

Since you're going AMD (I am too), I'd recommend either an Athlon 64 X2 4400+ or 4800+, since they have twice as much L2 cache compared to the 4200+ and 4600+.

Unless you're really keen on having absolute top components I'd get a motherboard with the nForce 570 chipset (make sure you get a socket AM2 processor, haha).

As for the video card:

I've always had ATI video cards, and I am planning to get a Radeon X1900 XT since it was the cheapest high-end card I could find. As for which out of the Radeon X1900 XTX and GeForce 7900 GTX is better, I'd recommend you figure out which games you want to use the new computer for and then find some benchmarks with both cards. They're pretty evenly matched although the 7900 is better for OpenGL-based games, and the X1900 seems to fair better with high resolutions and AA/AF enabled. The X1900 XT is nice because it's only clocked a tiny bit slower (and therefore priced quite a bit less) than the XTX but has the exact same architecture.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mision08](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 03:50:35 GMT

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Congrats on your graduation!

I trust you have a 4.0 GPA to flaunt about.

My advise is to spend wisely, maybe even purchase some used hardware. Now would be a good time, with AMD releasing a new socket PGA earlier this month. I know for me, I can enjoy playing games with a \$160.00 video card much more than with a \$500.00 card. If I spend \$500 on a video card I expect to get wet when I walk under the waterfall at Field.

P.S. Get a good PSU, especially if your build includes an SLI set up, OCZ XV series memory or a DFI motherboard. Insufficient power has caused numerous problems for people using the DFI boards.

Is this supposed to be a laptop?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Jaspah](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 04:27:13 GMT

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Buy one of those fancy new NVidia BFG Geforce 7950 GX2's. That will last quite a while.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 04:34:12 GMT
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mision08 wrote on Mon, 12 June 2006 22:50: Congrats on your graduation!
I trust you have a 4.0 GPA to flaunt about.

My advise is to spend wisely, maybe even purchase some used hardware. Now would be a good time, with AMD releasing a new socket PGA earlier this month. I know for me, I can enjoy playing games with a \$160.00 video card much more than with a \$500.00 card. If I spend \$500 on a video card I expect to get wet when I walk under the waterfall at Field.

lol No 4.0. I have a 3.73 GPA but a kickass ACT score. I've got 5500\$ set aside for money to have in college, and this 2200\$ is extra that I can use for a computer. Jaspah I've looked at those things. Lowest I can find is 650\$ for one of those. They look pretty nice but I don't know what to think about them. 650\$ is a lot for a video card... That's 1/4 the total price of the computer. Still an option. I just... I have this money and it's such a wonderful thought and I want to get the most out of it while still not sitting on my laurels for another year and keeping this money out of investment.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 22:20:03 GMT
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Anymore thoughts here?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 22:28:16 GMT
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I say X2 with a high-end ATI card. I haven't particularly had great luck with nVidia myself. Both nVidia cards that I had died on me. The only issue I've had with ATI myself is the Catalyst drivers, but that issue I had was probably caused by my stupidity with installing them.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 23:02:17 GMT
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I've always been happy with my AMD 64 3500+(1 year old system). If you can get faster, more power to you. My ATI x800 has been sluggish at times, but that's just probably do to my sloppy wiring job. I think it's causing a pocket of heat over my expansion bays. Most of the time, it works great though.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 23:28:29 GMT
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This is a really bad time to build a computer.

On July 23rd Intel is releasing it's new CPUs(Core 2 Duo), and the day after that AMD CPUs prices will be cut almost in half.

AMD will not have an attractive new CPU until early 2007, when K8L comes out. The only thing they will really have going for them after July 23rd is incredibly low prices. X2 3800s are expected to hit \$160 USD or lower. Single core A64s will be well below \$100. Any CPU you buy now will be completely devalued and outdated in just over a month.

DirectX 10 cards are coming out in the fall, most likely November. Any card you buy now will not run games on DX10, obviously. Trying to sell a DX9 card when DX10 is the new standard will not go over well with your wallet(assuming you'd decide to upgrade when DX10 comes out). If you must build now though, I'd go with a 7900GT(less than \$300) or 7600GT(less than \$200), they provide awesome performance for their cost.

Nforce5 mobos are only out for AM2 socket CPUs right now. I'm not sure if K8L will use AM2 or not though, they might use a different socket(AM3). If K8L will use AM2, this would be the best way to go. If not, you're just going to be building yourself a brickwall in terms of performance. Not to mention wasting your money.

Your best bet is to hold off building until at least august or september. That way you can go with eVGA and be within stepup reach of their DX10 nvidia cards(Step-Up is a program that lets you return your card to eVGA, and pay the difference between what you paid for it and what the new card you want costs. It must be within 3 months of purchase though). By then Core2 will also have been out for a bit and the prices will have dropped slightly(always costs more for the first few weeks after release).

If you absolutely must build now, make sure you choose very wisely. You may want to upgrade again this fall or next year, and you will want to replace the minimum amount of parts possible.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 23:44:10 GMT
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Well that's the thing, I pretty much need to build soon but I will not be re upgrading. I've had this computer for 6 years and it has the original processor, video card, mobo... I want to get something I can just have for a long time. All I'm worried about is them actually STOPPING my cards from playing DirectX 10 games. As I said I couldn't care less about the effects it allows. I just want to be able to play it. It's one thing to make an effect someone can't see but its another entirely to prevent them from playing the entire game. Basically I... almost want a card that looks ugly but plays roxor fast. Not literally, lol but I mean that I don't care about what DirectX 10 brings to the table, just that I can play games with directX 10 at all.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [rm5248](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 23:56:46 GMT
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I'm looking to buy a new computer soon-- If you want a good processor, I've heard that AMD's Opterons are very good, because they have a large (2x 1MB) L2 cache, plus you can get them for normal socket 939 Motherboards. They also overclock better, so (if you really want to) you could probably get them to FX-60 speeds. They're also a lot cheaper (they start at \$330 on Newegg). A good video card is the 7600GT. I believe that it's one of the best value cards under \$200.

