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Subject: Best Graphics Card

Posted by [abakshi](#) on Mon, 16 Jun 2003 22:39:07 GMT

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General HavocYeah he said best, not the fastest. In my opinion the card I mentioned is an excellent card and it one of the best ones in the series. Also their new Ti 4800 Turbo is said to be an excellent card as it can take advantage of the 8x AGP and it's speedy memory again.

\_General Havoc

The GeForce 4 Ti4800 has been shown by many review sites to be just a Ti4400 with AGP 8x and slight tweaking. The AGP 8x increases speed by something like 0.001% so there's no real effect. That explains why most Ti4800s are slower than most Ti4600s.

The GeForce FX 5800 ('the Dustbuster' - called this because of its monstrous 2-slot vacuum-cleaner-volume cooling system) was the biggest flop nVidia has had in recent times, and the GeForce FX 5900 is better suited to compete against ATI.

However, most sites show that ATI's top line Radeons are faster (plus more bang for the buck for the newly-EOLed products like the Radeon 9700 Pro and the 9500 Pro). ATI's new Radeon 9800 Pro 256MB, which uses G-DDRII, is generally considered to be the fastest card on the market at this point. (and one of the most expensive consumer-market cards)

In reality, the 256MB versus the 128MB graphics RAM isn't going to make much of a difference in most games and apps, so the Radeon 9800 Pro and the 9800 Pro 256MB are very close performance wise.

Then again, there isn't that much of a gap between the 9700 Pro and the 9800 Pro, just clock speed and some tweaking. For the most bang for the buck on an almost-top-of-the-line card, I'd probably go for the 9700 Pro. You can choose between BBA (Built By ATI) or the Powered by ATI cards (made by Sapphire, VisionTek, Hercules, etc.).

I'm running an ATI All-In-Wonder Radeon 8500DV 64MB - works well for all games I've run on this system - pretty happy with the card.

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