


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> Iiyama Vision Master Pro 413 01438 745 482 www.iiyama.co.uk	1	Feb 02	£185	3-year onsite	Diamondtron M2	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	408x430x420mm	16.5kg
 <b>2</b> CTX EX710F 01923 810 800 www.ctxeurope.com	2	May 01	£153	3-year onsite	Shadow mask	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	412x415x417mm	16.5kg
<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	£219	3-year onsite	Aperture grille	16in	0.25mm	1,600x1,200	417x450x430mm	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	£295	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	£294	3-year onsite	FD Trinitron	18in	0.24mm	1,600x1,200	406x469x485mm	26kg
<b>4</b> Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 920 0870 121 9200 www.mitsubishi-monitors.com	4	Jul 01	£265	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 Iiyama Vision Master Pro 413

 Prices of CRT (cathode ray tube) monitors may now be ridiculously cheap, but their bulky size makes these devices a less attractive option than slimline flat-panel displays. Iiyama's new Vision Master Pro 413, which is our 17in Best Buy monitor for the second month running, looks unlikely to win vast numbers of buyers back to CRT, but it has one or two features that may just sway the undecided among you.

Most notable is the inclusion of Mitsubishi's Diamondtron M2 technology, a new tube type capable of producing enhanced levels of brightness at the touch of a switch. The resolution support


itself is excellent, although the screen didn't offer the clearest of images at the top resolution of 1,600x1,200. Colours are fresh and vibrant, even without the high brightness setting on, and text definition is excellent.

At just £185, the Master Pro 413 offers excellent value for money. With the high brightness option among its features, the Iiyama sets itself apart as a Best Buy.



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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. It's 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 – produced super results in our tests.

There's no doubting the 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 CTX EX710F

 This former Best Buy had an eight-month run at the top spot, but has now been relegated to second place by the Iiyama. However, don't let that deter you. It's still a superb option and retains a Recommended award. Its picture quality is superb and, with a maximum resolution of 1,600x1,200 at 75Hz and a host of other good specifications, this is an attractive deal. Even if it were more expensive, the CTX would still have enough image quality and features to secure it a Recommended award. At this price, though, the EX710F is a bargain for anyone looking for a decent 17in monitor without breaking the bank.



3 LG Flatron 795FT Plus

The LG is undoubtedly the most stylish 17in monitor in our chart, and 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 means it has to be satisfied with a number four chart position. The PF775's colours are vibrant and the picture is pin-sharp, but it doesn't come with any other extras, which seems a little stingy. Its value for money certainly isn't as impressive as its image quality.



5 Philips Brilliance 107P20

The Philips Brilliance has been in our chart since January 01. With its 0.25mm dot pitch and a maximum resolution of 1,920x1,440 at 75Hz, this old hand remains 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 stunning combination of style, substance and value for money and is a deserving Recommended choice. The Flatron 915FT Plus 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 with the LG Flatron was that the colour intensity was slightly deficient. The onscreen menus are well laid out, which makes adjusting settings simple, and a four-port USB hub is a 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.



4 Mitsubishi Diamond Pro 920

The Mitsubishi 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 Mitsubishi cupboard is totally bare. This came as something of a surprise – at £265, 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. Like the 17in PF775, it isn't the most attractive unit in the chart, but the G90F does give improved value for money.



See next month for the refreshed monitors and flat-panels Top 10 chart