It really depends on what you're looking for. Perhaps you should ask at THG.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 01:49:46 GMT
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The problem with computers is that it's ALWAYS a bad time to build one, because new technology is ALWAYS just around the corner. Arguably, perhaps, right before the release of DirectX 10 is not the best time to upgrade, but, conversely, perhaps right afterwards isn't either. DirectX 9 and the GeForce FX 5800 anyone? The truth is that although I have upgraded my video card on a couple occasions over the past 3 years I haven't really done much with the rest of my computer and don't imagine I would with the new one when it's built. So although upgradability is an interesting idea, it may very likely be moot (assuming PCI Express x16 will suffice for the next couple years, which it obviously will). And although price-cuts are interesting, if I can currently get an Athlon 64 3800+ for \$171 Canadian, I don't think I'll feel too bad.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [z310](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 02:06:53 GMT
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Go green.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 02:28:19 GMT
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mrpirate wrote on Tue, 13 June 2006 21:49The problem with computers is that it's ALWAYS a bad time to build one[...]

Actually, this time it really is.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 05:02:14 GMT
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Like I stated, I don't care and frankly don't want what DirectX 10 offers. I'm afraid however that I won't be able to run the games. The phrasing there is keen, I don't care if they are ugly or missing effects. This all stems from my experience with Nvidia and BF2. My GeForce4400 is capable of playing it, but in an attempt to force people with older cards to upgrade Nvidia had EA add code to block the 4400 series. When I use a spoofer to trick the game into thinking I have another card it starts up and runs, and not only runs but runs well. Sure it looks kinda ugly and crazy because I don't have all the fancy shader effects but it runs and that's what is important. Also the time period is pretty set, this money won't be here in November so not only can I not wait till then I can't buy a 27\$ video card and upgrade later...

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 05:44:41 GMT
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get a dual-core AMD, those are fucking awesome. If you multitask a lot, of course.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 06:20:06 GMT
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Alright, but you should wait for the price drops and get an Opteron processor if possible. Also get AM2 if you plan to get minor upgrades later (as in within a year or two) (a DirectX 10 is highly suggested due to the whole Vista thing, but it isn't necessary to run it).

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Spice](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 06:33:22 GMT
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I would go for the AMD2 socket motherboard with this processor. It saves time for upgrades later.

I'd go with this processor:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168191037_35

This motherboard:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168131310_13

This Power Supply:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?item=N82E168171210_11

I'd go with this as a placeholder videocard and wait for Direct X10 Cards:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?item=N82E168141302_61

Maybe one of these Sata drives:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168221440_32

This RAM, Expensive but worth it:

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168201450_34

If you want my honest opinion, I would spend about 1500 on a new computer then use the rest as a down payment on a new car or something else you've been needing. Maybe just keep it away for that raining day bullshit.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 06:42:22 GMT

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^^^

He has a very good selection there, and the placeholder video card is a good idea. I second what he posted.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 07:07:17 GMT

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Wow Exdeath thanks, now that's what I'm talking about. That looks like a good system to me. Plus that's only \$1061 roughly without a case, keyboard, mouse, monitor, soundcard, or optical drives. Case I could add another maybe 70-100\$, Mouse would just be a MS Intellimouse, Monitor should be cheap considering I want a CRT and they are practically giving those away... Keyboard would be a regular Microsoft Internet Keyboard, or Maybe a Saitek Eclipse if I want to get pinky-out fancy. Soundcard... I don't know exactly what I would get there, Are there any nice 5.1 Soundcards left or are they all like 128.50 cards now-a-days? Optical drives are no problemo... like 20\$ each lol.

Also I can't really keep the money hanging around Exdeath or it will be gone... My mom will just keep it. She already appropriated 1600\$ of money from a cd of mine I finally cashed in. No cars at college either, freshman and sophomores are not allowed to drive because they aren't allowed to leave campus.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 07:19:13 GMT

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There still are 5.1's, they cost around 5 £.

Buy yourself a decent new mobile with the remaining money? I mean: there must be a good way to spend the rest of the money (if not, you can always spend it on a nice woman).

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 07:23:37 GMT
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I do need a new cell phone, but I've already got a woman. Still the cell phone will be like 300\$ and I've got quite a bit left over... Maybe I can finally buy an amp for my monster sub. Anyone else have any thoughts on this whole computer thing?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 11:21:16 GMT
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Jaspah wrote on Tue, 13 June 2006 00:27Buy one of those fancy new NVidia BFG Geforce 7950 GX2's. That will last quite a while.

Dear Doitle,

<https://secure.newegg.com/NewVersion/Wishlist/PublicWishDetail.asp?WishListNumber=3411086&WishListTitle=Doitle%27s+B ox>

<3 Me

Doitle you need to get on crunge's irc.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 11:22:40 GMT
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If you already have a woman, then it should be easy to spend it on her. Tell her you got 500 \$ and she has 2 hours to spend it, I'm sure she'll make it! Women have many qualities but spending money must be one of their greatest

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 11:35:41 GMT
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Creative Soundblaster XtremeMusic.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 11:37:28 GMT
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Sound Cards are starting to outlive our usefulness. They are usually for enthusiasts or people who have complex sound systems.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [spartan 117-001](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 13:13:49 GMT
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i have a windows 98 computer new just bought it 5 years ago and its workin good it can---t run renegade but its great for pacman and also ill sell 8it to you for only \$2500.00 THATS A BARGAIN!

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 13:52:50 GMT
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spartan 117-001 wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 09:13i have a windows 98 computer new just bought it 5 years ago and its workin good it can---t run renegade but its great for pacman and also ill sell 8it to you for only \$2500.00 THATS A BARGAIN!

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Spice](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 17:54:16 GMT
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I think if you put that PC together you will be pretty happy. Try and save a bit left over for when those DX10 cards come out. Then get one.

If you want help picking out a good DX9 card, I have a set just in mind for you.

That 6800XT will run Battlefield 2 on the maximum settings at around 50-60 FPS. I'm getting one myself, seeing as it's only 79.00 after mail in rebates.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 17:57:12 GMT

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EXdeath wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 13:54 I think if you put that PC together you will be pretty happy. Try and save a bit left over for when those DX10 cards come out. Then get one.

If you want help picking out a good DX9 card, I have a set just in mind for you.

