


TOP 10 MONITORS

17in monitors										
Details	Last month's position	First reviewed	Price (ex VAT)	Warranty	Tube type	Viewable screen	Dot pitch	Max resolution @ 75Hz	Dimensions (width x depth x height)	Weight
 <b>1</b> CTX EX710F 01923 810 800 www.ctxeurope.com	1	May 01	£153	3-year onsite	Shadow mask	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	412x415x417mm	16.5kg
 <b>2</b> Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 730 0845 121 9200 www.mitsubishi-monitors.com	2	Jun 01	£179	3-year onsite	FST	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	399x415x413mm	19kg
<b>3</b> LG Flatron 795FT Plus 01753 500 470 www.lge.co.uk	3	Jul 01	£175	3-year onsite	Flat tension	16in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	415x435x439mm	19.2kg
<b>4</b> ViewSonic PF775 01293 643 900 www.viewsonic.co.uk	4	Jul 01	£195	3-year onsite	Aperture grille	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	4127x450x430mm	20kg
<b>5</b> Philips Brilliance 107P20 0800 896 324 www.pcstuff.philips.com	5	Jan 01	£229	3-year onsite	Aperture grille	16in	0.25mm	1,920x1,440	399x419x410mm	17.5kg
19in monitors										
 <b>1</b> Iiyama Vision Master Pro 451 01438 745 482 www.iiyama.co.uk	1	Jul 01	£306	1-year onsite, 2-year return to base	Diamondtron	18in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	450x447x450mm	24kg
 <b>2</b> LG Flatron 915FT Plus 01753 500 470 www.lge.co.uk	2	Oct 01	£265	3-year onsite	Flatron	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	470x470x480mm	27kg
<b>3</b> CTX PR960F 01923 810 800 www.ctxmonitors.com	3	Oct 00	£301	3-year onsite	FD Trinitron	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	406x469x485mm	26kg
<b>4</b> Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 920 0870 120 1160 www.mitsubishi-monitors.com	4	Jul 01	£299	3-year onsite	Diamondtron	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	454x456x462mm	23kg
<b>5</b> ViewSonic G90F 01293 643 900 www.viewsonic.co.uk	5	Jul 01	£214	3-year onsite	SonicTron	18in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	448x459x465mm	22kg

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1 CTX EX710F

 The superb 17in EX710F continues its run at the top of our chart. CTX has managed to keep the price low while maintaining impeccable performance, putting its rivals out of the picture. This is helped by a change in technology, replacing the dark, sharp aperture grille tubes with brighter, lighter and, above all, cheaper shadow mask units. The EX710F's picture quality is also superb.


The extremely good specifications, with a maximum resolution of 1,600x1,200 available at a usable refresh rate of 75Hz, add to this attractive deal. The CTX's economical power consumption and a three-year onsite warranty are also up to scratch.

Even with a price tag over £200, the CTX would still have enough in the way of image quality and features to make sure it gets a recommendation. At this price, though, the Best Buy EX710F is a bargain for anyone looking for a decent 17in monitor without breaking the bank.



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1 Iiyama Vision Master Pro 451

 The Master Pro 451 stands out from the crowd due to its reworked onscreen controls and base unit. The controls mean it is easier to navigate, with plenty of options that let you adjust settings for the perfect picture. The base has four USB ports to increase its connectivity options, plus built-in speakers, which will cut down on desktop clutter. There's also the facility to plug two PCs into the monitor simultaneously.

The fine dot pitch of 0.25mm and high resolution support – 1,600x1,200 at 75Hz – produce super results in our tests.

There's no doubting the Vision Master Pro 451's ability to cope with graphics-intensive applications with aplomb. Our only grumble is the slight lack of intensity in the colour palette. Any other initial problems – such as the minor moiré distortion – were easily eradicated by tweaking the settings using the onscreen menu.



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2 Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 730

 The Diamond Pro 730 continues to sit at number two this month. The attractive Mitsubishi has impressive hardware features, with an intuitive and in-depth control panel. The international sRGB standard is lent full support, so users shouldn't experience any problems with mismatched colours. This is essential for its bright and precise colour scheme and decent image clarity.



3 LG Flatron 795FT Plus

The LG is undoubtedly the most stylish 17in monitor in our chart, and it has some attractive specifications to back up its good looks. Despite the Flatron's advantages, when it comes to the most important feature – picture quality – the 795FT Plus lacks intensity and suffers from moiré, which prevents it from climbing any higher in our Top 10 chart.



4 ViewSonic PF775

We are full of praise for the ViewSonic's superb picture quality and performance, but the PF775's slightly higher price tag ensures it a lower chart position. Its colours are vibrant and the picture is pin-sharp, but it doesn't come with any other extras. Its overall value for money certainly isn't as impressive as its image quality.



5 Philips Brilliance 107P20

With its 0.25mm dot pitch and a maximum resolution of 1,920x1,440 at 75Hz, the Philips Brilliance 107P20 is still a worthy choice. The onscreen controls are simple and Philips also bundles its innovative LightFrame software, so you can adjust the brightness and sharpness of the entire screen or just one window.



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2 LG Flatron 915FT Plus

 LG offers a combination of style, substance and value for money and is a deserving Recommended choice. The 915FT supports a maximum resolution of 1,600x1,200 at 85Hz and this, twinned with a dot pitch of 0.24mm, means it generates razor-sharp images. Indeed the only minor quibble we had was that colour intensity was slightly deficient. The onscreen menus are well laid out, which makes adjusting settings really simple, and a four-port USB hub is an added bonus.



3 CTX PR960F

The PR960F's sharp, clear images are ensured by the high resolution and refresh rate support, fine 0.24mm dot pitch and FD Trinitron tube. The completely flat screen is designed to cut down on distortion and, twinned with antiglare, makes the display a pleasure to use. The CTX also adds four extra USB ports to your PC, providing you with far more scope to add extra devices.



4 Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 920

The Diamond Pro 920 is a well-specified display with a maximum resolution of 1,600x1,200 at 75Hz and a dot pitch of 0.24mm. However, when it comes to extra features, the cupboard is bare. This is something of a surprise – at £300, you'd expect more for your money. Picture quality is good, if occasionally marred by a touch of moiré.



5 ViewSonic G90F

The G90F is virtually identical to ViewSonic's entry in the 17in chart, apart from offering a few extra inches of screen. Like its sibling, it has good specifications and offers top-quality colour intensity. The onscreen controls and navigation buttons are also easy to use, covering all the settings you'll need. Unfortunately, however, like the 17in PF775, it isn't the most attractive unit in the chart. But the G90F does give improved value for money.

