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AOC IF23

AOC'S IF23 is the most distinctive monitor in this group test. Its modern photo frame appearance and dark blue and white finish make a bold statement but the polarising looks provoke a "love it or hate it" response like nothing I've seen since the first pink notebook appeared on the scene.

The shapely organic curves help disguise the fact that the AOC is not at all slim, in fact it's around three times thicker than the LG. The styling carries its own limitation because the IF23 doesn't come with a stand, rather the screen angle is adjusted by twisting a click-in rear support. You can more or less adjust the screen angle so that it points directly at you, but you can't raise the screen above desk level unless you prop it up on a broad and sturdy support. An optional height adjustable stand is available, so factor this into the overall price if you need to have the monitor raised, which you will if you're tall. The glossy dark blue finish does tend to reflect a lot of the room but the screen is glare free.

In spite of its trendy styling, the IF23 seems to be aimed at a market encompassing designers and graphic artists, so inputs are

limited to analogue VGA and DVI, the logic no doubt being that HDMI-equipped sources won't be used in a work environment. Unlike the rows of control buttons on the competition in this test, the AOC uses a central button with four switches at each point of the compass. The icon driven menu system is simple enough to navigate and offers a decent amount of adjustment.

Image quality on the IF23 is excellent, as expected from an IPS panel. Text in word processing applications is particularly sharp and high resolution photos show amazing levels of detail even at extreme magnification. I use an IF23 as my personal monitor and spend an inordinate amount of time in front of it, writing, processing images and watching videos, so I can testify that it's easy on the eyes. There's no white to yellow colour shift when viewed straight on but the IF23's viewing angles aren't as wide as the Dell and Viewsonic.

As an HDTV, the AOC puts on a sterling show. Movies are crystal clear and I couldn't pick up any motion judder at all; this monitor definitely has the ability to keep up with fast cross-panel movement or rapid changes of

scene. The IF23 is blessed with an impressive level of both colour saturation and contrast; the blacks aren't the deepest or most detailed in the test but they're not far off.

AOC's rather unique IF23 is an excellent all rounder. It's one of the sharpest on test for design and image processing, is near the top with text and is an amiable companion for a night at the movies or a few hours on YouTube. It's probably not ideal for hardcore gamers and the lack of a stand may be problematic for some users but at the price, it's definitely the bang-for-bucks champion of the group.

AT A GLANCE

- Unique appearance
- IPS panel.
- Optional stand.

AOC IF23

RRP incl GST: \$399

Contact: aocmonitor-anz.com

Some will hate the looks but it's hard to fault the AOC's balance of talents.

8.5



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DESIRABLE:
 Lower cost
 doesn't mean
 fewer features



23-INCH WIDESCREEN MONITOR SPECIFICATIONS

Make & Model	PCW Rating	Connectivity	Response Time	Contrast	Brightness	RRP incl GST
DELL UltraSharp U2311H	7.0	VGA, DVI, DisplayPort	8ms	10,000:1	300 cd/m	\$699
VIEWSONIC VP2365wb	7.0	VGA, DVI	14ms	1,000:1	300 cd/m	\$599
LG Flatron 2340V	6.0	VGA, DVI, HDMI, Audio out	5ms	5,000,000:1	250 cd/m	\$483
SAMSUNG SyncMaster P2370H	8.0	DVI, HDMI, Audio out	2ms	70,000:1	250 cd/m	\$559
AOC IF23	8.5	VGA, DVI	6ms	100,000:1	250 cd/m	\$399