That 6800XT will run Battlefield 2 on the maximum settings at around 50-60 FPS. I'm getting one myself, seeing as it's only 79.00 after mail in rebates.

Probably not, my 7800GT has issues with BF2, but that has to do with only having a 450w Power Supply and 4 HDDs. I say he would probably get max on everything but no AA and Medium Textures.

Go with my rig, you'll be satisfied for quite awhile.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 19:08:20 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 02:07 No cars at college either, freshman and sophmores are not allowed to drive because they aren't allowed to leave campus.

What the hell, I thought you were going to college. Is the campus located on Alcatraz?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 20:02:34 GMT
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To Mision: It's part of the stupid "WE MAKE PEOPLE - MWAHAHA LIEK FRANKENSTEIN STILE" facet of college. It's not about education it's about making hip buzz-word using young adults. They want you to be bored on campus so you are forced to join clubs. Thus, they don't let you leave campus freshman or sophmore years. I'm going to Bradley University by the way if any of you know of it.

To Goztow: she won't spend money, I have a hard enough time as it is getting her to let me buy her stuff.

To Dark Demin: I do have a few complex sound systems lol... Also that power supply in the setup you provided is outrageous o_O 500\$!? Are you sure that's necessary if I only run a single 7950?

To Spartan: Emphatic No

To Exdeath: I'm trying to find reveiws and things about that 6800XT. So far that system looks most

likely to be the choice.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 21:17:11 GMT
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follow Exdeath's advice and get the 6800XT for now until DX10 comes out. don't listen to everyone else who says to get the best one that's out.

As for a sound card, just get this or something:
http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168291021_76

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 21:32:17 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 16:02
To Dark Demin: I do have a few complex sound systems lol... Also that power supply in the setup you provided is outrageous o_O 500\$!? Are you sure that's necessary if I only run a single 7950?

It was recommended in the 7950GX2's comments by several people. You have to think about HDDs, Fans, Mobo, and CPU Power.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [kopaka649](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 22:51:35 GMT
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Personally, I think it would be a much better idea to wait for Intel's Core 2 (Conroe). Benchmarks look amazing so far.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 04:14:04 GMT
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Intel has a tendency to exaggerate.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 08:52:26 GMT

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DarkDemin wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 16:32 Doitle wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 16:02
To Dark Demin: I do have a few complex sound systems lol... Also that power supply in the setup you provided is outrageous o_O 500\$!? Are you sure that's necessary if I only run a single 7950?

It was recommended in the 7950GX2's comments by several people. You have to think about HDDs, Fans, Mobo, and CPU Power.

YEAH YOU DO!

Demin you are crazy! 2400 bucks!

2400 bucks! doesn't include a single HDD, when he needs two or three. No operating system, or any other software. No sound card or speakers. No keyboard, mouse, or game pad. No Arctic Silver, water cooling system or chip set fans. No case fans or memory fans. No optical drive or floppy drive. A floppy drive is only 8 bucks. Hardly worth excluding when you may use it to flash your BIOS. No blank media, no headphones, no disco ball with flashing neon lights. No reach around, hell not even a kiss on the cheek.

This link may come in handy

What's the difference between a Hoover and a Harley? The location of the dirtbag

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 12:16:43 GMT

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Sorry I'm just used to having all that stuff.

I have currently:

- 3 Western Digital 80gb HDDs
- 1 Maxtor 60gb HDD
- 1 Seagate 120 External HDD
- 3 80mm Case Fans
- 2 120mm Case Fans

I have a Copy of XP Pro with a VLK liscense so I never have to worry about installing it on several machines. I assumed that Doitle would just want to upgrade what he has now. All he has to do if he really wants HDDs is get a bunch of 80s like I have from Best Buy when they have them on Rebate sale for \$19.99 then RAID them. Unless he is going to overclock that AM2 to the extreme the basic fan that AMD ships with it will do just fine and that Thermaltake case will provide maximum cooling. I suggest the 800w powersupply for maximum stability. I plan on ordering one myself when I scrape together the cash for the same box.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 17:38:22 GMT
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Dual core processors are really good, for CAD systems and movie production and editing. Not so much for gaming.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 18:19:13 GMT
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I do CAD work, 3d modeling and rendering, and movie composition... lol What would be the next card up from that 6800XT? It's only 79.00\$ but is there anything in the 150\$ range that could still be a placeholder card?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 19:56:37 GMT
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Yeah, probably a 7600GT. I think I saw one on Newegg for \$150.

I really wish I had a dual core. I do so much video editing and encoding it's crazy.

EDIT: http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168141302_83

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 19:59:09 GMT
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DarkDemin wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 07:37 Sound Cards are starting to outlive our usefulness. They are usually for enthusiasts or people who have complex sound systems.

Believe me, the difference between sound coming from an integrated board chip and a sound card is great.

As for Icedog's suggestion, that is worse than integrated.

XtremeMusic and Audigy, thanks (I favor XtremeMusic).

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 20:19:52 GMT

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This may be true, but it also loads the system and may cause issues like low FPS. Some integrated sound like DFI LanParty actually have a sound card to handle the processing. If your board does not have an actual card processing the sound purchase one. Even if you only spend 15 bucs on a generic card.

For all the smart computer geeks, here is a bitch that knows code.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 21:00:35 GMT

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I'm not oblivious about sound cards. I know what is good and what isn't, and I know that mine isn't that bad. I had to buy it because my integrated sound card was fucking shit. yes, I said it, it was fucking shit. that means integrated sound cards aren't worse than the SB Live.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 21:09:27 GMT

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Guys guys just don't get all hot under the collar over this. It's just a soundcard. I'm big on sound and I like to mess with other equipment hooked up to my computer. I will not be getting integrated sound just on principle... lol Focus more on the videocard / processor side as that's what has really got me tripped up. Oh, mobos too, not much talk of mobos as of yet.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 21:41:24 GMT

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Asus is a real good board, that you can overclock without being the biggest geek in your town. It's OEM settings will be quicker than the DFI, wich needs more user interaction to get the best performance. Plus it has a model with a heat pipe for cooling the chipset. It's cool looking and it's more quiet, but it has to be inside the case like a normal board (no inverting or laying the board on it's side).

