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If you have cash, Alienware's X58 is the perfect way to transfer money into computing power... Don't stop any compromises of computing power; Unique stylish body; Reliable and easy-to-set price rivals used car; Pumps out heat; Some cheap-feeling part of the case; chintzy mouse and keyboard with Intel's new core i7 processors and Nvidia's new GeForce GTX 295 maps drawing rave reviews from performance enthusiasts, it only makes sense that one system combining both will be one of the best available. And Alienware's X58 meets those expectations. The \$5,200 slot machine that recently arrived on our doorstep proves that proven components and attentive design produce a machine that is almost unstoppable. But is it worth the price tag? The features and design of your guy UPS will hate you for ordering the X58. Or at least for the fact that he's carrying it. This particular case goes down in the DT record books as one of the heaviest we have ever tested. After our hands grow sluggish from toting around the last crop of netbooks and other featherweight all day, the X58 felt like it had been loaded with lead bullion. This is hardly a legitimate complaint on the desktop, but we bemoaned the lack of any handymen on the slippery chassis. Stacking the classic Alienware case seems suitable for weight. It's somewhere between the Cadillac, circa 1953, and an alien spaceship found in Mojave around the same time. Either way, it's in the wind tunnel. The two grilles start low on the front and sweep the oatmeal on the sides, and the top of the case has a rounded look that evokes to mind the hood of the car larger than your traditional desktop case. Ours came in a glossy black trim with blue lights behind the front grille, which proved to be a nicely low key - perhaps too thin for gamers who want to truly own the spectacle. As the weight suggests, the X58 chassis certainly gives off air strength, but some details detract from this impression. Specifically, the front door on the case, which swings away to reveal an optical drive, feels too cheap for the rest of the body. Its loops make a crackling plastic noise as it opens and we got the feeling that one good kick from the wrong angle will set it permanently off the kilter. Our Area-51 X58 has even better hardware than the flagship Alienware ALX X58, which means it's pretty much got the best of everything available right now. At the heart is the powerful Intel i7 Extreme 3.2GHz processor, which offers up to eight virtual cores through Hyper Threading, a newly revived technology that benefits multitasking. There's also 12GB of ultra-fast 1066 MHz DDR3 RAM, the maximum currently available in this configuration. This is backed up by two of GeForce's flagship nvidia 295 boards as well as dual 1TB SATA drives tuned into the RAID 0 array to offer a combined 2TB storage. Accessories Unlike some custom builders who seem to cram the extras randomly into every corner and and Out of the delivery box not occupied by the computer itself, Alienware neatly organizes all the goodies in a flat packed box that slides easily and keeps everything organized. Inside you'll find a wired keyboard and a Logitech mouse, a mouse pad under the Alienware brand, two DVI adapters for VGA and a reboot CD. More eloquently, there's also a black Alienware baseball hat and a leather-bound guide that rivals that you might expect to get with a Lexus or BMW. While these two little extras will certainly help build Alienware's reputation as a premium builder, we'd rather see the score go into the best mouse and keyboard set up. Logitech branded accessories feel more like what you'll find in a school computer lab than attached to a \$5,000 gaming computer. Performance Tap (doubtfully tasteful) blue alien head on the front of the case, and the X58 stirs to life in 1 minute and 20 seconds. It's reasonable for a gaming PC, and lucky because with the speed of this thing swallowing electricity when it works, you will certainly be tempted to turn it off, or at least put it in hibernation when you're done fragging. Speaking of which, while the X58 isn't as blatantly noisy as some home-built drilling rigs, it's definitely a space heater. Leaving him overnight in a closed office, we returned to the sauna the next day generated by a single on an X58 idly. And while we haven't made any specific watt-consumption criteria, you better believe that a 1,200-watt power source will appear on the next electricity bill. But when it comes time to crunch the numbers and light up the game, the X58 justifies its voracious use of electricity over and over again. Simply put, we've never tested a more capable slot machine. The polygon-pushing power of this system first beamed in MotoGP 08, where the fast-paced racing