

Re: Low end desktop for EE tasks?

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- *From:* Jeff Liebermann <jeffl@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Tue, 25 Sep 2007 20:48:13 -0000, mrdarrett@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

There's Craigslist, too – a little less risky than eBay.

Actually, I've had more problems buying from Dell and the various Dell refurbished online stores, than from either eBay or Cragislist.

<<http://www.delloutlet.com>>

<<http://www.dfsdirectsales.com>>

<<http://www.dellauction.com>>

Looks like it might be the Dell Vostro then.

You're right that you can get a much better new machine for "not much more money". However, at the original price, you can get TWO Dell SX260's for the price of a new Vostro.

Another reason why not to go (too) used:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capacitor_plague

One of the 14 SX260's had literally all of the electrolytics simulating a volcano. Strangely, it worked just fine, but was obviously going to blow up soon. The eBay vendor sent me a replacement motherboard, which I installed, and lived happily ever after. I also tried to repair the board with the blown caps, but managed to rip out a few too many plated through holes, which destroyed the board.

A computer tech here at work complained that the Dell desktops aren't that great. (The laptops are good, he says.) He's had to replace WAY too many motherboards and Western Digital hard drives on our Dell Optiplex SX280s.

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Are you sure you don't have it backw