DFI has a million settings you can tweak, and can push 3.5v to the RAM, more voltage than it can handle without active cooling. OCZ XV (X-tream Voltage) will take 3.3v without voiding the warranty (I think, but it needs a fan over 3.1v IMO). I don't believe there is another board that can deliver as much juice without a booster, and that takes up a memory slot. And it should have more potential speed than other boards.

I don't recommend the XV series of memory. While it is very fast with tight timings. Fun to change the jumper block and shoot 3.3v to, it is only good if it can get high voltage. This limits the memory to DFI boards, or a purchase of a booster. I wish I could drop \$75 on a board with AGP interface

and let my ATI card stretch it's legs, but I'm too cheap to buy memory. If I had TCCD or other fast low voltage memory I could just use it as well. I will survive.

I'm not sure what Gigabit has to offer, but I bet it's good. Stay away from MSI. The stock fan on any processor is a no no. Also, there is something about a clearance issue with the AM2 processor and HSF.

Study the forum of the board you go with for known issues that may kill memory modules. You may need to flash the BIOS when you set up the rig.

If you build a whole new computer, you will fire it up, let it POST and possibly flash the BIOS before you ever open the OS to install. Otherwise you risk corrupting the install of windows XP Pro. That you can purchase as the OEM for a reduced price, probably 100 bucks.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 23:05:47 GMT

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I have a gigabit mobo right now, and as far as I can tell it's been fine. Who knows though... It's hard to tell, any crashes or things I've gotten over the years could have been caused by the mobo without me knowing. I don't plan on doing any kind of crazy voltage modding memory or anything. I get so worried about doing stuff like that... You shoulda seen me replacing the HSF on my Athlon XP2100+ here. I was soaked, I had to take my shirt off I was sweating so bad because I was terrified I was about to break the chip. It was the most terrifying thing I've done in my life. And soon I'll be doing it again... but this time with a much more expensive processor... :/ Eeep.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 23:16:28 GMT

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I was replacing the cooling on my Radeon 9800 Pro and I scratched the PCB and now I use a Radeon 9000. Haha.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 23:37:19 GMT

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icedog90 wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 17:00 I'm not oblivious about sound cards. I know what is good and what isn't, and I know that mine isn't that bad. I had to buy it because my integrated sound card was fucking shit. yes, I said it, it was fucking shit. that means integrated sound cards aren't worse than the SB Live.

AC'97 here, the sound cards are in our other PCs.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 23:41:05 GMT
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Hehe, that kind of stuff happens. I myself take the chipset fan and cpu fan off, clean lap and reset all heatsinks with good ol AS. Hell, I put thermaltake big water on my rig for \$120 from directron.com. I have the fan on the radiator turned all the way down. It runs so cool I don't even monitor the temps anymore. If you go with water cooling, fit the lines to your liking before you fill it. I have one line I want to go over instead of under, but it's not worth removing.

I was just looking at the Gigabyte web site, note that all motherboards come from Taiwan. I guess Gigabit and gigabyte are two different company's.

mrpirate, you should have called ATI and told them that they are your bitch and you want another videocard, without any locked features. They owe you that much, they owe me that much. I think I spent \$450 on the 9700 pro, faster than anything nVidia had on the market. Faster than anything nVidia had ready to release. woopy doo, I can watch the most beautiful movies you will ever see on a computer. Playing Renegade, I get 10 FPS in the middle of a huge fire fight. Now I have a \$165 evga6600 gt that will never slow down in a game. Thats all I wanted.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 23:44:25 GMT
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There're no "sound cards" on motherboards, just chips.
Sound chips (integrated) will lower the framerate in games (by little, though) due to the fact that it's using the processor's power to function. You'll get a better in-game experience as there will be no (at least there shouldn't be any) 'chipping/skipping' in the sound (moments when the chip cannot process any more sound, therefore it 'mutes' some).

http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168291021_88 is the best solution, in my opinion (at a decent price). It's my belief that you don't need that fancy X-Ram crap that only two games actually use.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [kopaka649](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 00:00:59 GMT
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Unfortunately, the creative cards tend to be a bitch on some motherboards. For example, my friend got an Audigy 2 ZS and got the squeal of death. Then he tried getting an X-fi and he still has the problem. Strangely, the only way to fix it is to go into the BIOS and then exit on every boot.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 00:04:18 GMT
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What mobo? I've never had problems with this Creative Audigy X Gamer. I have a Gigabyte something or other mobo currently. Maybe I can just avoid whatever mobo has a problem with the creatives.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 00:25:57 GMT
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Seems to me that manufacturer would make a BIOS update to fix that. In fact, I am sure there probably is one. This is where the Taiwan info may be handy. I caution anyone to never flash the BIOS of any hardware without full understanding of what the flash will change, and how to do it. If you lose power to the PC during a flash the BIOS chip is done. Unless you have an extra chip and the knowledge and skill to install one. Well, this is where the Taiwan info can be handy. All that being said, I use a 3rd party BIOS from Big Tony at OCZ. If the manufacturer will not write a BIOS fix someone will.

google.com.tw

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Jeremy](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 05:49:17 GMT
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Well, I am in the same boat as Doitle is. I need to upgrade now. The only difference is that I need to because my old computer just pooped out, so I am in grave danger. Well... Really I just want to find a Motherboard (that can support two hard drives), a CPU, a big hard drive, a case with decent cooling system (or I can upgrade it), and a power supply. I am trying to stay under \$1500 so have at it! There are soo many choices that I am way to confused to make decisions by myself.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 06:22:26 GMT
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lol... Seriously though, anyone else have any inputs? It seems to have died down...

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 06:30:16 GMT

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well, I think Exdeath helped you really well there.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 19:25:05 GMT

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I feel bad about the OCZ XV comments. OCZ is the best company I know of in the computer enthusiast market. They bend over backwards for their customers, and RMA hardware that they shouldn't. I know they replaced tons of modules killed by a voltage issue the DFI board had on shut down. I know customers have received replacement hardware before they shipped the original hardware to OCZ.

They are very active in the overclocking community, helpful with suggesting BIOS revisions and settings.

