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Best panasonic plasma tv

Okay, this is really the last Panasonic plasma we're ever going to review. Shortly after we released our Viera TX-P42GT60B review five weeks ago, shortly after announcing it as the last Panasonic plasma we would examine, our friends at Panasonic Store Doncaster contacted us and offered to send us the TX-P60ZT65B, the best plasma TV the Japanese manufacturer has ever produced. Given our true admiration for what Panasonic plasmas have gained over the years to the community of video enthusiasts, how could we refuse? Of course, we had reviewed ZT before in May 2013, so is there any point in reviewing it again? Well, since then, Samsung and LG Electronics have tested a couple of OLED TVs capable of real 0 cd/m2 blacks, so it will be interesting to see how plasma stacks up on them from their best son. Also, some interesting calibration techniques and user complaints have surfaced over time, so I will try to address them in this article. One of the most frequently asked questions by potential buyers doing Daytime Use Research is whether the Panasonic ZT65 is self-contained in a rather bright room with sunlight. This concern probably stems from the widely followed 2013 HDTV Shootout event hosted by New York high-end AV retailer Value Electronics, which suggested that zt60 maximum light output of 30fL (about 103 cd/m2) was fully calibrated in [ISF Day] mode when it was capped. It's worth remembering that the Viera ZT60 is the 65-inch version used in the US conflict, while the UK and Europe only get the 60-inch model capable of higher brightness due to its smaller screen size. Also, I recently started using several American calibrators [Panel Lighting] to extract more light output from panasonic VT/ZT to medium good effect instead of High and without any major drawbacks. With this setting, our TX-P60ZT65 sample achieved a maximum brightness of 130 cd/m2 from AVSHD and will not sneeze to sneeze for a plasma of this size. [Panel Brightness] Highly calibrated very well, refuting the misconception that it is incompatible with accurate video replication. Here are the calibration results made in [isf Day] mode using our reliable Klein K10-A meter and CalMAN 5 software: RGB monitoring after calibration in [isf Day] mode and dEs (2.2) Color saturation monitoring after calibration Color errors after calibration (&l:3 not recorded) as you can see from the charts above. There is really no reason not to use [Panel Brightness] High if we actually need higher light output to provide a viewable picture in the presence of competing ambient lighting, so we actually achieve excellent gray toning and colors. For daytime viewing, we've targeted 2.2 gamma to better preserve shadow details: our usual goal 2.4 is suitable for a dark viewing environment, not in a brighter room, where sunlight makes it difficult to distinguish almost black details. Sure, switching to High [Panel Lighting] will increase plasma color vibrating noise (especially in shaded areas) due to rough transition, but a sensible visibility wasn't noticeable during the day. Although this highest [Panel Brightness] setting is also a method for restoreing wtw detail to all white-than-white (i.e. above 235) shades clips (i.e. 235 above), at least partially in line with 240 other image presets (as previously noted in the original review, the Panasonic TXP60ZT65B [Contrast] does not display the full range of WTW tones unless it has dropped to disturbingly low levels). When you take into account the best-in-class anti-reflective filter applied on the ZT65, the idea that the TV can't cope in a sun-filled room is absolutely unfounded. Unlike most plasmas, ZT's blacks don't breathe much from the light hitting the screen, allowing the TV to hold its spectacular black-level response even in adverse bright conditions. It's a top notch display for every season, and only Samsung's revolutionary F8500 can boast better bright room performance among plasma display panels whose brightness ceiling is higher (PDP). Fan Noise/Plasma Buzz A few months after Viera ZT and VT went on sale, some users began complaining of extremely loud fan noise attributed to airflow through the back panel. Panasonic has accepted this issue and has begun authorizing a fix for affected owners, which includes installing foam pads between fans and the back panel. Then there would be the correction implemented at the factory built after July 2013. Our TX-P60ZT65B - which took random retail stock - was such a unit and was not ordinary to us, its fan noise and plasma buzzing (the screen was loud as it got brighter) plasma TVs, and it was certainly insignificant in light of the set's stunning image quality. In any case, these sounds can easily be masked by normal TV volume at