

# BUYER'S GUIDE

Build the best PC for your budget



## KEY

### *Budget build*

PC gaming is for everyone. Pick the parts you want to build a new, well-rounded PC for a good price.

### *Mid-range build*

You want to run every new game at 1080p 60fps. This recommended build will see you through.

### *Advanced build*

You're looking for the best PC on the market and superior components. But you still want to spend smart.















# BUDGET BUILD

Enjoy 1080p gaming without breaking the bank



**TOTAL**  
\$1,049










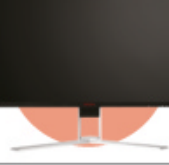


MOTHERBOARD		<b>B360M-DS3H</b> Gigabyte <b>\$74</b> It lacks overclocking options, but the new B360 chipset is far cheaper than Z370, and perfect for this budget build.
PROCESSOR		<b>Core i3-8100</b> Intel <b>\$119</b> A great processor for out-of-the-box gaming performance. Opt for the AMD Ryzen 1300X if you'd like to overclock.
GRAPHICS CARD		<b>GeForce GTX 1060 Windforce OC 3GB</b> Gigabyte <b>\$194</b> Amidst fluctuating GPU prices, Gigabyte's compact 1060 model offers the best value.
COOLER		<b>Hyper 212 Evo</b> CoolerMaster <b>\$35</b> We've dropped the controller from this build and added in a better CPU cooler, for a quieter, cooler system.
MEMORY		<b>Vengeance LPX 8GB (2x4GB) @2400MHz</b> Corsair <b>\$60</b> DDR4 prices are still high, however this Corsair pair is a good value option.
POWER SUPPLY		<b>CX-M Series CX550M</b> Corsair <b>\$60</b> A UK price spike in our previous EVGA 500W pick opens the door for this quiet Corsair option.
SSD		<b>MX500 250GB</b> Crucial <b>\$50</b> Crucial's SSD range is fantastic value and offers good performance, too. It's also time we jumped up to 250GB.
HDD		<b>Caviar Blue 1TB 7200rpm</b> Western Digital <b>\$43</b> One terabyte of old-fashioned hard storage is the perfect home for all of your media, backups, and AAA titles.
CASE		<b>Neos</b> Bitfenix <b>\$60</b> The Neos provides decent airflow, good support for 3.5-inch hard drives, and a fairly painless build experience.
DISPLAY		<b>G2460PF</b> AOC <b>\$266</b> This is the cheapest 144Hz, gaming monitor you can buy, yet it still offers decent image quality, great performance, and Freesync.
KEYBOARD		<b>K55</b> Corsair <b>\$48</b> This keyboard may lack mechanical keyswitches but it offers decent typing, plus it has RGB and extra gaming keys.
MOUSE		<b>Rival 110</b> SteelSeries <b>\$40</b> A great sensor, simple design, and impressively low price make this a great entry-level gaming mouse.

