

Re: New PC Opinion

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.hardware/2004-10/0606.html>

From: David Wright (david_c_wright_at_hotmail.com)

Date: 10/19/04

Date: Tue, 19 Oct 2004 08:08:44 +0200

Imitheos wrote:

> *Hello.*

>

> *I am thinking of buying a new pc and would like to hear*

> *your opinions.*

>

> *I have thought of the following:*

>

> *M/B : Asus P5AD2 Premium (Some people say that asus boards are the*

> *worst, but i have read some good reviews about it)*

I use Asus motherboards where I can and have had no problems with them, although I use the Athlon Socket A or Socket 939 boards (Athlon XP and Athlon 64, not Pentium).

> *CPU : Intel P4 LGA775 3.0GHz*

>

> *RAM : 2x512MB DDR2/533MHz Samsung (I can only get Samsung or Kingston*

> *and i haven't read good things about kingston)*

>

> *VGA : Gigabyte PCX 5300 Nvidia PCI-Express 128MB*

Should be OK. For Linux use I would currently always recommend an nVidia based card.

> *Monitor: LG LCD L1720P DVDI*

Been running one of their first generation Flatron (782LE) monitor for 2.5 years. The backlight looks a little dim against the new Hyundai, but whether that is the backlight wearing out or newer monitors being brighter, I can't say. It has worked flawlessly in that time. The Hyundai (Q17) is also very good and has built in speakers (I use it for a secondard box, which doesn't need the full 7.1 surround sound of my main workstation), and an Iiyama, this has developed a slight flickering problem of late (not the image flickering, but the colours flicker, whites go from bright white to dull white to a sort of sepia tone, clouting the monitor on the side usually fixes it – a shame, I've always found Iiyama to be great monitors

in the past.

- > *DVd : Toshiba SD-M1802*
- >
- > *Floppy : 1.44MB*
- >
- > *Keyb : Logitech Internet Keyboard*
- >
- > *Mouse : Logitech MX510*
- >
- > *UPS : "APC Personal SurgeArrest CEE7 1050 Joules"*
- > *or "MGE Pulsar Ellipse Premium 500USBS"*
- > *(The first one is just a surge protector while the second is a ups.I am*
- > *leaning towards the first since i don't need X minutes backup time,just*
- > *protection from overloads, but i don't know if the first is capable*
- > *of cutting the overloads)*
- >
- > *What do you think of it ?*
- >
- > *Firstly, i was thinking about buying AMD64 since it is*
- > *faster and cheaper than the P4, but P4 mainboards*
- > *come with PCI-Express,DDR2 which have no speed*
- > *advantage now, but i will keep this pc for 4-5 years or*
- > *maybe more, so i would like to have upgrade options*
- > *at that time, while with AGP&DDR1 i am not sure i will*
- > *be able to find parts in the future.*

I went for AMD64 because of future proofing, going to 64-bit (Intel hadn't launched their x86_64 core in May). I have been very happy with it. Combined with an Asus A8V Deluxe Board, 1GB DDR400, 2xSamsung S-ATA drives in IcyDock swappable caddies, 2xLG DVD-Writer (originally 1xWriter 1xDVD-ROM, but the ROM was so loud it got switched to the test box and the older single layer writer from the test box got switched into the main desktop), PNY FX5900XT, CL Audigy 2ZS (used onboard sound, but the sound used to break down under heavy processor load), Hyundai Q17 TFT, Microsoft Natural keyboard and Intellimouse Explorer.

Using SuSE 9.1 64-bit, hasn't shown any problems, it installed out the box (which is more than I can say for Windows XP, that was a right royal pain in the ass to install).

> *Is my choice a good one ?*

Looks OK to me. I would always go for nVidia given a choice, and Asus main boards seem to be rock solid IMHO.

> *Thank you for your time.*

Good luck and have great fun with the new machine

Dave

Re: New PC Opinion