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Radeon RX 5700 XT: A Handful Of Early Linux Gaming Benchmarks On Ubuntu 18.04

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I've already published my thoughts on AMD's new 7nm Navi graphics card lineup. Both the RX 5700 and RX 5700 XT punch above their weight class on Windows and are a compelling alternative to Nvidia's new SUPER series. But

how is their performance looking on Linux? Well, that's a bit more difficult to answer since widespread Linux support is still largely absent.

Still, I wanted to fire up the RX 5700 XT on my Ubuntu 18.04 and Ryzen 9 3900X test bench and see how things are shaping up.

The official AMDGPU 19.30 driver package (i.e. from AMD itself) only supports Ubuntu 18.04.2 LTS, while solid widespread support for the RX 5700 cards won't arrive until MESA 19.3. However, development is moving very quickly on this.

Your mileage may vary, but I found the "easiest" solution was to install Ubuntu 18.04 LTS, install the official AMD 19.30 packaged driver, then add the Oibaf PPA. A quick `sudo apt update / upgrade` later, and you should have Mesa 19.2-git which will enable Vulkan support. The situation may have changed over the last several days, but this is how I got mine up and running with performance that is mostly expected.

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