



Gaming Monitor Buying Guide Quick Reference Handout

Gaming monitors are a crucial component of your gaming setup, impacting your immersion and overall gaming experience. Selecting the right gaming monitor tailored to your needs is essential. This guide will help you make an informed decision when purchasing your next gaming monitor.

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1. Types of Monitors

- **Flat-Panel Monitors:** These monitors use a flat LCD or OLED panel. They are commonly found and offer various features and price points.
- **Curved Monitors:** These monitors have a slightly curved screen, providing a more immersive gaming experience by wrapping the display around your field of vision.
- **Ultra-Wide Monitors:** Ultra-wide monitors feature an extended aspect ratio for a wider field of view, enhancing your gaming experience.

2. Types of Gaming Monitor Panels

- **IPS (In-Plane Switching):** Known for vibrant colors and wide viewing angles, making them great for gaming and content creation. They have slower response times than some other panels.
- **TN (Twisted Nematic):** Offers fast response times and high refresh rates but with poorer color accuracy and viewing angles.
- **VA (Vertical Alignment):** Provides good contrast ratios and response times, falling between IPS and TN panels in terms of performance.
- **OLED panels:** OLED panels deliver stunning contrast ratios and incredibly fast response times, resulting in deep blacks and vivid colours.

3. Screen Sizes and Types

- **Monitor Size:** Consider your available space and personal preference. Common sizes range from 24 to 34 inches, with larger options available.
- **Resolution:** Higher resolutions (e.g., 1440p or 4K) offer sharper visuals, but require more powerful hardware to run games at peak performance.
- **Refresh Rate:** A higher refresh rate (e.g., 144Hz, 240Hz) leads to smoother gameplay, especially in fast-paced games.
- **Aspect Ratio:** Choose between standard 16:9 or ultra-wide 21:9 or 32:9 ratios depending on your gaming and productivity needs.
- **Response Time:** Lower response times (e.g., 1ms) reduce motion blur and ghosting, crucial for fast-paced games.

4. More Aspects to Consider

- **Types of games you play:** When deciding on a gaming monitor you should also consider the types of games you play.



- **Adaptive Sync Technology:** Options like NVIDIA G-SYNC and AMD FreeSync sync your monitor's refresh rate with your GPU, eliminating screen tearing.
- **Connectivity:** Ensure the monitor has the necessary ports (HDMI, DisplayPort, USB) and extras like USB hubs and audio jacks.
- **HDR (High Dynamic Range):** HDR-compatible monitors offer enhanced contrast and richer colors for a more lifelike gaming experience.
- **Ergonomics :** Being able to make fine adjustments to the monitor such as tilt, swivel, and height is important for comfort during long gaming sessions.