

Increase your productivity with a second monitor

If you find yourself running out of “room” on your screen because of all your palettes and programs, add a second monitor to your system.

A second monitor is handy for storing the many palettes and tools found in today’s graphics and design software. Or, you can use the extra screen space to display two programs or two documents simultaneously, or two views of the same page.

To get started with a dual-monitor setup, you will need:

- A video card capable of driving two monitors. Some new computers come with this capability built-in. Otherwise

replace your existing graphics card with a dual-monitor video card.

- An operating system that is compatible with the driver software included with your video card. The Macintosh OS, Windows 2000, and Windows XP all support most dual-monitor configurations well.
- Two monitors compatible with the type of connections (VGA, DVI-I, DVI-D, or ADC) on your video card.

- Enough room on your desktop for two monitors. If you are using an LCD flat panel monitor, consider mounting it on an articulated arm that lifts the monitor off your desk, and allows you to position your monitors close together.

Keith Gilbert provides training & support services to help graphic designers and communicators convey print and Web messages effectively. Gilbert Consulting, 651 633-7148 www.gilbertconsulting.com