

Monitors



INTRODUCTION

- A monitor is used to display visual information through signals from the computers graphics card/integrated graphics [1]
- Usually it connects with a laptop or desktop through cables
- The underlying display that modern day computer monitors carry is typically a liquid crystal display (LCD) [10]
- Replaced the bulkier cathode ray tube (CRT), a vacuum tube that emits electron beams which are manipulated to display images, as it consumed large amounts of power—which newly developed laptops could not be compatible with [8], [9]



Careers

Esports

- Professional gaming requires top of the line monitors
- Offers advantage in gaming as you can react faster in most situations [2]
- Can prevent eye strain with color settings
- Faster Response time(how quickly a monitor can change color) [3]
- Less input delay (“Input lag (or display lag) is the delay between your GPU sending a frame to your monitor”) [3]
- Highest possible refresh rate (“Monitor refresh rate is the number of times per second a display updates the image, measured in Hertz”) [4]
- High resolution (visual dimensions of a display) [5]
- Curved (larger field of view in games)



Also...

Panel Types

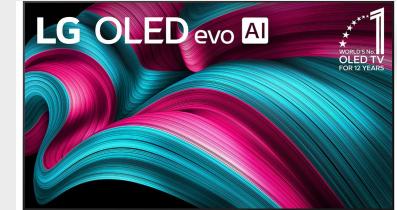
Panel types are a display technology, a large part of monitors that you should consider if purchasing one. Each has trade offs and benefits.

LCD Panels:

Vertical Alignment: Mid ranged option, cheap, decent colors and contrast ratios(measurement between brightest white and darkest black) [6], [7]

Twisted Nematic: Low response time and high refresh rate, poor viewing angles(max angle you can look at a screen from) [6]

IPS: An upgrade from traits from Vertical Alignment, costly but great for visuals [6]



OLED Panels:

Stands for organic light-emitting diode. OLED is quite expensive but has amazing color accuracy because each pixel produces its own light. Consumes a lot of power as well. [6]

QD LED: Even more vibrant and has improved brightness. [6]

What career doesn't require a high quality monitor?

EXAMPLE: Computer programmer

- Programmers do not require a high refresh rate that a monitor can provide
- Programming is more so displaying static text instead of images or video and these aren't visually heavy
- Prioritize more screens or a big screen instead of high quality monitors



Here is a KAHOOT to test your knowledge!

[https://kahoot.it/challenge/0430585?challenge
-id=2175469c-91af-44bd-b82c-db71ccaf83ea_1
770128710052](https://kahoot.it/challenge/0430585?challenge-id=2175469c-91af-44bd-b82c-db71ccaf83ea_1770128710052)



RESOURCES

- [1] GeeksforGeeks, “What is a Monitor?,” GeeksforGeeks, Dec. 11, 2023. Available: <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/computer-science-fundamentals/what-is-a-monitor>. [Accessed: Feb. 02, 2026]
- [2] A. Marino and G. Marolli, “The way to victory – why good monitors are essential for competitive Esports players | MMD Corporate,” *Mmdmonitors.com*, Mar. 2021. Available: <https://mmdmonitors.com/2021/03/the-way-to-victory-why-good-monitors-are-essential-for-competitive-esports-players/>. [Accessed: Feb. 02, 2026]
- [3] Lenovo, “Understanding Input Lag and Response Times,” *Lenovo*, 2025. Available: https://www.lenovo.com/ca/en/knowledgebase/understanding-input-lag-and-response-times/?orgRef=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F&srltid=ARcRdnqGDrPsBiKw-CpW-T_00V34ssBcRRrvACoZdErnwZwau9KiQhrn. [Accessed: Feb. 02, 2026]
- [4] “What Is Refresh Rate and Why Is It Important?,” *Intel*. Available: <https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/gaming/resources/highest-refresh-rate-gaming.html>. [Accessed: Feb. 02, 2026]

RESOURCES

- [5] C. Davis, “What Is Monitor Resolution? Resolutions and Aspect Ratios Explained,” *ViewSonic Library*, Jul. 29, 2019. Available: <https://www.viewsonic.com/library/tech/monitor-resolution-aspect-ratio/>. [Accessed: Feb. 02, 2026]
- [6] Corsair Gaming, “Monitor Panel Types Explained: VA, TN, IPS, OLED, & QD-OLED,” *Corsair.com*, Mar. 27, 2024. Available: <https://www.corsair.com/ca/en/explorer/gamer/monitors/monitor-panel-types-explained-va-tn-ips-oled-qd-oled/?srsltid=AfmBOoo5UPHFrhYHryjbT-pPbuVdyWvHcPpQ67oT2X2vXdu0ckD17h2O>. [Accessed: Feb. 03, 2026]
- [7] “Understanding Contrast Ratio for Better Display Quality | Lenovo CA,” *Lenovo.com*, 2021. Available: https://www.lenovo.com/ca/en/glossary/contrast-ratio/?orgRef=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F&srsltid=AfmBOoplZunvh7CKQTWOXNI_tjdOVoJctg9n7rS_E9oCg5KjRhuqtGq8. [Accessed: Feb. 03, 2026]
- [8] “Computer Monitor - an overview | ScienceDirect Topics,” *www.sciencedirect.com*. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/engineering/computer-monitor>. [Accessed: Feb. 03, 2026]
- [9] Wikipedia Contributors, “Liquid-crystal display,” *Wikipedia*, Feb. 14, 2019. Available: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liquid-crystal_display. [Accessed: Feb. 03, 2026]
- [10] “Computer Monitors | Encyclopedia.com,” *Encyclopedia.com*, Aug. 13, 2018. Available: <https://www.encyclopedia.com/science-and-technology/computers-and-electrical-engineering/computers-and-computing/computer-monitors>. [Accessed: Feb. 03, 2026]