I would like to try Corsair modules, but I'm an OCZ customer. If i purchase a new PSU it will be OCZ. Which I will not be doing for a long time because I already have the OCZ 520w PSU. It is one of the best on the market. They may be the best PSU supplier on the market.

A 4 GHZ watercooled monster for \$720

Required reading, for RAID to work you need 2 HDD's If one cost 100 bucs then you are spending 200 bucs on storage. Thats to much.

What's wrong with this video card, looks like a beast to me @ \$275

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168111190> 68
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168177110> 02
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168221481> 05
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168240022> 48
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168365040> 01
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168361211> 19
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168361116> 01
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168261041> 82
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168271520> 59
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168231261> 35
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168173990> 02

File Attachments

1) [Computer Build.html](#), downloaded 248 times

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 19:42:52 GMT

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Exdeath's selection is way better than above.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 00:39:50 GMT

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Is that mobo that Exdeath pasted really great? I was looking more into it, it's got an integrated sound chip. The Asus Crystal Sound system, 6 onboard USB ports, SATA support, All kinds of overclockers tools, Two Ethernet ports, Raid Support, And theres something on the panel I cant tell what it is, it's a yellow jack. Looks like a Video jack almost. I can't tell what it is but I think it goes to whatever the black horse-shoe shaped thing is in the accessories package shown on Newegg. I think I've settled on this mobo and an AMD 64 X2 4200+. What do you guys think about just that so far?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 00:56:09 GMT

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I think you'll be very happy with that.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Jeremy](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 01:17:29 GMT

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icedog90 wrote on Fri, 16 June 2006 20:56 I think you'll be very happy with that.

I hope he will be happy with that, because I am getting just about the same thing. Graduation money ftw!

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Blazer](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 02:10:28 GMT

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I wouldn't buy a processor right now. Wait a month and get a Conroe (Core 2 Duo). Cheaper, faster, and 50% less power.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 02:17:20 GMT
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There is nothing wrong with that. Plus, it's the first thing you should decide on. That is an RCA SPDIF digital audio jack out. I don't know why it would be yellow. I thought yellow to be digital video. That is audio though. The black connection under it is TOSLINK fiber optic. You didn't complete the required reading I see.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 04:47:46 GMT
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Jeesh Mission I haven't had time to read through that all yet. I keep getting on the computer for like 10 minute bursts. Just enough time to jump on and post something and then go. Me and Jeremy also went to Tiger Direct today and looked around but they didn't have much for AM2 yet. Anyhow those two connectors should make it very easy to hook my computer up to my home theatre, so I wont need comp speakers. Score. My Theatre has an optical port and a digital port. Anyhow, I wont be getting that Duo Core 2, For <reasons>, so do you guys think I should go ahead and order the mobo, a 4200+ X2 and an Antec Lansing Tower case? Get things rolling here.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 10:00:53 GMT
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yes.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 11:44:56 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Blazer wrote on Fri, 16 June 2006 22:10I wouldn't buy a processor right now. Wait a month and get a Conroe (Core 2 Duo). Cheaper, faster, and 50% less power.

DarkDemin wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 00:14Intel has a tendency to exaggerate.

Until I see the benchmarks on TomsHardware.com I won't believe it.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 18:45:21 GMT
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Comrade wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 18:44 There're no "sound cards" on motherboards, just chips.

Not true, the DFI motherboard has an integrated "sound card". I can take it off and play baseball with it if i choose.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 19:44:21 GMT

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Does anyone know if that Asus mobo has a dedicated sound processing chip? I couldn't find that while snooping around. It just says it uses that Crystal system. I don't know if that is a processing logic or an actual onboard chipset. I'm thinking its a chipset, which you guys said wouldnt be a hit on the processor. At least I'm hoping it is. You guys know of any cool cases? I have so far just been looking at a beige Antec style tower case with the fins running up the front.

Something like this only beige:

<http://www.tigerdirect.com/applications/SearchTools/item-details.asp?EdpNo=1215772&CatId=1510>

I'm planning on getting a Saitek Eclipse keyboard so It'd be neato if whatever it was had blue LEDs. As long as I don't end up looking ragtag like my current setup with both blue and pink LEDs which give the inside of my case a weird... supermanish effect.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mision08](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 21:06:10 GMT

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I've been thinking about the integrated sound issue. I believe the extra processing of the on board sound should easily be handled by a dual core processor.

Case ventilation (direction of the fans) are front, bottom and sides pull air in, top and rear push air out. The direction of airflow is shown with an arrow cast into the fan casing.

Maybe someone can explain memory size to me. At what point is there to much memory? Vista, I believe will be capable of utilizing a terabyte of memory, opposed to 4megs. Where is the trade off between memory size and the time to read the available memory. For instance, I can go into 7 - 11 for aspirin and be out in 3 minutes. If I go into Wal-Mart, it takes 15 minutes. Why is this not an issue with memory? Hell, before long we can do away with hard drives. I know the whole module has to be scanned for data. I don't know why there isn't a trade off in performance.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 23:57:48 GMT

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Part of the difference is that memory is so much faster than a hard drive. That's why they make

programs to use your memory as a hard drive. Things put on it load near instantly. There is a tradeoff however, I believe that more chips are better. Each Memory Module can only do so much at a time, and if you have two 512MB memory modules of the same speed, compared to one Gigabyte memory module, the two chips can do twice as many operations. At least at far as I understand it.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 02:11:55 GMT
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You're guessing, I can tell.

If it sounds to good to be true...

Case reviews

This is a new video card not refurbished

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:12:45 GMT
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Mision, go find other posts to post in then. If you're gonna be a jerk I'm sure there's a big flaming fight going on in the mod forum or someone trolling about elsewhere. You'll fit right in.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Blazer](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:27:10 GMT
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DarkDemin wrote on Sat, 17 June 2006 07:44Blazer wrote on Fri, 16 June 2006 22:10I wouldn't buy a processor right now. Wait a month and get a Conroe (Core 2 Duo). Cheaper, faster, and 50% less power.

DarkDemin wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 00:14Intel has a tendency to exaggerate.

Until I see the benchmarks on TomsHardware.com I won't believe it.

