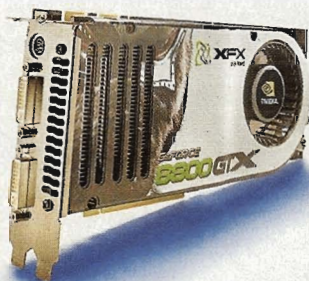


nVidia Tops Charts, Unveils Next-Gen GeForce

TEST OUR MAINSTREAM Center Best Buy this month is EVGA's e-GeForce 7900 GT KO Superclocked graphics card. Combining great performance and an affordable \$200 price, it edged out rivals based on ATI's competitive Radeon X1950 chip.

Strong test results and a terrific software bundle helped the \$539 dual-GPU Asus EN7950GX2 top our power ranking, although it costs \$39 more than EVGA's



DIRECTX 10-READY: THE \$599 XFX GeForce 8800GTX.

e-GeForce 7950 GX2, in fifth.

Also pricey is the power list's number two board, the \$599 XFX GeForce 8800GTX; however, it's the fastest card that we've seen yet. Its new high-end nVidia GeForce 8-series GPU introduces physics processing and support for Windows Vista's DirectX 10 API, to enable more-advanced graphics in future PC games.

—Danny Allen

ONLINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION on the graphics boards reviewed in this chart, including details on how we tested them, go to find.pcworld.com/55808.

	MAINSTREAM BOARD	PCW Rating	Performance	Features and specifications
1	EVGA e-GeForce 7900 GT KO Superclocked Best Buy \$200 find.pcworld.com/54070	84 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 74 fps Half-Life 2: 113 fps Quake 4: 106 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB nVidia GeForce 7900 GT Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Overclocked out of the box, this single-slot card delivers blazing performance for its price.				
2	Asus EAX1950 Pro \$155 find.pcworld.com/55801	83 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 74 fps Half-Life 2: 102 fps Quake 4: 66 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB ATI Radeon X1950 Pro Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, composite-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: This board offers a good balance of cost and performance. It uses an internal bridge clip for CrossFire2 setup.				
3	Asus EN7900GS Top \$219 find.pcworld.com/55802	82 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 74 fps Half-Life 2: 95 fps Quake 4: 100 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB nVidia GeForce 7900 GS Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, composite-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Factory-overclocked card includes a full copy of the game Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon, and a three-year warranty.				
4	ATI Radeon X1950 Pro \$199 find.pcworld.com/55798	81 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 74 fps Half-Life 2: 102 fps Quake 4: 65 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB ATI Radeon X1950 Pro Two DVI-out, S-Video-in/out, composite-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: ATI's own X1950 Pro-based card offers good specifications and performance at a fair price.				
5	PowerColor Radeon X1950 Pro Extreme \$249 find.pcworld.com/55791	81 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 75 fps Half-Life 2: 103 fps Quake 4: 67 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB ATI Radeon X1950 Pro Two DVI-out, S-Video-in/out, composite-in/out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Expensive but strong-performing board has its GPU overclocked at 600 MHz and is cooled by a silent fan.				
POWER BOARD				
1	Asus EN7950GX2 Best Buy \$539 find.pcworld.com/55803	84 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 76 fps Half-Life 2: 112 fps Quake 4: 120 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1GB nVidia GeForce 7950 GX2 Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, composite-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Pricey dual-GPU board provides superior performance and two bundled full games, including King Kong.				
2	XFX GeForce 8800GTX \$599 find.pcworld.com/55789	83 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 80 fps Half-Life 2: 126 fps Quake 4: 124 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 768MB nVidia GeForce 8800 GTX Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, composite-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: High-end GeForce 8-series board is the fastest card we've seen to date. It also supports Windows Vista's DirectX 10 API.				
3	ATI All-In-Wonder X1900 \$250 find.pcworld.com/53718	82 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 74 fps Half-Life 2: 101 fps Quake 4: 64 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256MB ATI Radeon X1900 DVI-out, S-Video-in/out, composite-in/out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Top-of-the-line card offers TV-tuner capabilities, a great software bundle, and graphics power to spare.				
4	Diamond Multimedia Radeon X1950 XT \$450 find.pcworld.com/55796	82 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 77 fps Half-Life 2: 116 fps Quake 4: 95 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 512MB ATI Radeon X1950 XT Two DVI-out, S-Video-in/out, composite-in/out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: CrossFire-ready board uses GDDR4 memory, has top-notch performance, and ships with a range of video input/output cables.				
5	EVGA e-GeForce 7950 GX2 \$500 find.pcworld.com/54064	81 Very Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield 2: 76 fps Half-Life 2: 114 fps Quake 4: 118 fps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1GB nVidia GeForce 7950 GX2 Two DVI-out, S-Video-out, component-out
▶ Bottom line: Dual-GPU card performs well at standard resolutions but edges rivals only at ultrahigh settings.				

CHART NOTES: Prices and ratings are as of 12/6/06. All game performance times are in frames per second; higher numbers are better.