

Eighteen standouts of 2018

2018 has been a mixed bag in terms of hardware and software innovations. Phones have gotten as powerful as desktops, and laptops have become as sleek as phones. The overall quality of life improvements found across all platforms of technology has been exemplary to behold throughout the year. We here at BYTES have had the chance to sit down and pick our best of technology from 2018, and here are our top 18 picks of the year.



Smartphone: ONEPLUS 6T

The OnePlus 6T's newly added in-display finger print sensor feels fluid and the tear drop notch is perhaps the least intrusive of all notches to come out in 2018. The OnePlus 6T comes with Android Pie with Oxygen OS on top, providing the most intuitive Android experience to date.



Smartphone Camera: GOOGLE PIXEL 3

Setting aside the newly added features of Google Assistant, the Pixel 3's single lens back camera produces vivid colours the dynamic range is impressive. The addition of a wide-angle front camera now allows people to capture more background detail and fit more people into their selfies.



DSLR Camera: NIKON D850

The Nikon D850 is a high resolution full-frame DSLR with a 46MP back-side-illuminated CMOS sensor. It is also one of Nikon's fastest shooting DSLRs. This combination of speed and powerful features make it a great pick for both professionals and high-end enthusiasts.

Home Appliance: SAMSUNG FAMILY 3.0 HUB REFRIGERATOR

The Samsung RF28N9780SR comes with a smart-screen, and that too, a screen which can play Spotify, call an Uber, tell you the weather and keep track of your grocery lists. The fridge offers great thermostat controls and temperature uniformity meaning that you can quick freeze ice cream, soft drinks and such.



Laptop: HUAWEI MATEBOOK X PRO



The MateBook X Pro is a premium feeling slim and lightweight ultrabook but at just a fraction of the cost. The unique selling point of the laptop is the spring-loaded pop-up 1MP camera. It's a step in the right direction in terms of privacy and protection from hackers.

Gaming Laptop: MSI GS65 STEALTH THIN

Slim bezels, great performance is at the heart of the 2018 MSI GS65 Stealth Thin. The battery life is impressive and the audio quality is excellent. The golden MSI logo gives the chassis a premium feel.



Robot Companion: MY SPECIAL AFLAC DUCK

My Special Aflac Duck is a robot companion for children who are fighting cancer. The ability to register RFID-enabled cards via a chip on its chest lets children control the duck's moods.



Graphics Card: NVIDIA GEFORCE RTX 2080 TI

The GeForce RTX 2080 Ti is the most powerful graphics card out in the market now. It can handle 4K gaming at 60FPS and is also a gateway into Nvidia's vision of a ray-traced future.

Tab: IPAD PRO (2018)



Electric Vehicle: JAGUAR I-PACE

The Jaguar I-Pace is one of the best electric SUVs on the market. The electric SUV goes from 0 to 60mph in 4.5 seconds thanks to its 90kWh battery which generates 394 horsepower and 512 pound-feet of torque.



The new iPad Pro is Apple's best iPad yet. It is slim, sports very thin bezels and the new A12X Bionic chip and the stock 6GB or 4GB RAM makes it as powerful as most laptops and PCs. The iPad Pro now comes with the new Apple Pencil and a USB-C port.

SSD: SAMSUNG SSD 970 EVO

The Samsung SSD 970 EVO is high endurance and the newly added Samsung drives ensures consistent fast performance and low power consumption. The price of a Samsung SSD 970 EVO 500GB is Tk. 13,100/-



Smartwatch: APPLE SERIES 4 WATCH

With a larger display, thinner bezels and better performance, the Apple Series 4 Watch is the definitive Apple Smartwatch. It now comes with high and low heart-rate detection, fall detection with SOS trigger and an FDA-cleared ECG app for more detailed heart readings.



Wireless Headphone: SONY WH-1000XM3

One of the best noise cancelling headphones to date, the Sony WH-1000XM3 have a really balanced audio profile suitable for all kinds of music. The headphones are a real nice fit for most people and the cans are incredibly comfortable.



Bluetooth Speaker: UE BOOM 2

The UE Boom 2 is IPX7 rated making it safe even against a 1 meter deep dive for around 30 minutes. The sound it produces isn't muddy and it has a deep bass. The cylindrical design sports a rugged look and is built like a tank.



