

GROUP TESTS

128 PII vs PIII

Which should you buy — a safe, reliable and low-budget PII, or splash out considerably more cash on a flash new PIII? Will Intel's new instruction set, KNI, make any difference to how your applications run? Ian Robson picks the winners from five PIIs and five PIIIs in the battle of the brawn against the budget.

131 Armari MBX-450e
vs NBX-K50-0

132 Dell Dimension V400
vs XPS T500

136 Gateway GP6-400
vs GP7-500

137 Mesh Pegasus 450CDR
vs 500XL

140 Viglen C2-450GS
vs C3-500XS

152 Editor's Choice

154 Desktop Publishing

For budding publishers everywhere, whether you want to put together a glossy magazine or a four-page newsletter, we have the perfect page layout solution. Ken McMahon has designs on six of the best packages.

155 Adobe InDesign

155 Quark XPress 4.04

156 Corel Ventura 8.0

158 Microsoft Publisher 98

160 GSP Power Publisher

160 Serif PagePlus 5

166 Storage

Whether backing-up your data files or storing little-used applications, a removable storage drive is worth its weight in gold. Dave Mitchell casts his eye over eight of the little gems. And, if you need a larger, faster hard disk, Ajith Ram has the answer with eight SCSI and EIDE hard drives.

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169 Performance

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172 Performance

176 Graphics cards

Does your PC run like treacle when you play the latest games? The solution is a faster graphics card. Ajith Ram puts 12 of the latest and fastest through their paces.

177 3Dfx Voodoo3 3000

177 Asus V3300

177 ATi Rage Fury

177 Creative Labs Graphics Blaster TNT

178 Diamond Monster Fusion

178 Diamond Stealth 3

178 Diamond Viper V550

178 Guillemot MaxiGamer Phoenix

180 Hercules Dynamite TNT

180 Hercules Supercharger

180 Number 9 Revolution IV

180 Pace 3D Edge



PII & PIII PCs

Will you spend your £1500 on a dependable PII PC or go for an exciting PIII newcomer?

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FEATURES

112 Office 2000

Cue drumroll... Microsoft is about to release its latest version of Office which, it claims, will change forever the way in which you work. But is it worth shelling out for yet another upgrade? Tim Anderson gets down to business with the final product.



Truly an office revolution or just another rainy Monday?

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124 Encryption for e-commerce

Do you feel safe buying goods over the web? The Government plans to pass an e-commerce Bill in the near future to reassure buyers and vendors. Dan Sabbagh casts a critical eye over the White Paper.



Safer transactions on the web — can legislation help?

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120 Service and Reliability Survey

Join in our Service and Reliability Survey and tell us what you really think of hardware manufacturers, their service, support and their products' reliability. You could win yourself a digital camera, a copy of Microsoft Office 2000 or Money 99.

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