

[opensuse] [ot] acer monitor

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I just purchased an Acer 19" AL1916 LCD monitor, refurbished, from Amazon's "Techforless" division. The price was right, but the device isn't quite. There is a gray "cloud" about 3/8" diameter, 1-3/4 inch above the bottom of the screen, right in the middle. It is not on the surface—I can't wipe it off. I am going to have to live with it; the hassle of sending it to Texas, proving that I have a real receipt, which I only have from the 'net, the time for repair, if possible, and the strong-arm to put my old CRT back is just not worth it. However, this is the first refurb that I've been even slightly burned on, and I'm very surprised that it was Acer that did so.

One other point: it's very tricky to set the brightness and contrast to what you want. It wants to set all this stuff automatically, and it comes much too bright, and with the contrast set so there's not enough. It is possible to do this, but not intuitive; the instructions are terrible. (What you are likely to want is minimum brightness and very low contrast, which is opposite of what you might think. Maybe the Chinese concept of contrast is other than ours.)

I also own a no-name brand—X2gen—and I like it better.

The only positive thing is that a 19" LCD is really 19", where a CRT rated at 19" is really about 18" or less, and this is a noticeable help in reading fine print.

--Doug McGarrett

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