



First Look: 9X Media's X-Top Expert

Sometimes two displays aren't enough. Get in front of amazing three-panel display, Wednesday 6/19 at 9 p.m. Eastern on 'Fresh Gear.'

Also airs 6/22 at 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m., 6/23 at 3:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m., 6/24 at 2:30 a.m., 7 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m., and 6 p.m., 6/26 at 7:30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. Eastern.

By [Robert Heron](#)



Flat-panel displays are ideal for maximizing desktop real estate. Compared to CRT-based displays, the thin shape and lightweight design of an LCD make it especially useful for multiple display configurations. Having several displays attached to a single computer is desirable, but the setup is often a cable-management nightmare. On this episode of "Fresh Gear" we'll show you 9X Media's X-Top Expert, a multiple display system that tames the mess of cables while offering space for up to six LCDs.

New meaning to 'panoramic'

At the heart of the X-Top Expert is a modular display-mounting system consisting of independently adjustable "arms" that firmly hold each LCD in place. Each articulated arm allows the LCD to be angled and rotated into any position desired, but a common configuration would be to place the LCDs side-by-side for a panoramic view. The X-Top Expert we previewed was equipped with three thin-bezel NEC MultiSync 1850E digital LCDs configured as a single desktop. With an effective desktop resolution of 3840x1024, the word "panoramic" barely describes the experience.

Each arm of the X-Top Expert is constructed of square metal tubing that provides a place to conceal and route the LCD's power and data cables. The base of the display system is referred to as a hub where up to six arms can be attached. With our three-display setup, we found that the X-Top Expert's quality construction offered a very stable platform with no signs of being loose or wobbly.

Ultimate display system?

For the individual who works with several displays at once, 9X Media's display systems provide a customizable solution that can be expanded or upgraded as needed. The clean design and quality construction of the X-Top Expert impressed us nearly as much as having multiple displays at our disposal. With more and more applications being written to take advantage of multiple displays (including some of our favorite games), the X-Top Expert could be the base for the ultimate display system.

Company: [9X Media](#)

Price: Three-LCD systems: \$2,899 to \$48,499 depending on configuration (\$4,500 as reviewed)

Available: Now

Category: Multiple monitor system

Specs: X-Top Expert six-port hub (three mounting arms included); analog/digital/high-resolution LCD display options; includes Matrox G550/G450 video cards; hard-shell travel cases and integrated audio options available.

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