

# High-end projectors

**WINNER**

## Marantz VP-12S4

The 12S4 looks and feels every inch a serious piece of kit. For a start, it's vast by DLP standards and it's very heavy. But you get what you pay for and your nine grand brings a lot of exciting features.

Connections wise, there are two HDMI inputs, two component video jacks for analogue hi-def and progressive scan, two 12V trigger jacks, a standard 15-pin PC feed, plus the usual composite video and S-video fallbacks.

Internally, the VP-12S4 offers a range of impressive specifications. Arguably the most significant is Texas Instruments' HD+2 DarkChip3 DLP chipset. This guarantees to deliver



an improved contrast ratio of 4,500:1 and less picture artefacts.

Image quality is further enhanced by the Genum picture processing system

that converts an interlaced HD signal into a progressive one and smoothes out any jaggedness in the picture quality. With its native widescreen resolution of 1280 x 720 and a seven segment colour wheel, movies look simply stunning.

**£9,000**

**HIGHLY COMMENDED**

### Sim2 HT300E

The HT300E DLP projector follows the standard Sim2 curvy design aesthetic and is available in three colours: royal burgundy, shiny silver and gun-metal grey.

Connections include an HDMI input for digital HD feeds, component video jacks, S-video, a 12V control trigger for automatic screen activation and a 15-pin D-sub PC jack.

A long throw lens means that the HT300E is better equipped for a larger room and the addition of Sim2's proprietary Live Colour Management system guarantees excellent picture quality.



### Projection Design Action Model One Mk II

True to form, this surprisingly dinky DLP offering comes in bright yellow, bright red, maranello blue (pictured) and white versions. It's ready for high-definition, too, thanks to a native resolution of 1280 x 720 pixels and a DVI jack capable of handling the key HDCP anti-piracy protocols. Setup is simple and picture tweaks include gamma adjustments and Faroudja's top-line deinterlacing circuitry. Image quality is excellent with a contrast ratio of 3,000:1 and the addition of a seven segment colour wheel.



**£6,000**



**£4,000**

Robert Follis Associates - What Home Cinema - Jan 2006