They have had benchmarks posted for some time, of a 2.6Ghz Conroe totally owning AMD's best CPU (The FX-62), even though the conroe was clocked 5% slower. The 3+GHz Conroes will be ultimate ownage, and I can guarantee you will regret not waiting for one.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Viking](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:31:55 GMT
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Dont get a 512 they overheat. they used aluminim to cool it when they should of used copper.

(dont ask how I know that)

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:41:50 GMT
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I've seen the benchmarks Blazer, but I wouldn't be happy owning one. I would feel weird. Intel processors just give me a real bad vibe. Even if the AMD was 200\$ more and 50% slower I'd get the AMD. It just feels like home.

Also Idjit what are you talking about? What overheats?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Viking](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:43:44 GMT
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512 video cards.

My dad works at a electronics store and peopel return them 2-3 times a day for overheating.

They overheat cus they have aluminim and should have copper to help disipate the heat.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Blazer](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 05:50:54 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Sun, 18 June 2006 01:41 I've seen the benchmarks Blazer, but I wouldn't be happy owning one. I would feel weird. Intel processors just give me a real bad vibe. Even if the AMD was 200\$ more and 50% slower I'd get the AMD. It just feels like home.

I hear where you are coming from. I have been 100% AMD ever since the first PC I bought for myself, which was an AMD 386-40Mhz. I have upgraded and built many PCs over the years, up to my current Athlon 64 3000+. This is the first time I find myself considering to buy an Intel

processor.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 12:17:56 GMT

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idjit626 wrote on Sun, 18 June 2006 01:43512 video cards.

My dad works at a electronics store and peopel return them 2-3 times a day for overheating.

They overheat cus they have aluminim and should have copper to help disipate the heat.

Unless they have the shittiest cooling system in their computers it shouldn't overheat. What brand are these video cards?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Sun, 18 Jun 2006 21:07:47 GMT

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Doitle wrote on Sat, 17 June 2006 19:57Part of the difference is that memory is so much faster than a hard drive. That's why they make programs to use your memory as a hard drive. Things put on it load near instantly. There is a tradeoff however, I beleive that more chips are better. Each Memory Module can only do so much at a time, and if you have two 512MB memory modules of the same speed, compared to one Gigabyte memory module, the two chips can do twice as many operations. At least at far as I understand it.

You're right, but only if the two memory modules are used on a dual channel motherboard, which allows a 128-bit memory interface when dual channel mode is enabled (compared to a 64-bit interface with just one module, or two in a non dual channel configuration, i.e. non matching modules). However, there is no bandwidth gain in having 4 modules versus 2.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 06:18:22 GMT

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Ok, it looks like me and Jer are gonna go with most of the setup Exdeath provided, swapping the 3800+ for a 4200+ and we need a different video card. While that is a placeholder card, we need something a little bit more substantial. That 6800XT is quite a bit boiled down from the other 6800s. It has 8 pixel pipelines instead of 12 and a few other performance detriments.

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168141211> 92

We're like sweet! Perfect! Wrong :/ It's out of stock. What are the odds eh? Anyhow can you guys suggest anything in the range of performance of that without being ridiculous? I might just break down and get a single 7950GX2 and be done with video cards for a while.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 09:54:58 GMT
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<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168141501> 44

Slightly more, but better than a 6800GT.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 11:03:21 GMT
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DX 10 won't work with windows XP so only worry about DX 10 cards if you plan on buying vista :-\.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Jeremy](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 16:15:39 GMT
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wooo I just ordered my stuff... I am soo happy...

This is what it consists of:

This motherboard:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168131310> 13

This Power Supply:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?item=N82E168171210> 11

Maybe one of these Sata drives:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168221440> 32

This RAM, Expensive but worth it:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168201450> 34

All of the above suggested by EXdeath

This Processor:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168191037> 47

These cooling devices:

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168351280> 10

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168351292> 44

These DVD Drives

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168271350> 63

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E168271350> 85
(Yes I know one is a burner and the other is not)

AND FINALLY... THE CASE... DUN DUN DUN... hehehe:

<http://www.tigerdirect.com/applications/SearchTools/item-details.asp?EdpNo=1215768>

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 18:00:54 GMT
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Case Raidmax Scorpio \$45.99
Video Card eVGA 256-P2-N564 GeForce 7900GT KO 256MB PCI-E x 2 \$547.98
Motherboard Asus M2N-SLI Deluxe ATX AMD Motherboard \$149.99
Hard Drive 1 Maxtor Maxline III 300GB 3.5" SATA Hard Drive \$118.99
Hard Drive 2 Maxtor Maxline III 300GB 3.5" SATA Hard Drive \$118.99
Sound Card Integrated \$0.00
Monitor \$0.00
OS Windows XP Pro / SP2 \$137.99
Power Supply Kingwin ABT-520MA1 520W Power Supply \$109.99
Mouse Microsoft Intelimouse \$30.00
Keyboard Saitek Eclipse Keyboard \$46.99
Memory Corsair XMS 2GB (2 x 1GB) \$270.00

Total \$1,576.91

This is what it's shaping up as.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Spice](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 18:50:06 GMT
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I'm glad to have helped you guys. I'm building pretty much the same system, just a little less expensive. I'm really excited to play with the AM2 mainboards and processors.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2006 19:15:50 GMT
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glad I could help, too.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Tue, 20 Jun 2006 16:07:21 GMT
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I don't know why you're considering going with that Kingwin PSU. A PSU is the last part you want to take a chance on, and if "it looks cool" is one of your reasons for considering it, you need to stop and slap yourself now.

There are several known and trusted brands that you should be looking at instead: PCP&C, Enermax, Antec, OCZ, Fortron(FSP), seasonic, and Tagan are the ones that come to mind right now.

Since you're going with SLI, I'd recommend looking at around a 600W PSU, but most of the PSUs over 500W that those companies provide shouldn't give you any trouble.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 20 Jun 2006 17:28:08 GMT
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It's the only PSU that has really been suggested. I'll look into those other brands but... Dark Demin or another suggested a PCP&C PSU and it was 500\$. I couldn't justify that any day of the week.
o_O

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Tue, 20 Jun 2006 17:49:47 GMT
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You don't need a PCP&C, their models go from 510W to about 850W. You want something in between.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Fri, 23 Jun 2006 17:00:01 GMT
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<http://www.theinquirer.net/?article=32594>
<http://www.theinquirer.net/?article=32589>

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 08:05:21 GMT
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Sweet! I knew you could do it AMD! Bravo!

