How Much VRAM Do You Need

Modern games can vary in how much VRAM they use. Games like Cyberpunk 2077 can still run fine on 6 to 8GB of VRAM. However, your gaming experience might not have as much visual fidelity as you'd like, as you'll have to play at low settings or lower resolutions. If you plan to play demanding games like Spider-man Remastered, Elden Ring, or God of War at high settings, you'll use over 10GB of VRAM in modern games. If you stick to medium settings and either 1080p or 1440p, you'll find that you won't need more than 10GB of VRAM and still visually enjoy the game. However, if you want to upgrade to a 4K monitor, you might also want to consider upgrading your graphics card.

It's self-explanatory that higher graphics settings take up more VRAM. However, some graphics settings take up significantly more VRAM than others. By far, the most VRAM-demanding setting is the resolution. Nothing lowers frame rates as much as higher resolutions. Although 4K is a sensible upgrade from 1080p, it's still a massive fourfold leap in resolution.

It's always best to make decisions based on your situation. Counter-Strike and Valorant are games that don't need much VRAM. The same can be said for plenty of competitive games, as they're made to run well on lower-end hardware. 6 to 8GB should be plenty of VRAM for competitive games, even for modern standards. If you have a graphics card with more than 12GB of VRAM, it might not be worth upgrading solely for more VRAM. However, if you're still running 6GB of VRAM, you might want to upgrade it; unless you're OK with playing newer, more demanding games at 720p or sticking to older, less demanding games.