



# The Annual **PROJECTOR** Buyer's Guide **2009**

**AIR** PRESENTS



**An opaque projector is a godsend for many artists.** Using a mirror, light bulb, and lens, this tool allows you to transfer an image onto any surface for easy tracing. Simply place your original subject on the copyboard of the projector, direct the image onto your surface, focus, and trace. When using an opaque projector, your original copy does not have to be transparent (or even flat, on some models), making the artistic possibilities limitless. Artograph cautions against using original photographs in the copy holder to protect against the high heat of the bulbs. Also, needless to say, best results are achieved using the projector in a dark or low lit room. Airbrushers of all varieties, from T-shirt artists to sign painters, illustrators to muralists, can save time, money, and sanity using this trusty tool! Projectors are available in

all types, shapes, costs and makes. Recognizing the need for a projector and making the right choice is a very important decision for today's busy artist, crafter or designer. The right projector can greatly increase and improve productivity and creativity. With so many projectors on the market, the decision can be a difficult one. Here are some considerations to make your choice the right one.

## **COPY PLATE**

The copy plate or copy board is the area on an opaque projector where the original photo or artwork is placed or positioned. This could be on a glass plate, clips or a flat table (bottom loading) and varies in size depending the model. When your original image is larger than the copy area, you will have to shift it around and trace it in sections to get your final drawing, or shrink it with a computer to get it to fit the copy size to lessen the distortion of tracing in sections. Some opaque projects are capable of 3-D images.

## **LENS**

The clarity of your projections depends on the quality of the lens. Better lenses will have glass elements with color-corrective coating. Many high-end projectors have more than one element, which means a clearer image. Some less expensive projectors have plastic lenses, which may lose some optic precision.

## **BRIGHTNESS**

The brightness of your image depends on your

light source. Photo and halogen bulbs are color-corrected and provide more light, but they're more expensive. It's also harder to find replacements for these bulbs. Regular household bulbs cost less, but they throw off less light and may alter the color of your original. If you're just tracing images, you may not require color correction, but for detail work or reproducing photos, photo or halogen bulbs will give you better precision.

## **IMAGE SIZE**

You can adjust the size of a projected image by modifying the distance from the surface or changing a lens. Most projectors provide for greater enlargement than reduction. Some may have separate lenses for reducing; others require you to turn the current lens around (like peering through the wrong end of binoculars).

## **HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL PROJECTION**

Horizontal projection (from a table to a vertical surface) gives you more flexibility with enlargement, but vertical projection (onto a flat

surface from above) provides a more convenient work area. Some projectors have the ability to be put on a table stand so they can work either way. Most projectors can be used for horizontal projection, and the purchase of a floor stand can aid the artist in their work. On some models, the stand is included in the purchase price, but on others, there's an additional cost to purchase one.

Just like buying an airbrush or a compressor, purchasing an opaque projector is an investment in your career. It's always a good idea to get the best possible product you can afford. Although some high-end models cost upwards of \$1,000, our Buyer's Guide features projectors for just about any budget. Use our charts to compare a full range of projectors from top manufacturers to help you make your choice. These side-by-side comparisons are full of the information you need to be an informed buyer. You'll find information on prices, lenses, copy capacity, accessories, replacement parts, warranties, and more. We've also included a complete directory of participating manufacturers so you can easily contact them with questions and orders. >>

# The professional's choice

## Scale your artwork with ► accuracy and ease

Professional artists appreciate the superior performance of Artograph's Prism and Super Prism projectors. Both have become the standard of the trade, offering unique features to make scaling your artwork easier and more accurate than ever before.



## ◀ Projection can be quick & easy

Artists agree the Artograph Mobile Projector Floor stand is versatile and convenient to use. It features a sturdy five-spoke base with lockable rolling casters and a 12"x 15" platform (with 15 degrees of tilt) to solidly support your projector. The vertical adjustment from 3ft. to 4½ ft. high and 360-degree rotation makes this the perfect tool for all your projection needs.