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 09:51:21 GMT
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sweet!

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [RTsa](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 16:08:42 GMT
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The Inquirer?

I'd personally wait. Conroe, maybe? The new 65nm AMDs? G80? R600?

Yeah, I'd say. But then again, there's always something behind the corner *just* about to come out.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 19:49:52 GMT
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not necessarily. It seems that every other summer there's a huge change in hardware. Right now we're at that point and building a new long-term computer at this moment wouldn't be smart.

Subject: Deleted
Posted by [Berkut](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 22:09:09 GMT
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---MESSAGE DELETED---

[Ugh... my head hurts...]

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 26 Jun 2006 22:34:13 GMT
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uh, there are tons of 1.5 to 2 grand laptops that can.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 03:11:03 GMT

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I don't understand... Berkut... Why would you randomly mention that?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Berkut](#) on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 05:00:11 GMT

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Hmm? I dunno. Happens. I just recently quit caffeine and it's messin with my head. Lost pretty much all of my discretion, judgement, and it has temporarily konked out my common sense, so yeah, sorry.

To be remotely relevant, my Dell cost me \$1,000 last year, and it runs pretty much any game I put on it. Then again, most people think Dell sucks.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Tue, 27 Jun 2006 05:48:06 GMT

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RTsa wrote on Mon, 26 June 2006 13:08The Inquirer?

It was already confirmed that at least the AM2 opterons will have RHT. That means the rest of the chips at least have the capacity to support RHT. Whether they already have the technology on the current chips or not I don't know.

Right now it's only really going to benefit single threaded apps. But once 4+ core chips and 4x4 comes out it could benefit multithreaded apps as well.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 30 Jun 2006 21:38:06 GMT

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Ok, so Jer built his computer. As he pasted on page 4. Windows XP wouldn't install on it because of the SATA drive. The computer he built has no floppy drive and theres no spot to even attach the floppy cable to the mobo. Everytime the setup wouldn't continue because it couldn't recognize the Hard Drive. NOW however, after he dropped it off here because he got tired of messing with it, I started it, went through just like it did at his house a few times. But then it started doing something different, something... more sinister. Now it says that txtsetup.sif is corrupted and setup cannot continue. It says this everytime it trys to begin the windows xp setup. I've done some reading and someone said that the memory he has in here does not get auto detected by the mobo correctly, so I manually set the timing and memory voltage in the bios, but then it wouldnt even get to the xp setup it would just restart over and over. I am completely at a loss, nothing I do works...

Update: While writing this I decided to turn it back on. It'd been sitting for about 15 minutes off. It works, went into the Windows XP setup, and got to the page where it wants me to insert the disk labeled Windows XP Home Edition Service Pack 2 CD into Drive: A. His computer has no floppy drive so there isn't even a Drive A: for it to ask for... What should I do? I really want to help Jer and I want to get this running because A. This is pretty much the same as my computer was gonna be so :/ Eeep B. I wanted to play CS:S on it before he picked it up.

Anyone who can get this thing up and running or help me out here will receive my sincere gratitude, on installment plan, for the next 6 months.

A video of it all happening: http://doitle.tugok.com/101_0445small.avi

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Spice](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 17:30:40 GMT
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Ok, it from the video I see that it detects the HDD. Go to onboard device configuration > IDE Function setup, tell me or show what is under there. Same with the Serial-ATA configuration right below.

Also make sure your boot startup is set to CD-ROM > HDD.

I can't remember how I fixed it but I had the same problem. It was an option in the BIOS, make sure it's set to SATA. Even after that though, it was still a bitch to get the OS on the drive.

After I got it on the drive, everything was good though.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 01 Jul 2006 19:13:13 GMT
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I got it up and running. It looked like the HD controller built in was in raid mode. I set it to something like... AHCI and tada it worked. No explanation for those memory errors though... The corrupted file thing just went away after I turned it off for some minutes. Anyhow I'm on it right now trying to test out games on it. Anyone got any suggestions?

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Spice](#) on Sun, 02 Jul 2006 02:16:36 GMT
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Great games for benchmarking are Quake 4 Demo, Half life 2 Demo and the Battlefield 2 Demo. Halo is also pretty good, even though it's quite old.

If you want something new, grab the prey demo. That was released last week and kicks ass. It's on the Doom 3 engine.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 02 Aug 2006 21:39:50 GMT
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Ok, I finally got my debit card and graduation money deposited. What has changed since the last post in this thread? Processor prices have dropped, uh... Anyhow, I'm in the final stage. I was going to order it today but I have too many questions still. I don't know what to do and I cant come to any conclusions. As for Hard drives I dont know what I should do. I don't know that I'll be able to figure out the crazy Raid stuff. I was looking at getting 3-4 300-400GB HDs. I had insane space problems on my old computer. I would come to Renegade Forums and the forums would be flat white with black text and blue links because I didnt have enough free disk space to download the CSS Style Sheet to display the page correctly.

Another Dilemma. Videocard. Like I've said over and over, I won't be able to upgrade down the road so this is it. What should I do? People who keep telling me to wait till December for Direct X 10. If I wait till December I'll get one of the first Direct X 10 cards? Like the 5200? Which sucks beyond beleif... One of the first DX 9 cards. The cards that come out with Direct X 10 will probably be crappy. So the potential wait for an upgrade will probably be even longer... I just... I don't know what to do and it's coming down to the wire and...

In short I hate Direct X. Uh... Yeah, whatever you pull out of this rambling post and address, I thank you for.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 01:30:07 GMT
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Note: Turns out AMD's 4X4 technology is a workstation import, also known as an expensive joke that most likely nobody will be getting.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 05:38:31 GMT
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I think that is way overkill on storage. I would be surprised if the public side of this web site eclipsed 100 Megabytes. Two identical 80 Gigabyte HDD is more than enough. A third just gives you more options to play with in a RAID array. Three or four 300 Gigabyte HDD would hold the entire Internet. You could get rid of your Internet connection and practice your searching skills. I could lose an entire OS in a 900 Gigabyte ocean.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 05:48:14 GMT
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160GB is nothing nowadays with the size of games and shit.

