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Subject: Re: Intel i3 vs i5 vs i7

Posted by [a000clown](#) on Thu, 29 Apr 2010 21:42:58 GMT

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I'm going to automatically assume you want the best performance out of gaming rather than other things, since this is a game forum after all.

Intel's i5 750 seems the most well-rounded, giving decent fps for comparable price to AMD's latest hex-core Phenom II X6 1090T. Also, it uses less power thanks to the 32nm process.

Benchmarks here:

<http://anandtech.com/show/3674/amds-sixcore-phenom-ii-x6-1090t-1055t-reviewed/9>

Intel's CPUs offer the best performance per core which makes them run (most) games better, since old games tend to be single-threaded and not many current games (if any) make good use of having many cores, though this may change in the future.

AMD's CPUs offer more cores for a much better price which is good for applications that are heavily threaded, such as encoding multimedia. In the great majority of scenarios though you will rarely use all 6 cores, if you even manage to max out the others. Again, this may change in the future as developers optimize their applications to make use of having more cores.

So in my opinion: Gamers will benefit most from Intel's offerings, while multimedia pros and heavy multi-tasking users will benefit most from AMD's offerings.

This assumes comparable price ranges though. Intel's ultra-high-end-super-expensive CPUs simply beat everything, although the benefits for games is negligible.

Here's some benchmarks for you:

Intel Core i5 750 (dual-core, \$199) vs Intel Core i7 980X (hex-core, over 1000 fucking dollars!).  
<http://anandtech.com/bench/Product/109?vs=142>

As you can see, the game benefits are like I said, negligible, even for this beast of a CPU.

Intel Core i5 750 (dual-core, \$199) vs AMD Phenom II X6 1090T (hex-core, \$295).

<http://anandtech.com/bench/Product/109?vs=146>

Intel Core i5 750 (dual-core, \$199) vs AMD Phenom II X4 965 BE (quad-core, \$185).

<http://anandtech.com/bench/Product/109?vs=102>

Intel Core i5 750 (dual-core, \$199) vs AMD Phenom II X2 555 BE (dual-core, \$104.99 + \$4.99 Shipping on newegg.com at time of writing).

<http://anandtech.com/bench/Product/109?vs=120>

Personally I'd go for the AMD Phenom II X4 965 BE since I'm often encoding multimedia so the extra cores will come in handy.

If I only cared about gaming though, the Intel Core i5 750 wins, however I'd probably go for the AMD Phenom II X2 555 BE since I don't care much about playing on ultra-high resolutions at

maxed settings.

Hope my post helps with the decision; I'm an AMD fan but I try to remain unbiased

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