action that caused even the venerable Firebird HP to puff and stutter didn't seem faze X58 at all. Not only did it run in full 1080p resolution with impeccable, arcade smoothness, it never faltered when we turned on 2X anti-aliasing, or later a 4X anti alias that brought every version of the game to the max. Even with the X58 delivery graphics barely discernible from real life at first glance, it never once fell below 60 frames per second. The study of the rich utopian environment of Crysis turned out to be similar results. Our original configuration is a 1080p resolution screen and each setting at the highest returned to impeccable frame rates that hardly ever fell below 90 frames per second. The very high settings, which seemed to exist back in 2007 only for the purpose of crushing the systems, did not make any supposed dent in performance. The inclusion of 2X anti aliases also allowed us to get a frame rate consistently over 60 frames per minute, translating to beautiful, Smooth game. Only when we turned ant aliasing to 4X and 8X did we see the performance start to drop, and even then, the system returned admirable results. To get some handle on this almost omnipotent system, we we its with 3DMark06. He returned an excellent score of 19,445 3DMarks. It's one of the highest

we've ever seen in an office, if not quite what we expected after first witnessing its unstoppable gamer performance. But more than we appreciate the monster benchmark result, we believe that the real gaming abilities of this particular Alienware has shown making it the most competent gaming PC we have ever tested. Ports and connectors If you can't connect peripherals to the X58, good luck finding a system that can use it. The list of ins and outs in the system looks like an encyclopedia of different formats. Just in front there are two USB ports, headphone jacks and microphones, and a FireWire connector. At the back you'll find six more USB ports, another FireWire connector, an outdated mouse and keyboard connector, an analog RCA connector, eSATA, digital optical sound, 7.1 bulk connectors and two gigabit Ethernet connectors. The GTX 295 dual cards offer a total of four DVI ports and two HDMI ports, with the ability to connect up to four different displays. However, the limitations on how the Nvidia software control panel allows you to use them are somewhat odd. We couldn't turn on any HDMI for our game monitor without turning off the SLI, which cripples the machine's legendary performance. We found a way to get around it by using the enabled adapters to connect via the VGA instead, but still feel connecting a single monitor through HDMI should be possible without this sacrifice. The Alienware software doesn't include much of the default Windows Vista 64-bit setup that comes pre-loaded on this computer. Which, as far as most gamers are concerned, is a really good thing. In addition to several hardware programs (such as sound and graphics control panels), the only side-by-side program we could find was a copy of Nero 7 Essentials. We would definitely appreciate the extra installation of drives for some games, though perhaps along the lines of what AVA Direct provides. Conclusion If you've ever dreamed of throwing practicality into the wind, cranking every game to maximum settings, and enjoying them as they were to play - with maximum detail in every little sheet, perfectly smoothed edges, and water that looks closer to real life than you've ever dreamed possible - it's a system to do it with. Like us with the X58, which took every step and will surely be for years to come. However, \$5200 is a pretty piece of change no matter how you cut it. But the system starts at \$1,649, and many of the options found on ours can easily be taken down to find out what the frightening figure is without affecting performance too much. (Stepping from a 3.2GHz processor to a 2.66 GHz processor, for example, will save you 1000.) The company's prices also reasonably reflect the market price for parts and the first-class presentation of its products non-standard performance will help justify any premium. If you have the cash, Alienware's X58 is the perfect way to transfer that money into computing power for gamers who don't have the know-how or patience to build their own. Pros: Unstoppable, No Compromise Computing Power Unique, Stylish Case Reliable and Easy to Customize Cons: Price Rivals Used Car Pumps Out Heat Some Cheap Parts Case Chintzy Mouse and Keyboard Editors Recommendations alienware area 51 x58. alienware area 51 x58 case. alienware area 51 x58 specs. alienware area 51 x58 wartime edition. alienware area 51 x58 drivers. alienware area 51 x58 bios update. alienware area 51 x58 manual. alienware area 51 x58 power supply

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