This is seriously one thing he can pick by himself.

And I hope you were kidding about the 900GB holding the entire fucking Internet.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 05:57:39 GMT
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I had 5GBs of Freakazoid I had to delete so I could continue operating my computer, then I lost my season of Fawltly Towers, Then I had to uninstall games. Sims 2? 7GBs... SWG like a ton of GBs, BFME2 is like 6GBs. Games are getting huge, and I don't like having no space always. It'd be nice to actually... be able to do stuff... I had to uninstall Adobe Premire. I've lost so many useful programs and fun games to space constraints. I'm building a uber computer I'd like to have some elbow room.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 06:14:56 GMT
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Sounds like you may need to invest in a DVD burner. I think the intelligent purchase would be two, three or four identical 80 Gigabyte HDD. I'm not positive how much of the Internet will fit on 320 Gigabytes, But I'm sure it would hold everything I've downloaded this year, and last year, and the year before that. It just makes sense when you start to figure RAID arrays. It's all about options buddy.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 07:43:50 GMT
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Forget about the hard drive, lets focus on the other topics.

Also, case recomendations.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 16:27:45 GMT
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Your typical aluminum ATX case (comes in a variety of different colors):
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811144090>

A well-designed one, also comes in Silver:
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811129017>

One that you seriously don't want to purchase:
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811173008>

Basic:
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811146020>
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811146028>
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811133174>
<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811156050>

Looks great, is great according to review websites, including TG, but no love from PC Gamer (I suggest you get it) :<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811146018>

Airflow's bitch (also black): <http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.asp?Item=N82E16811133016>

As for the hard drives: Seagate, Western Digital or Hitachi, Toshiba and Samsung are acceptable, buying Maxtor (mediocre) or Fujitsu (gays after 2 years) would mean ending up in hell for the rest of your days.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 18:22:30 GMT
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I was actually planning on a Full-Tower case. Every computer I've owned was a mid-tower and they all suck to work in. When I worked on Jers, the first Full Tower I've ever worked in it was so much nicer.

<https://secure.newegg.com/NewVersion/Wishlist/PublicWishDetail.asp?WishListNumber=3753607&WishListTitle=Ultracomp%3F>

Just another sample build... I don't know what to do... ./ I really want to get it soon. I'm running out of time before college...

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 05 Aug 2006 06:44:19 GMT
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Holy freaking double post dudes... Seriously though, I did it because its urgent and stuff.

I ordered it.

Western Digital Caviar SE16 WD4000KD 400GB 7200 RPM Serial ATA150 Hard Drive - OEM
\$139.99

Saitek PZ30AU Black USB Wired Standard Eclipse Keyboard - Retail
\$41.95

Thermaltake Armor Series VA8000BWS Black Aluminum/Steel ATX Full Tower Computer Case - Retail
\$149.99

ASUS M2N32-SLI Deluxe Wireless Edition Socket AM2 NVIDIA nForce 590 SLI MCP ATX AMD Motherboard - Retail
\$199.99

AMD Athlon 64 X2 4600+ Windsor 2000MHz HT Socket AM2 Dual Core Processor Model ADA4600CUBOX - Retail
\$319.00

OCZ GameXStream OCZ700GXSSLI ATX12V 700W Power Supply - Retail
\$154.99

CORSAIR XMS2 2GB (2 x 1GB) 240-Pin DDR2 SDRAM DDR2 800 (PC2 6400) Unbuffered Dual Channel Kit System Memory Model TWIN2X2048-6400C4 - Retail
\$255.00

SAMSUNG 18X DVD±R DVD Burner With 12X DVD-RAM Write Black E-IDE/ATAPI Model SH-S182D - OEM
\$34.99

I need to know if any of you have any comments on any of these things / have used them. What Thermal Paste do you guys recomend, and most importantly as you'll notice. I haven't ordered a video card yet. I'm planning currently to go SLI. Give me your pick for two cards. I need to know soon though as I'm ordering the cards tomororow. I couldn't order them all today because of my debit cards daily purchase limit. Alright, GO

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Sat, 05 Aug 2006 06:48:58 GMT
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Get a Logitech G5 mouse, a regular DVD drive. If you have enough money, two Geforce 7950GX2, and if not, 7900GTX (as you don't want to upgrade in future), and if it's too expensive, 7800GTX/7900GT.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 05 Aug 2006 06:54:22 GMT
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I already have a Microsoft Intelimouse from the computer that died. So I don't need a mouse. I still have a nice working Microsoft Internet Keyboard too but... I <3 Saitek Eclipses so I couldn't resist. What I would like actually are links to the actual Newegg peices. There are like 28 7900GTs, I dont know which ones are good or bad, or have memory corruption something or others DaEspion was talking about. While I do have enough for dual 7950s... As I said in n00bstories that's crossing the line into cartoonish super-villany.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Sat, 05 Aug 2006 06:59:32 GMT
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Leadtek preferably, but they're basically all the same.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Sat, 05 Aug 2006 17:22:02 GMT
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Leadtek have one 7900GT on newegg and it's the basic model.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Tue, 08 Aug 2006 22:37:31 GMT
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Sorry for bumping this back up, but...

Quote:Recently, a fever pitch of rumors surrounding AMD's "Reverse Hyper-Threading" was also dismissed when it was discovered the original source of the rumor was a poor translation of a future README file to an AMD dual-core optimization utility.

Source: Dailytech

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Renx](#) on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 02:01:09 GMT
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The fact that it exists was dismissed or the rumour that it was already on AM2 chips? I'd think the latter

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Aprime](#) on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 08:32:15 GMT
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All the rumors surrounding reversed hyper-threading were dismissed.

It doesn't exist right now, but doesn't meant it won't in the future.

Subject: Re: New Computer Research
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 23:39:46 GMT
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It came it came! I'm overly excited obviously. Check it out!

The case is bigger than I ever could have expected or imagined. It's a steel case so it weighs around 40lbs empty. I'm still waiting for my video cards and thermal paste to arrive tomorrow, then I can put it together and game like I've never gamed before! Woot woot!
