

V3 Gaming PC Avenger

V3 Gaming PC is a new boutique startup that was created by employees who previously worked at Vigor Gaming. V3 Gaming tells us they're working with Nvidia on its 3D Vision compliance, and by the time you see this review, it's likely V3 Gaming will be selling systems with 3D Vision Surround capabilities. At press time, V3 offered three systems: the Avenger, the Convoy, and the Crave—with the Avenger being the top-of-the-line model.

Our Avenger is certainly a luxury build, as it features two Zotac GeForce GTX 480s in SLI and a Zotac GeForce GTS 250 for dedicated PhysX processing. Other lavish hardware includes an Intel Core i7-980X running at 4GHz, two 80GB Intel X-25M SSDs in RAID 0, 6GB of DDR3-2000 RAM, and an Antec Twelve Hundred case with a black vinyl wrap that both protects and adds to the look of the system. V3 Gaming points out that you can remove the vinyl wrap and paint the base chassis if you prefer to mod the exterior of the system.

We found that the darkness of the black vinyl exterior, which is nonreflective, enhanced the appearance of the blue lighting effects inside the case. There are blue LEDs in the three 120mm fans in the front of the case, the two 120mm rear exhaust fans, and the 200mm fan at the top of the case. The mass of lights created a dim blue haze over the system interior. Cable routing was smartly done, and we like that the builder covered some of the

brightly colored cables with electrical tape, so you won't see the cables coming out of the holes in the case's motherboard tray.

V3 Gaming performs both the overclocking and RAID setup as a free service. The Avenger sent to us featured an Asus P6X58D-E motherboard with a 6Gbps SATA interface, and with the Intel X-25M RAID 0 setup, the system was able to deliver a

308.46Mbps transfer speed in the Physical Disks test of SiSoftware Sandra 2010 Lite. The Avenger was a strong gaming PC, with 81.7fps in Dirt 2, 106.97fps in Far Cry 2, and 42.4fps in S.T.A.L.K.E.R.: Call Of Pripyat.

Our only qualm with the Avenger was the amount of heat coming from the graphics cards.

We would have expected a fan on the side panel near the graphics card, but V3 Gaming opted not to use one. And when we put our hand on the Avenger's side panel, we could feel that the whole side panel was warm. That being said, we didn't experience any overheating issues during our benchmarking or burn-in tests, and V3 Gaming backs every system with a three-year warranty.

Performance of the Avenger was top-notch, and we like that V3 Gaming offers overclocking free, a practice that some boutique builders have gone away from. We also expect that V3 Gaming will offer a wider variety of systems in the near future. ▲

by Nathan Lake



Avenger

\$4,999 (as tested)

V3 Gaming PC

www.v3gamingpc.com



Benchmark Results

	V3 Gaming Avenger
3DMark Vantage	
Overall	33508
GPU Score	32471
GPU1 (fps)	96.42
GPU2 (fps)	93.76
CPU Score	37058.46
CPU1 (Plans/s)	5251.46
CPU2 (Steps/s)	46.02
PCMark Vantage Pro 1.0	
Overall	21687
Memories	12529
TV And Movies	7767
Gaming	22571
Music	19495
Communications	21946
Productivity	24662
HDD	31804
SiSoft Sandra 2010 Lite	
Processor Arithmetic	
Dhrystone ALU (GIPS)	176.57
Whetstone iSSE3 (GFLOPS)	123.73
Processor Multi-Media	
Integer x16 iSSE4.2 (Mpixels/s)	324.4
Floating Point x8 iSSE3 (Mpixels/s)	241.4
Double x4 iSSE2 (Mpixels/s)	131.3
Memory Bandwidth	
Integer Buffered iSSE2 (GBps)	27.46
Floating-Point Buffered iSSE2 (GBps)	27.46
Cinebench 10	
Score	32032
Time*	0:26
Cinebench 11.5	
CPU**	10.28
POV-Ray 3.7 Beta***	7690.66
Dirt 2 (8X MSAA)	81.7
FarCry 2 (8XAA)	106.97
S.T.A.L.K.E.R.: Call Of Pripyat	42.4

* minutes:seconds

** points

*** pixels per second

Games tested at 2,560 x 1,600.

Specs: CPU: Intel Core i7-980X @ 4GHz; GPU: Zotac GeForce GTX 480 (2-way SLI), Zotac GeForce GTS 250 for PhysX; RAM: 6GB Patriot Viper DDR3-2000; Motherboard: Asus P6x58D-E; Storage: 80GB Intel X-25M (2x, RAID 0), 1TB Western Digital Caviar Black (2x, RAID 0); PSU: Corsair HX1000W; OS: Windows 7 Ultimate 64-bit