



OPTOMA HD50

£999, OPTOMA.CO.UK

The Optoma HD50 is a Full HD projector for those wanting to watch wall-sized movies and supersize their games. What sets it apart from the mid-price 1080p pack? Simple: it performs like a projector costing twice as much.

Image sharpness is exceptional, with HD images from TV and Blu-ray alike bristling with fine detail. It's also contrasty enough, if that's a phrase, to give images tangible depth. A Dynamic Black mode further optimises black levels depending on image content by adjusting the lamp output, though this causes the projector's cooling fan to slip into noisy overdrive.

While it can be used in a partially lit room, the HD50 looks its best in full-black out conditions. Rainbow fringing, an artifact common to single chip DLP projectors, is notable only by its absence.

This HD projector isn't cheap per se, but it's a good deal that punches way above its price bracket. The razor-sharp clarity of its images, easiness on the eye and simple setup make it great for projection noobs, giving killer delivery of big matches and big-budget blockbusters, while more tenth dan AV blackbelts can dig deep into a host of calibration options and system functionality. If you've got a white wall, this is an essential add-on for it. **T3**

LOVE Razor-sharp 1080p pictures. No overt DLP rainbow effect. Plug-and-play simplicity

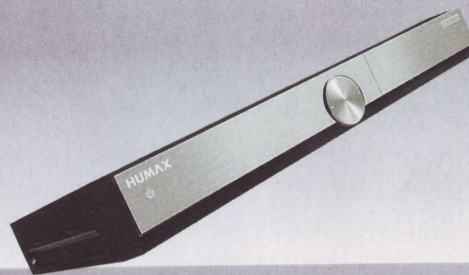
HATE Speaker and 3D not included. At 29dB it's not the quietest

T3 SAYS A big-screen, full-HD barnstormer that comprehensively out-performs its price tag



{SPECIFICATIONS}

PROJECTION TECH
Single chip DLP
RESOLUTION 1920x1080
3D Active (optional extra, no specs included)
BRIGHTNESS/CONTRAST
2,200 lumens, 50,000:1
CONNECTIVITY 2x HDMI, component, composite, PC
VGA, RS232, 12v trigger
AUDIO None
SIZE/WEIGHT
286x266x124mm/4kg



HUMAX DTR-T2000 YOUVIEW

£199, HUMAXDIGITAL.COM

The DTR-T2000 is the latest YouView PVR from set-top specialist Humax. It employs a 500GB drive to store 125 hours of HD or 300 hours of SD.

YouView's own platform sits atop the Freeview HD service and offers a seamless mix of 70 live channels and streaming catch-up TV from the BBC, ITV/STV and C4/S4C plus the more marginal likes of Channel 5, UKTV (aka Dave, Really and Yesterday), Milkshake!, plus paid-for offerings courtesy of Now TV and Sky Store.

The user experience is polished, with effortless set-up and seamless transition from live TV to web content to recorded TV on the PVR portion of the device, via YouView's time-shifting EPG.

Recorded image quality is identical to source, and the PVR is also compatible with Dolby Digital 5.1 audio, when broadcast. Streaming services work well, with no buffering so long as you've got decent broadband, and for the most part don't disgrace themselves in terms of image quality.

Combining excellent image quality with the approachability of Sky and the sophistication of Freetime, this platform arguably pips both. The only real caveat is the lack of Wi-Fi; you'll need ethernet or Powerline AV. That aside, the DTR-T2000 is a corker. **T3**

LOVE Compact slim design. Effortless usability.

Seamless mix of broadcast and web TV

HATE No network file support. No integrated Wi-Fi

T3 SAYS This slimline silver TV-surfer is great choice for non-subscription telly addicts



{SPECIFICATIONS}

HARD DRIVE 500GB (125 hours HD, 300 hours SD)
WEB TV BBC iPlayer, ITV Player, 4OD, Demand 5, UKTV, Milkshake, Now TV, Sky Store
CONNECTIVITY
HDMI, ethernet
SIZE/WEIGHT
360x50x245mm/2.5kg

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