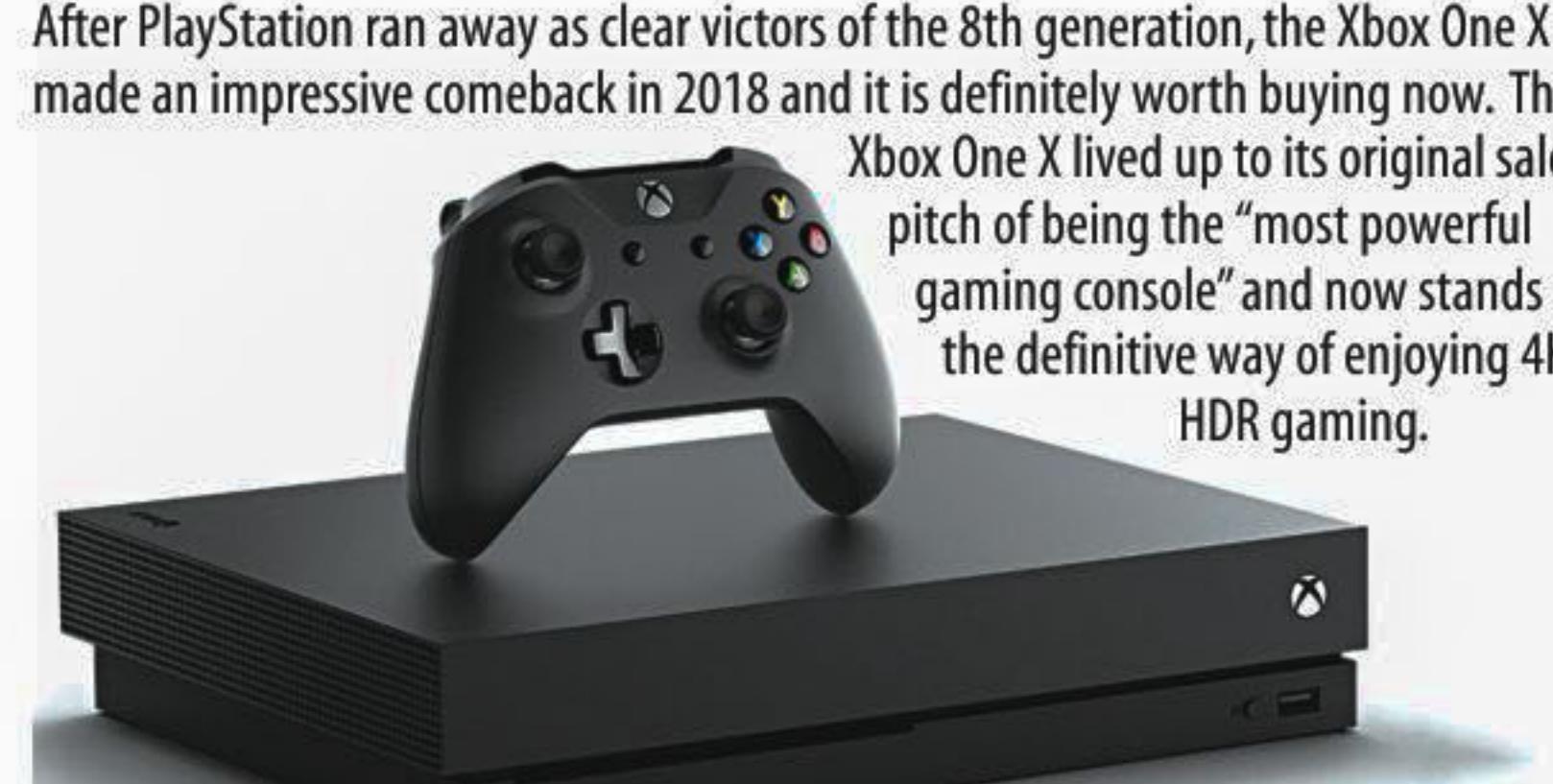
TV: SAMSUNG Q9FN QLED



The 65-inch Samsung Q9FN QLED produces rich colours and uniform brightness. The TV has the deep blacks and the lightning precision found on OLED TVs without sacrificing any of the rich colours and vibrant ambience found on other QLEDs.

Gaming Console: XBOX ONE X

After PlayStation ran away as clear victors of the 8th generation, the Xbox One X made an impressive comeback in 2018 and it is definitely worth buying now. The Xbox One X lived up to its original sales pitch of being the "most powerful gaming console" and now stands as the definitive way of enjoying 4K HDR gaming.



Best Game: RED DEAD REDEMPTION 2

Rockstar Games' Red Dead Redemption 2's bustling open world is the magnum opus of open worlds and deserves a nod for its compelling main story and side missions. The hauntingly realistic visuals and animations are groundbreaking for a game of its size.

