Cyberpower GBC Next Day PC

A more modest spec and price than the Scan, but still a heavyweight in every sense of the word

SCORE 🗘 🗘 🗘 🔂

PRICE £1,666 (£1,999 inc VAT) from cyberpowersystem.co.uk

his Cyberpower system provides us with our first look at the Core i7-12700KF, but we strongly suspect it won't be our last. As with the Scan 3XS Vengeance Ti (*see p53*), it comes wrapped up in a liquid cooler to keep it running as fast as possible for as long as possible, with an imposing black chassis for company. Thank goodness for all the RGB lighting to soften its impact.

No surprise, then, that the GBC Next Day is fundamentally a gaming PC. Cyberpower chooses a GeForce RTX 3070 rather than the 3080 Ti of the Scan or the 3060 of the Chillblast, and as a consequence it sits slap bang in between the two in our gaming tests. At 1080p, it was roughly 30% slower than the Scan and 30% faster than the Chillblast, with results of 124fps in Metro: Exodus, 177fps in Shadow of the Tomb Raider and 79fps in Hitman 2 (all tests at High settings). Dropping supersampling from 2x to 1x in the latter increased its frame rate to 175fps.

Viewed in isolation, then, it's a blisteringly fast 1080p gaming system. It's more than respectable at 1440p, too, with averages of 95fps, 125fps and 48fps in those same three games – switch on DLSS (Performance setting) and *Shadow of the Tomb Raider* jumps to 182fps. With playable rates in most games at 4K, I can't see anyone complaining about this machine's gaming performance.

Likewise its speed in applications. It was just as fast as the Core i9 systems in Geekbench 5's single-core test, with a 1,908 result, and even though it fell behind in the multicore test for obvious reasons, you'll need to be performing heavy-duty tasks to

BENCHMARKS PCMark 10 Overall 8,615 0 5.000 10.000 15.000 20.000 3DMark Time Spy 13,145 notice. To put

numbers on that it scored

13,730 in Geekbench

5's multicore test to the 17,762 of the Scan, while their respective scores in Cinebench R23's multicore test were 22,025 versus 26,517.

We saw a notable difference in the multitasking element of the *PC Pro* benchmarks, too. Here, we transcode a video, batch-edit 20 photos and play a movie in the foreground. This task took the Cyberpower 3mins 52secs, while the Scan raced through the same test in 2mins 56secs.

The Scan is also helped by having a PCI-E 4 SSD and DDR5 RAM, where Cyberpower compromises with a still-fast PCI-E 3 SSD (its sequential reads were 2,865MB/sec to the 5,264MB/sec of Scan's disk) and 16GB of DDR4. By comparison, there will be data bottlenecks, but again I would challenge most people to notice them in day-to-day operation.

Cyberpower opts for a more modest Intel Z690 motherboard in the MSI Pro Z690-A. This lacks the glamour of the Asus board in the



ABOVE The glass panel on the front can be swapped for a metal mesh



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BELOW The Cooler Master chassis has room for up to seven extra disks Scan, but still includes four M.2 slots – only one of which is occupied – along with support for 20Gbits/sec transfers from the USB-C 3.2 2x2 slot and 2.5Gb Ethernet. There isn't Wi-Fi built in, so Cyberpower fills one of the three PCI-E x16 slots with an Intel Wi-Fi 6 card. That leaves one slot empty.

Additional flexibility comes via the Cooler Master MasterCase H500M chassis, which includes two 200mm addressable RGB fans for extra bling. This chassis is designed to show off every element of your build, with four tempered glass panels: one on either side, one on the top and one on the front (this is swappable with the metal mesh front as seen in our photo). It's an excellent option if you like to stylise your systems, and there's room for up to seven extra disks (two of them 3.5in) within its spacious interior.

You won't need any more fans, with the five provided – two for the liquid cooler, one at the rear, two at the front – producing a baseline of noise that's notably louder than both the Chillblast and the Scan. There isn't much difference once the three systems are pushed in games, but if you prefer your PC to be near-silent when idling, the Cyberpower isn't for you.

For instant gratification, on the other hand, it's the best choice here. As its name indicates, Cyberpower

> intends for the GBC Next Day to be readymade for shipping the following day, whereas there will be a build-time delay for both the Chillblast and Scan PCs. The GBC in its name

indicates that a portion of the profit from each sale will go to the charity Gamers Beat Cancer.

Add a five-year warranty – with the caveats that only the first two years covers parts and labour, and after the first six months you'll have to pay courier costs to ship the system back to Cyberpower's Gateshead base – and this is a well-balanced way to access the cutting-edge of gaming technology without paying a fortune. **TIM DANTON**

SPECIFICATIONS

12-core 3.6GHz (5GHz boost) Intel Core i7-12700KF processor • MSI Pro Z690-A DDR4 motherboard • 16GB 3,600MHz Corsair Vengeance LPX DDR4 RAM • 8GB MSI GeForce RTX 3070 graphics • 240mm MSI Coreliquid 240R liquid cooler • 1TB Intel 670P M.2 NVMe SSD • Intel AX200 Wi-Fi 6 PCI-E card • Cooler Master MasterCase H500M chassis • 650W Corsair RM650 PSU • Windows 11 Home • 248 x 544 x 546mm (WDH) • 5yr warranty (first 6 months C&R then RTB; 2yr parts and labour, 3yr labour only). Power: 70W idle, 487W peak