sensible seating distance. For those seriously considering buying the Panasonic TX-P60ZT65B panasonic TX-P60ZT65, the most common alternative option is probably the 65inch version of the company's step-down VT65 series, if that's how similar they are at the price these days. Both are world-class TVs: the 65 VT60/VT65 naturally offers more screen real estate; but the ZT60/ZT65 anti-reflection screen coating and overall cleansing of the image holds the upper hand - as if ZT's native [IFC] level is set somewhere between Off and Min, resulting in squeaky clean output with marginally less dynamic misshaping (DFC). Samsung PS64F8500 Samsung's best plasma is a worthy competitor to Panasonic and VT, but apart from the very high light output for a PDP (the f8500 makes an obvious choice in a very bright room), it's edged by the Viera TXP60ZT65B in almost every aspect, including a slightly shallow black level, intermittent frame jump and higher input lag. Don't get us wrong: the Samsung PS64F8500 is the perfect television in its own right for everyday use, but for critical viewing in a dimly illuminated environment, the Panasonic ZT65/ZT60 is only better than a hair width. LG 55EA980W & While Samsung KE55S9C samsung and LG's OLED televisions can pump plenty of light, they are capable of real 0 cd/m2 blacks even in the presence of other illuminated elements on the screen and are free of inevitable pwm (pulse width modulation) noise on plasmas, their curved design and exorbitant prices (at least £2000 ZT more, with a smaller screen size than boot) put them in running for most videophiles. Despite OLED's super-fast response time, the sample and hold driving method applied on the Samsung KE55S9C and LG 55EA980W means that the local motion resolution is lower than on the Panasonic TXP60ZT65. And to play video games that require quick reflexes like first-person shooter (FPS), the Viera ZT60/ZT65 again trumps OLED's with low input latency. Pioneer Kuro Ah yes, the ghost of Pioneer's legendary Kuro plasmas. Of course, these screens are now available for new purchase (and now have been up for a good few years), but current owners may be wondering if they should swap the Panasonic TX-P60ZT65B before the stock runs out. For what it's worth, Pioneers can go brilliant (energy regulations weren't solid in 2008-2009), and Panasonics exhibit less DFC. Surprisingly, certain Kuro models can produce blacks deeper than ZT. Panasonic's favour, the ZT60/ZT65, has a superior anti-reflective filter, making the TV cling to its superior blacks in the presence of surrounding ambient light, making it better suited for use in a bright room during the day. Panasonic plasmas also manifest less static dither and high frequency rolloff compared to Kuros. At the end of the day, however, the performance between these reference-level displays is so close that we actually think that hair loss - the Panasonic TX-P60ZT65 will replace the Kuro plasmas, whose 5-year warranty expires this year or next year. Last Words TX-P60ZT65B is undoubtedly the best plasma Panasonic has ever made, but is it the best flat-screen TV we've tested? When we handle movies, sports and video games in both bright and dark conditions, we take into account its unbeatable performance and we take it for a yes. At a street price of around £2600 (down from the original RRP £4000), Panasonic represents most of the 60ZT65 Given that the best quality video breeding tickets at home for the next few years (at least while stocks are last), Samsung has gone to the boil over plasma (the company is not going to launch a successor to the F8500 PDP series), and the oversized OLED TV looks set to remain niche for the foreseeable future (the only major TV brand leading with LG OLED in 2014). Who knows what tv will be after 10 years... 50-inch OLED TVs, 8K television, VR (virtual reality) headphones around? Maybe one day someone will read this article back and wonder what the fuss is about. But you have to understand where we're coming from: there's never been such a high level of home entertainment so accessible to so many people, and Panasonic has played the role more than most. Its engineers developed their plasma every year and peaked with their magnum opus Beyond The Reference ZT. When you buy the Panasonic TX-P60ZT65, you get more than just a piece of hardware - we buy it for years of R&D and a legacy filled with enthusiast feedback and the manufacturer's deep understanding of what creates an accurate, unadulterated image. We're sorry panasonic's plasma journey is about to end. When the Viera TX-P42GT60B took home the envy TV Product of the Year gong at the What Hifi Awards last year, a manager at Panasonic said it was a good night for plasma. Well, the party is over now ... Good night, plasma - you will be sorely missed. Missed.