

CyberPowerPC Ultra R5XT Gaming PC

A quiet-running system powered by an excellent all-round CPU and AMD's potent RX 9060 XT graphics

SCORE ★★★★★

PRICE £1,124 (£1,349 inc VAT) from cyberpowersystem.co.uk

When buying a PC, there's always a sweet spot when it comes to value. Right now, that spreads from around £800 to £1,500; the Goldilocks zone where every pound you spend has a notable impact on power, design and features.

Here, CyberPowerPC's biggest investment is in the AMD graphics card, which might be a surprise inclusion to some. For years, Nvidia's RTX range has dominated the graphics card market, but this year marks a shift. Nvidia's RTX 50 series still wins at the high end, but by focusing on AI enhancements rather than raw performance it allowed AMD to catch up via its RX 9000 series cards. The RX 9060 XT with its 16GB of VRAM is a fine choice as it provides consistently strong speeds across a range of games at 1440p, including titles that support ray tracing.

Take *Cyberpunk 2077*. In the game's RT Ultra setting, the R5XT averaged 77fps compared to 71fps for the Medion Eraser Bandit P20 opposite with its RTX 5060. Likewise in *Metro Exodus: Enhanced*, with the R5XT averaging 70fps at Ultra settings to 64fps from its rival.

Switch to games without ray tracing and the gap is small but consistent: 82fps in *Shadow of the Tomb Raider* at Highest graphics settings and SMAA4x anti-aliasing compared to 80fps; 108fps versus



PC PRO RECOMMENDED

adds around £100 to the price. Space is also available for two 2.5in SATA SSDs if you remove the right-hand side of the striking chassis.

Its impact is largely due to the swing-door style window. This stretches round to the front, and opens to give you unfettered access to the PC's innards. Here you can admire the three RGB fans, the detail of RGB lighting where the bottom of the window meets the chassis, and the colourful aRGB heatsinks of the Kingston Fury Renegade RAM (two empty slots sit ready if 32GB proves insufficient). On a minor note, you may want to remove the stickers from the RGB fans as our three were ever so slightly off-centre, meaning they wobbled while whirring.

More importantly, this is a quiet-running system that will rarely bother you even if it sits on your desk, and with peak power consumption of 330W there's plenty of headroom from the 750W Corsair PSU.

So to the big question: is it worth paying another £349 for this PC over the Medion? In terms of power-per-pound, it's questionable. While the CyberPowerPC is faster in every category, and by some distance in tasks that utilise multiple threads, this

isn't something most people will notice every day. Nor is there a huge gulf between the two when gaming.

However, there are several factors in CyberPowerPC's favour.

You get a five-year warranty, with the first year covering courier costs and the second parts (after that it's labour only). It's also a far more stylish and quieter system with room to expand, not to mention numerous options to customise it at the point of purchase. While I wouldn't describe the Ultra R5XT as the perfect Goldilocks PC, it comes close enough to earn a Recommended award. **TIM DANTON**

SPECIFICATIONS

8-core/16-thread AMD Ryzen 7 9700X processor • MSI B850 Gaming Plus WIFI6E motherboard • 32GB Kingston Fury Renegade RGB DDR5-6400 RAM • 16GB Radeon RX 9060 XT graphics • CyberPowerPC V4-NXP air cooler • 2TB Kingston NV3 PCIe Gen 4 SSD • CyberPowerPC Amethyst Curve chassis • Corsair RM750E 750W 80+ Gold PSU • Windows 11 Home • 235 x 460 x 490mm (WDH) • 5yr warranty (1yr C&R, 2yr parts) • power: 68W idle, 330W peak

99fps in *Dirt 5* at 1440p Ultra settings; 89fps at 1440p Badass in *Borderlands 3* to its rival's 82fps (all these results are at 1440p). Yes, Nvidia's Frame

Generation technology can boost frame rates even higher in

supported games, but if you prefer to avoid such AI shenanigans then AMD has this battle won.

It helps that CyberPowerPC UK – based in Gateshead – chose AMD's Ryzen 7 9700X processor to complement the graphics card. This is one of the fastest desktop chips around in both single-core and multicore tasks, as shown by its 3,349 and 16,289 returns in Geekbench 6. It's no slouch in Cinebench 2024 either, with 136/1,105 in its single-core/multicore sections; that compares to 100/704 for the Core i5-14400 in the Medion Bandit.

I was hoping to see a Gen 5 SSD in this PC as one of the motherboard's two M.2 slots supports it, but CyberPowerPC instead opts for size via a 2TB Kingston NV3 Gen 4 SSD: its sequential reads and writes of around 6,000MB/sec are exactly as expected. However, one of CyberPowerPC's big advantages compared to the Medion Bandit P20 is that you can easily change this to a Gen 5 SSD at the time of ordering; doing so

ABOVE There's plenty of room for expansion, and it's easy to work inside, too

LEFT AMD's Radeon RX 9060 XT graphics make a welcome change in a gaming PC

"The RX 9060 XT with its 16GB of VRAM is a fine choice as it provides consistently strong speeds across a range of games at 1440p"

BELOW The sweeping design of the window adds to this PC's style

