Buying the best gaming PC

This is the golden age of PC gaming, every year the graphics get better and only a powerful PC can bring out the full graphical potential of a game. The only drawback of this being it's terribly expensive to build a truly magnificent gaming PC. And the fact that things like GPUs need to be changed every few years in order to keep up with the games being released each year does not make it any easier. But it's when you sit down at the end of the day and boot up Witcher 3 that you begin to truly appreciate all the times you gave up eating out to save up for a Radeon r9 280x. However if you cannot afford a top of the line product it does not mean your gaming experience has to suffer.

We will start off with the CPU (Central Processing Unit) seeing as how it is the most important aspect of your desktop computer.

AMD FX-6300

This one is priced between Tk10,000and Tk11,000. It fares well in gaming tests, costs less than its counterparts and features six integer cores at the clock speed of 3.5GHZ. Still if you want a bigger bang for your buck you are better off looking at Intel.

INTEL PENTIUM G3258

This is where Intel Pentium G3258 comes in, priced at around Tk6000 this is the best processor by far. With a clock speed of 3.5GHZ and a dual core this provides the best gaming performance for its cheap price. What gives it the true edge is that in the future you can upgrade the Intel for a better processor seeing as how the upgrades in the FX line will probably be shoddy at best.

Now let's get on to the GPU (Graphics Processing Unit). To be honest it will be in your best interest to invest in a high end graphics card. Every year the graphics in games get better and if you get a cheap one that works just fine for games coming out in 2015, chances are it will not run quite as well for games coming out in 2017. You can get a GPU that lasts for at least 5 years. So keep this in mind when you go shopping. Don't hold back from splashing some cash. You should also keep in mind which card works best with your processor.

GTX 750 Ti- NVidia's GTX 750 Ti works best with the Intel Pentium G3258 with a price of around Tk16,000. It provides a stable gaming experience due to its higher clock core.

GTX 750 Ti GPU Engine Specs:
CUDA Cores-640
Base Clock (MHz)-1020

GTX 750 Ti Memory Specs:
Memory Clock- 5.4 Gbps
Standard Memory Config 2048 MB
Memory Interface-GDDR5
Memory Interface Width-128-bit
Memory Bandwidth (GB/sec)- 86.4

AMD Radeon R9 380- In my opinion this is the best GPU you can buy at the price range of Tk20,000- Tk25,000 for a 2GB and a 4GB respectively. But given how demanding most high end fan favourite franchises are you should aim for the 4GB card. The improved memory clocks give it a slight increase in terms of gaming performance. It also gives you an impressive frame rate for demanding games such as GTA 5.

Specs
Stream Processors: 1792
Texture Units: 112
ROPs: 32
Boost Clock: 970MHz (990MHz factory OC)
Memory Clock: 5.5gbps GDDR5 (5.7gbps on 4GB cards)
Memory Interface: 256-bit

Lastly if you're on a tight budget you probably will not care for mice or keyboards, that's completely fine. But there's no need to be stingy when it comes to monitors. After all that's what you will be staring at for an ungodly amount of time. You will need a monitor with a resolution of 1920 x 1080 'nuff said.

ASUS VX229H, 21.5 INCH MONITOR

This one is priced at an affordable Tk15,000. When it comes to all things computer related ASUS is the boss. You'll find monitors worth Tk30,000+ in the market, but none can compare to the quality such an affordable monitor possesses.

Hopefully this list made you slightly more prepared to take on the amazing world of PC gaming. It's kind of scary at times but it's time to get rid of those consoles and join the PC master race. Happy gaming!
By Daneesha Khan

Cleaning your PC

A computer is no different than anything else in your house or a car. It needs routine cleaning and care otherwise it'll end up performing slowly and overheating every easily. Most people who aren't regular computer users are usually scared of touching anything in the CPU. Regardless of your usage everyone should know how to clean it.

HOW OFTEN YOU SHOULD CLEAN

There are several factors to take into account when it comes to how often one should clean. The most important matter is your usage. Those who don't use their PC rigorously don't need to clean it every month. They can do it every 3 months. But for people who use their PC at least 4 hours everyday you should do it every month. Another factor is your environment. If you live in a dirty place or a household with several pets you should clean very often.

TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED

You can go to a hardware store and get some special equipment for your PC. But it's definitely not a requirement. You can clean it just as well using common household tools. Here's a cheap list- Hardware set with different sized screwdrivers, a clean cloth, brush, a can of compressed air/air blower/air pump and cotton buds.

TIME TO DIVE IN

Firstly unplug all the cables that attached to the back of your CPU. Then keep it on a clean wooden table that generates no static electricity. Keep your fans turned off; chances are a lot of dust will be flying around. Next up unscrew and open the case. The usual suspect of unnatural noises, heating or slow performance is the fan. Take the pump and blow it into every nook and cranny of the fan. Lightly brush over it. Take a slightly damp cotton bud and get into the inside edges of the fan. By the end it should be clean enough to shine your reflection.

Give the same treatment to your video and sound cards. But remember to take it out first. Otherwise you'll just be blowing the dust into the CPU. Blow out the dust from the fans.

Then we have the case. For this you should use a very slightly damp cloth and rub it over the case. Remember to clean the outer case as well. Give the same treatment to the back of your PC. Don't use the cloth on this. Make thorough use of that brush.

Lastly perform a cleanup of any ports or empty spaces as those accumulate a ton of dust. Once you're done with the cleaning leave it open under a fan for a few minutes to make sure everything is dry. Then arrange all your cables neatly and plug them in.

Now you're all set! (till the next month that is).
By Daneesha Khan