
Subject: Video card question....argh

Posted by [abakshi](#) on Sun, 29 Feb 2004 18:16:00 GMT

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Yeah if you want to spend \$100-130, get an ATI Radeon 9600 Pro or 9600 XT with 128MB (256 is a gimmick - not worth it at all for these cards).

The best idea if you are willing to spend a tad more is to get a Radeon 9800 Pro 128MB - you can get them for \$199 out the door at many stores now! I got mine in July '03 for \$299 - good deal at the time.

ATI's next-generation lineup, R420 (Radeon 9700 was R300, 9800 = R350), is due for release in about four to five weeks. Production has begun. But prices on the 9800's likely won't fall too much.

ATI is going to slowly discontinue low-mid-range cards - essentially, the whole R200 line (8500, which is already gone, plus the still-alive 9100, 9000, 9200) and will instead put weakened versions of the 9600 architecture as their low-mid-level card - one example being the 9600SE.

The Radeon 7000/7500, which are DX7 cards, are still going to be kept as the bottom-of-the-heap models.
