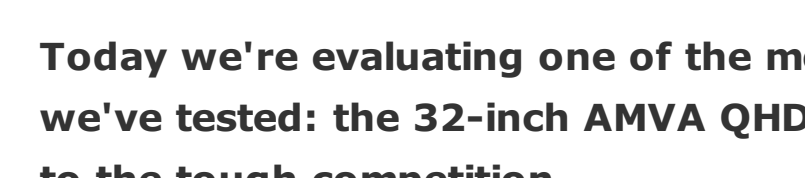


Asus PB328Q 32-inch AMVA QHD Monitor Review

13 COMMENTS

By Christian Eberle JANUARY 31, 2016 12:00 AM



1. Introduction

Today we're evaluating one of the most accurate and best-performing monitors we've tested: the 32-inch AMVA QHD Asus PB328Q. Let's see how it compares to the tough competition.

What makes a monitor great? That is a question that most shoppers ask when looking for a new display. And that's why we're constantly evaluating new monitors, especially if they include advances in new technology.



Obviously there is no single list of attributes that propels a screen into the best category, as that depends on the required application. Gamers will want speed and advanced video processing. Photographers will want color accuracy and a wide gamut. But the majority of users are looking for a screen that does everything well and, most importantly, doesn't cost a lot.

We review a lot of high-end monitors mainly because that's where the latest technologies are found. But if a display offers a lot for the money, we'll highlight that too. We haven't found perfection yet, but today one of the best-performing screens we've ever seen is in our lab for evaluation: Asus' PB328Q. This 32-inch QHD AMVA panel quite simply does everything well.

Specifications

Products	
Pricing	Asus PB328Q
Panel Type & Backlight	
Screen Size & Aspect Ratio	AMVA / W-LED, edge array
Max Resolution & Refresh	32in / 16:9
Native Color Depth & Gamut	2560x1440 @ 75Hz
Response Time (GTG)	10-bit / sRGB
Brightness	4ms
Speakers	300cd/m2
Video Inputs	2 x 3w
Audio	1 x DisplayPort 1.2, 1 x HDMI 1.4 1 x DVI, 1 x VGA
USB	3.5mm stereo input, 3.5mm headphone output
Power Consumption	v3.0 - 1 x up, 4 x down
Panel Dimensions	89.9w typical, .5w standby
WxHxD w/base	28.9 x 24.6 x 9.5in, 735 x 625 x 242mm
Panel Thickness	2.6in / 67mm
	.35in / 9mm
	26lbs / 11.8kg
	Three years

We've touted the virtues of VA panels in previous reviews of the BenQ BL3200PT and most recently in the BenQ XR3501, Philips BDM4065UC and HP Envy 34c. VA's big advantage over IPS and TN is contrast; in some cases five times the contrast to be exact. The one and only reason for this is lower black levels. VA isn't any brighter but the blacks are super-deep thanks to a sub-pixel structure that blocks the backlight more effectively. We like to call them "better valves."

But the PB328Q isn't just about contrast. It's very accurate too as you'll see in our tests. It isn't billed as a professional display, but it performs just as well as one. It's also not aimed at gamers, but that 75Hz refresh rate in the spec table is the real deal. It also has a native 10-bit color depth, which we were able to utilize through Windows with a GeForce GTX Titan X video card. And all of this comes at less than \$600.

This is a significant price drop for the 32-inch screen size. Economies of scale have dictated high prices for jumbo panels simply because they aren't all that popular. Screen sizes have slowly inched up from 15 to 19 to 22 to 24, and now 27 inches seems to be a sweet spot. 32 inches demands a lot of desktop space but the benefits can be substantial.

When we reviewed the BenQ BL3200PT we loved its QHD resolution. A pixel density of 92ppi means ideal sizing of fonts and objects without any dpi scaling in Windows. Gaming is extra immersive and graphics work becomes a pleasure when your photos approach poster-size.

The PB328Q looks fantastic on paper and as we began our tests we knew we were looking at something exceptional. Is it the perfect display? Let's take a look.

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SUMMARY

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Packaging, Physical Layout And Accessories
- 3. OSD Setup And Calibration
- 4. Brightness And Contrast
- 5. Grayscale Tracking And Gamma Response
- 6. Color Gamut And Performance
- 7. Viewing Angles, Uniformity, Response And Lag
- 8. Conclusion

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- King Kii**, January 31, 2016 1:39 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

price?
- King Kii**, January 31, 2016 1:41 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

Quote:
price?

for some reason it wasn't loading the price under your spec sheet, but i just checked the amazon link. \$ 599.
- sburgess**, January 31, 2016 4:23 PM 2 | [33](#) Hide ^

I would love if we could get some insider information about Asus' quality control issues. We can't all get press samples.
- Poozle**, January 31, 2016 5:20 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

I would get it but... ASUS has so many quality control issues. Never buying their products until they fix that.
- Xorak**, January 31, 2016 6:03 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

Good thing it doesn't have Freesync, or I'd be seriously tempted to pick this up and move my MG279Q to the secondary PC...
- jonbonwolf**, January 31, 2016 8:18 PM 1 | [33](#) Hide ^

\$469 at Newegg!
- DookieDraws**, January 31, 2016 10:04 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

^^ SHHHHHHHH I'm still trying to decide if I should get it or not.
- ohim**, February 1, 2016 1:15 AM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

Why VGA port on such a product ? At this point a monitor like this should have DP 1.3 and HDMI 2.0 only.. since these are the future from what it seems.

As a gamer and video editor i really want a monitor that can combine both worlds but for now it seems you have to choose, get high refresh rates but TN panels or good IPS / VA with low refresh rates.
- ericgl**, February 1, 2016 3:39 AM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

I'm still waiting for a UHD display with 120Hz/144Hz refresh rate, 10bit color (1.07b colors), 100% AdobeRGB coverage, 85%+ rec2020 coverage. Am I too unrealistic?
- JonDol**, February 1, 2016 3:52 AM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

Yeah, I'm waiting for that too. With G-Sync or FreeSync and the latest HDMI (2.0 ?) and DP (1.3 ?).

Quote:
I'm still waiting for a UHD display with 120Hz/144Hz refresh rate, 10bit color (1.07b colors), 100% AdobeRGB coverage, 85%+ rec2020 coverage. Am I too unrealistic?
- Uri Pisarev**, February 1, 2016 5:33 AM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

I went from a 22 inch monitor to a 32 inch TV.....amazing improvement is overall enjoyment of PC, Gaming and all that. Later went from a TV to a 34 inch, 1440P monitor.....even better. Size matters, it improves the overall experience tremendously.
- fmyhr**, February 1, 2016 7:05 AM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

Out of *6* PB328Qs I tried, ALL had multiple dead pixels. I'm not alone -- see Amazon reviews. Strongly recommend choosing the BenQ BL3200PT over this Asus. (It uses the same VA panel.)
- NeatOman**, February 1, 2016 12:49 PM 0 | [33](#) Hide ^

I got a 4K (3840x2160) "perfect pixel" AVMA 10-bit 4:4:4 chroma 39.5" from korea for \$580 last July. I should note, the back-light on the edges are slightly off and the new versions of that monitor don't have that issue.

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