

## TOP 10 17IN &amp; 19IN MONITORS

		17in monitors	Tube type	Viewable area	Dot pitch	Max resolution @75Hz	Dimensions (wxdxh)	Weight
	<b>Iiyama Vision Master Pro 413</b> 01438 745 482 www.iiyama.co.uk LAST MONTH 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £159 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Feb 02</li> </ul>	Diamondtron M2 aperture grille	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	408x430x420mm	16.5kg
			Although not the cheapest screen, the 413 is reasonably priced with top-notch specifications. Resolution support is good, although it doesn't offer the clearest images at 1,600x1,200. The Iiyama's colours are vibrant, even without the high brightness setting, and text definition is precise, clinching its win.					
	<b>Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 740SB</b> 0870 1201 160 www.nec-mitsubishi.com LAST MONTH 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £149 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	Diamondtron M2 Superbright aperture grille	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	399x415x413mm	19kg
			The Diamond Pro 740SB's top resolution of 1,600x1,200 runs at a flicker-free 75Hz and the 0.25mm dot pitch gives great image quality. Its Diamondtron M2 tube has the same enhanced brightness as the Best Buy's, improving image quality even further. Colours are vibrant and text is sharp at all resolutions.					
	<b>Samsung SyncMaster 757DFX</b> brochure@samsung.co.kr www.samsungelectronics.co.uk LAST MONTH 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £156 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	DynaFlat shadow mask	16in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	398x412x410mm	17kg
			The 757DFX's combination of a reasonable price and good features sees it beat the CTX PR711F. While the 0.24mm dot pitch and the 1,600x1,200 resolution at 75Hz provides high-end credentials, we would have preferred to see aperture grille tube technology. Text poses no problems, but colours lack intensity.					
	<b>CTX PR711F</b> 01923 810 800 www.ctxeurope.com LAST MONTH 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £207 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	Trinitron aperture grille	16in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	412x425x415mm	17.6kg
			The PR711F is an excellent monitor with great picture quality, but it can't match the other screens on price. The 0.24mm dot pitch and the 1,600x1,200 resolution at 75Hz combined with a Trinitron tube produce near-faultless picture quality. The high price is also offset by some extra benefits such as a USB hub.					
	<b>CTX EX710F</b> 01923 810 800 www.ctxeurope.com LAST MONTH 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £130 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review May 01</li> </ul>	FST shadow mask	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	412x415x417mm	16.5kg
			In effect, the CTX EX710F is the budget version of the PR711F in fourth place. It has a less impressive FST (flatter squarer tube) shadow mask technology, and there's no USB hub for plugging in extra devices. The top resolution of 1,600x1,200 at 75Hz is good, but it lacks the image quality of the PR711F.					
		19in monitors	Tube type	Viewable area	Dot pitch	Max resolution @75Hz	Dimensions (wxdxh)	Weight
	<b>CTX PR960F</b> 01923 810 800 www.ctxeurope.com LAST MONTH 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £274 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	FD Trinitron aperture grille	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	460x469x485mm	26kg
			The CTX is holding on at the top, thanks to a 0.24mm dot pitch and FD Trinitron tube. It offers USB support and a fast, if elaborate, onscreen menu. With its top specifications, balanced image quality and excellent value for money this monitor keep its Best Buy for another month.					
	<b>LG Flatron 915FT Plus</b> 01753 500 470 www.lge.co.uk LAST MONTH 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £245 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	LG Flatron aperture grille	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	470x470x480mm	26.5kg
			LG stubbornly clings to the number two spot with the 915FT. Its colour palette is light and pleasant to view and the clear text output makes it a perfect addition to the office. With the lowest price tag in the chart and a strong list of features, it takes a deserved Recommended award.					
	<b>Iiyama Vision Master Pro 454</b> 01438 745 482 www.iiyama.co.uk LAST MONTH 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £259 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	Diamondtron M2 aperture grille	18in	0.25mm	1,920x1,440	450x447x450mm	24kg
			The Vision Master Pro boasts a Diamondtron M2 tube and an ability to crank up the brightness, which provides a versatile colour palette. Image quality doesn't quite match that of its rivals, but the 85Hz refresh rate at 1,920x1,440 makes this screen almost unique.					
	<b>NEC MultiSync FP955</b> 0870 120 1160 www.nec-mitsubishi.com LAST MONTH 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £349 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	Diamondtron NF aperture grille	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	442x445x449mm	23kg
			The FP955 doesn't do enough to justify its hefty asking price. Not that there's much to fault about the monitor itself, with the 0.24mm dot pitch and fine graphics detail producing eye-catching results, but it's not superior to the CTX in image quality and lacks extra features.					
	<b>Sony CPD-E430</b> 0870 511 1999 www.sony-cp.com LAST MONTH 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £259 ex VAT</li> <li>• 3-year onsite warranty</li> <li>• First review Apr 02</li> </ul>	FD Trinitron aperture grille	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	451x461x471mm	25.5kg
			Even with some fine-tuning of the settings, the Sony's colour palette is too dark to keep it from the bottom slot. It has the same tube as the Best Buy, but without the same performance. It supports a resolution of 1,600x1,200, although the below-par 75Hz refresh rate pulls it down.					

**Buying advice: 17in monitors**

The cost of a monitor has remained fairly static for a while now and our charts show that you can pick up a good 17in monitor for under £200 ex VAT.

A screen's dot pitch indicates the diagonal distance between phosphor dots of the same colour. The lower the figure, the better the image. Anything higher than 0.25mm will result in poor image quality

and if you can get 0.24mm you've found a good buy. The standard measurement for dot pitch is vertical, but watch out for manufacturers trying to mislead you by advertising the horizontal dot pitch, because it's a lower measurement.

For the purposes of most everyday applications you won't need a maximum resolution higher than 1,024x768, as long as the refresh rate – the number

of times the image is repainted on the screen each second – runs at 85Hz on this setting. Don't go for a refresh rate lower than 75Hz, as you'll get flicker on the image. You'll only have to push the resolution up if you want to get the best graphics out of games. If you require really striking results, you should look for a monitor that offers a setting such as 1,600x1,200 at a 75Hz refresh rate.