# MID-RANGE BUILD

Our recommended build for playing the latest games



**TOTAL**  
\$2,046

MOTHERBOARD		<b>Z370 Tomahawk</b> MSI <b>\$211</b> This is a nice-looking bit of kit at a good price. Couple that with two M.2 slots, and it's the perfect place to house that Core i5.
PROCESSOR	 <b>NEW ENTRY</b>	<b>Core i5-8600K</b> Intel <b>\$265</b> Say goodbye to our reliable workhorse, the i5-8400. This month we're upgrading to an unlocked K-model CPU.
GRAPHICS CARD	 <b>NEW ENTRY</b>	<b>GeForce RTX 2060 Twin Fan</b> Zotac <b>\$349</b> Zotac's Twin Fan model replaces our Founder's Edition RTX 2060, offering formidable cooling for the price.
COOLER	 <b>NEW ENTRY</b>	<b>Hydro Series H55 Quiet Edition</b> Corsair <b>\$60</b> The scarcity of our previous pick sees a nice quiet Corsair cooler introduced this month.
MEMORY		<b>Vengeance LPX 16GB (2x8GB) @2666</b> Corsair <b>\$105</b> 16GB is the minimum amount of RAM we'd recommend for a system of this caliber.
POWER SUPPLY		<b>RMx 650W</b> Corsair <b>\$120</b> There's nothing like having a quality power supply. Get a decent cable kit for this one and you can easily spice up your rig.
SSD		<b>MX500 250GB</b> Crucial <b>\$50</b> This is still our SSD of choice. We've kept the capacity the same as our cheaper build, but upgrading to 500GB would be ideal.
HDD		<b>WD Blue 1TB 7200RPM</b> Western Digital <b>\$43</b> SSDs are great, but they're still far from cheap. This 1TB HDD will hold as many games as you can handle.
CASE		<b>Eclipse P400S TG</b> Phanteks <b>\$80</b> The clean lines, intuitive build features, and fantastic price cements the Eclipse as our midrange case of choice.
DISPLAY		<b>AGON AG251FZ</b> AOC <b>\$499</b> Not only does this 1080p monitor have a lightning-fast 240Hz refresh rate, but it produces decent image quality, too.
KEYBOARD		<b>MasterKeys Pro L</b> CoolerMaster <b>\$141</b> This is one of the cheapest mechanical keyboards, yet it looks and feels great. It only has single-color backlighting, though.
MOUSE		<b>AW958 Elite</b> Alienware <b>\$123</b> Suitable for any grip thanks to its add-ons, and there's just something about those massive metallic buttons.



# ADVANCED BUILD

Go above and beyond with a PC powerful enough to end worlds



**TOTAL**  
\$3,599

MOTHERBOARD



## Strix X470-F Gaming

Asus **\$185**

Get the most from the new AMD Ryzen 2700X with this matching X470 motherboard that's packed with features.

PROCESSOR



## Ryzen 7 2700X

AMD **\$310**

Easy to overclock, and with huge performance out of the box, AMD's new flagship CPU is the one to go for.

GRAPHICS CARD

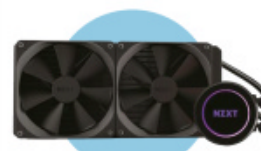


## GeForce RTX 2080Ti Black Edition

EVGA **\$1,150**

EVGA's custom design is considerably cheaper than Nvidia's reference card, and with great cooling.

COOLER



## Kraken X62

NZXT **\$156**

The Kraken is the culmination of three of our favorite things: An infinity mirror, a 280mm radiator, and slick braided cooling.

MEMORY



## Vengeance LED RGB 32GB - 3200

Corsair **\$263**

Ryzen is the one processor that does benefit hugely from higher frequency memory. This kit is perfect for any would-be video expert.

POWER SUPPLY



## HX750i 80 Plus Platinum

Corsair **\$176**

Modular, custom cable kits, and a platinum efficiency rating. What's not to love about this Corsair PSU? Nothing, that's what.

SSD



## 970 Evo 500GB M.2 PCIe SSD

Samsung **\$156**

Samsung's newest NVMe SSDs push performance to new heights, and cost the same as the previous 960 range.

SSD 2



## WD Blue 4TB

Western Digital **\$100**

With a large boot SSD, there's little need for a large, cheap SSD. Instead we've opted for a huge 4TB hard drive for all your bulk data.

CASE



## Enthoo Evolv ATX TG

Phanteks **\$141**

The 5mm thick aluminum panels resonate with svelte professionalism, and the interior makes building inside this a dream.

DISPLAY



## XB271HU

Acer **\$700**

Our previous choice, the AOC AG271QG, has shot up in price. This Acer is now the best value 165Hz IPS gaming display.

KEYBOARD



## K70 LUX RGB

Corsair **\$190**

Even when money is no object it's hard to argue against Corsair's latest K70. A no-fuss, solid piece of aluminum craftsmanship.

MOUSE



## Mamba Elite

Razer **\$72**

A beautiful design, comfortable shape, and outstanding performance make this a brilliant high-end gaming mouse.