projectors



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## Buyer's Guide 09



	<b>225-380</b>	<b>225-354</b>	<b>225-323</b>	<b>225-322</b>
Model	<b>Tracer<sup>™</sup> Jr. Projector</b>	<b>Designer<sup>™</sup></b>	<b>DesignMaster<sup>™</sup></b>	<b>DesignMaster<sup>™</sup> II</b>
Product	<b>High Impact Poly Carb</b>	<b>Sheet Metal/Plastic</b>	<b>Sheet Metal/Plastic</b>	<b>Sheet Metal/Plastic</b>
Cabinet Construction				
Size (inches)	<b>4.5 x 8 x 4.75</b>	<b>10 x 6 x 15</b>	<b>10 x 6 x 15</b>	<b>13 x 6 x 16</b>
Weight	<b>2 lbs</b>	<b>6 lbs</b>	<b>8 lbs</b>	<b>13 lbs</b>
Maximum Copy Size (inches)	<b>3.5 x 3.5</b>	<b>6 x 6</b>	<b>6 x 6</b>	<b>6 x 6</b>
Method of Securing Copy	<b>Bottom Loaded</b>	<b>Internal Clips</b>	<b>Internal Clips</b>	<b>Magnets</b>
Able to Project 3-D Objects?	<b>Small</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Table Mounting Post?	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>-</b>	<b>\$99.99</b>	<b>Included</b>	<b>Included</b>
Baseboard	<b>n/a</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Size (inches)	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Floorstand	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>
Lens Specifications	<b>200 mm</b>	<b>200 mm</b>	<b>200 mm</b>	<b>200 mm</b>
Number of Elements	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Color Corrected	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Horizontal Projector Range	<b>4x - 10x</b>	<b>70% - 30x</b>	<b>70% - 30x</b>	<b>70% - 30x</b>
Vertical Projector Range	<b>n/a</b>	<b>70% - 4x</b>	<b>70% - 4x</b>	<b>70% - 3.5x</b>
Accessory Lens Reduction	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Additional Cost of ACC Lens	<b>-</b>	<b>Included</b>	<b>Included</b>	<b>Included</b>
Lamp Type	<b>Compact Fluorescent</b>	<b>Photolamp</b>	<b>Photolamp</b>	<b>Photolamp</b>
Wattage	<b>23 W</b>	<b>250 W</b>	<b>250 W</b>	<b>Two 250 W</b>
Lamp Life	<b>8,000 hrs</b>	<b>20 hrs</b>	<b>20 hrs</b>	<b>20 hrs</b>
Replacement Lamp Cost	<b>\$9.99</b>	<b>\$5.99</b>	<b>\$5.99</b>	<b>\$5.99</b>
Cooling Fan	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Speed	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Electrical Specifications	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>
Guarantee	<b>5 Year</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>
Manufacturer's Suggest Price	<b>\$49.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$259.99</b>	<b>\$419.99</b>
Special Features	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Buyer's Guide 09



Model	225-090	225-190	225-360	225-152
Product	<b>Prism™ Projector</b>	<b>Super Prism™</b>	<b>Tracer™ Projector</b>	<b>MC 250 Professional</b>
Cabinet Construction	<b>High Impact Poly Carb</b>	<b>High Impact Poly Carb</b>	<b>High Impact Poly Carb</b>	<b>Plastic</b>
Size (inches)	<b>14 x 14 x 7</b>	<b>14 x 14 x 7</b>	<b>5 x 9.5 x 11</b>	<b>7 x 8 x 13</b>
Weight	<b>8 lbs</b>	<b>9 lbs</b>	<b>3 lbs</b>	<b>7 lbs</b>
Maximum Copy Size (inches)	<b>7 x 7</b>	<b>7 x 7</b>	<b>5 x 5</b>	<b>6 x 6</b>
Method of Securing Copy	<b>Hinged Copy Cover</b>	<b>Hinged Copy Cover</b>	<b>Bottom Loaded</b>	<b>Hinged Copy Cover</b>
Able to Project 3-D Objects?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Table Mounting Post?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>\$119.99</b>	<b>\$119.99</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Baseboard	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Size (inches)	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Floorstand	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Additional Cost?	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>	<b>\$179.99</b>
Lens Specifications	<b>200 mm</b>	<b>230 mm</b>	<b>200 mm</b>	<b>280 mm</b>
Number of Elements	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
Color Corrected	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Horizontal Projector Range	<b>80% - 20x</b>	<b>80% - 20x</b>	<b>2x - 14x</b>	<b>3x - 15x</b>
Vertical Projector Range	<b>80% - 3x</b>	<b>80% - 3x</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Accessory Lens Reduction	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>No</b>
Additional Cost of ACC Lens	<b>Included</b>	<b>Included</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Lamp Type	<b>Photolamp</b>	<b>Photolamp</b>	<b>Compact Fluorescent</b>	<b>Halogen</b>
Wattage	<b>Two 250 W</b>	<b>Two 250 W</b>	<b>23 W</b>	<b>300 W</b>
Lamp Life	<b>20 hrs</b>	<b>20 hrs</b>	<b>8,000 hrs</b>	<b>75 hrs</b>
Replacement Lamp Cost	<b>\$5.99</b>	<b>\$5.99</b>	<b>\$9.99</b>	<b>\$29.99</b>
Cooling Fan	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Speed	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>60 cfm</b>
Electrical Specifications	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>	<b>110 V</b>
Guarantee	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>1 Year</b>
Manufacturer's Suggest Price	<b>\$274.99</b>	<b>\$399.99</b>	<b>\$94.99</b>	<b>\$799.95</b>
Special Features	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>