buy these new for like 164.00 shipped :/

http://www.imagestore.us/product.asp?pf_id=HY%2DRA9700%2D128P

I'm not really seeking better performance in Renegade - or at least RenAlert, I don't play
Renegade all that much any more, because my GeForce 2 gives me 70 FPS. Just a week or so
ago, someone showed me how to make the FPS appear in the corner, and I'm quite happy with
that. Thanks for the link.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by NHJ BV on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 19:19:45 GMT
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SuperFlyingEngiOne last thing - my dad thinks that a 1.6GHz processor would place a bottleneck
on a Radeon 9700 Pro or some other fast card because it can't send enough data fast enough to
make the card useful. Will there be a certain point where a 1.6GHz processor just won't get
enough data to the video card to make it useful? Should I be thinking about a 9500 instead, to
save some money, but not really lose any performance?

I *think* (meaning don't know that a 9700 is worth it over the 9500 in terms of performance gains.
How much RAM do you have?

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SuperFlyingEngi on Mon, 19 Jul 2004 21:59:04 GMT
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512 Mb

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by {DG}Stryder on Tue, 20 Jul 2004 06:16:41 GMT
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hehe, congratulations on your new card.

Hope it goes well.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by abakshi on Sat, 07 Aug 2004 02:10:26 GMT
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SHOKAgentYes, I'm afraid to say that it's transfer cap will be at half the speed as a motherboard with AGP 8x support
I'm sorry, but that's just dead wrong.

There is nearly no difference at all in performance between AGP 4x and 8x. The most difference you'll ever see is about 1%, and even that, usually only at very high FPS rates (e.g. Quake III at 640x480 on a Radeon 9800XT).

To original poster: yes, you can run a Radeon 9500/9600/9700/9800 in your system if it has AGP 4x slot, and there will be very little performance decrease versus AGP 8x.

EDIT:
SuperFlyingEngiOne last thing - my dad thinks that a 1.6GHz processor would place a bottleneck on a Radeon 9700 Pro or some other fast card because it can't send enough data fast enough to make the card useful. Will there be a certain point where a 1.6GHz processor just won't get enough data to the video card to make it useful? Should I be thinking about a 9500 instead, to save some money, but not really lose any performance?
Aha - now that makes a difference. You could save some money buying a cheaper card, like a 9600, but that'll still be ~$100 -- so a 9700 or 9800 would be a lot more power for your money (though the 1.6 definitely will be a bottleneck).

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by SHOKAgent on Sat, 07 Aug 2004 02:58:17 GMT
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abakshiSHOKAgentYes, I'm afraid to say that it's transfer cap will be at half the speed as a motherboard with AGP 8x support
I'm sorry, but that's just dead wrong.

There is nearly no difference at all in performance between AGP 4x and 8x. The most difference you'll ever see is about 1%, and even that, usually only at very high FPS rates (e.g. Quake III at 640x480 on a Radeon 9800XT).

To original poster: yes, you can run a Radeon 9500/9600/9700/9800 in your system if it has AGP 4x slot, and there will be very little performance decrease versus AGP 8x.

And as I said, that's only half the truth. Yes, there will be very little performance decrease vs AGP8x for games released over a year ago, mainly because they were designed for that bus. With the newer generation of video cards and games, that is very quickly changing. AGP will soon become obsolete altogether within the next few years because of PCI Express. If you want to stay on top for next generation games (ie Doom3, HL2, etc.), you won't want to limit yourself to a AGP 8x capable card with only a 4x slot. That's just my opinion. You can do whatever you want.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by abakshi on Sat, 07 Aug 2004 16:45:12 GMT
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SHOKAgent
And as I said, that's only half the truth. Yes, there will be very little performance decrease vs AGP8x for games released over a year ago, mainly because they were designed for that bus. With the newer generation of video cards and games, that is very quickly changing. AGP will soon become obsolete altogether within the next few years because of PCI Express. If you want to stay on top for next generation games (ie Doom3, HL2, etc.), you won't want to limit yourself to a AGP 8x capable card with only a 4x slot. That's just my opinion. You can do whatever you want.
It seems you have a crucial misunderstanding of what the AGP bus does.

All it does is connect the graphics card to the system bus -- it is a higher-performance system that allowed graphics cards to run independently of the PCI bus, which is quite a bit slower.

The bus connection has absolutely nothing to do with individual games.

PCI Express is the successor to PCI, and the fastest PCI Express connection type (16x) is faster than AGP, which is why graphics cards are now slowly moving to PCI Express.

Once again, it has nothing to do with individual games. If you're running a mobo with AGP 8x support, go into your system BIOS and set it to run in AGP 4x mode only. You'll notice that there will be very little difference - be it Doom III or Commander Keen - Half-Life 2 or Doom I.

Games are not designed for specific system buses -- if you think that, I'm sorry but you have a lot to learn.

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by kopaka649 on Sat, 07 Aug 2004 17:58:11 GMT
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http://cgi.ebay.ca/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&category=40158&item=5114515920&rd=1

Subject: Oh, I don't think I no longer got none video card blues...
Posted by revenuke on Sat, 07 Aug 2004 21:34:13 GMT
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OK... i had the same query as u have now... 4X agp motherboard WILL RUN 8x card and the performance between 4X and 8X is NOT MUCH!

but i did had some other problems so eventually i had to change the mobo...

report back when you get ur 9700 pro... its a good card..