



Verdict ★★★★★ Approx price **£3,000**

InFocus IN82

Does all that fearsome spec find its way onscreen?

- ⊕ Outstanding picture quality; terrific design; plenty of connections
- ⊖ Occasionally emphasises MPEG noise in low-quality sources, noisy

EVERY INFOCUS PROJECTOR we've seen in recent times has been a winner, so we're more than a little excited at the arrival in our test rooms of the company's highest spec model to date.

Features ★★★★★

The IN82's innovative design reflects a remarkable attention to detail throughout. For, as well as looking exceptionally pretty in its gloss black, elegantly curvaceous body, the IN82 also features a neat practical touch: a ball-jointed 'foot' arrangement that enables you to rotate and tilt the projector. So you should get a good image on screen no matter how awkwardly shaped your room might be.

The great first impressions continue with the discovery among

the IN82's connections of two digital video options: a standard Deep Color-compatible v1.3 HDMI input, and a 'M1-DA' jack. The latter is rather clever, because as well as taking v1.3 inputs with a suitable adaptor, it also handles PC, component video and DVI feeds.

Other useful connections include 12V trigger outputs for driving, say, a motorised screen and an RS232 port to aid system integration.

At the IN82's heart, meanwhile, beats Texas Instrument's high-quality full HD DarkChip3 system, from which InFocus claims to have eked a seriously impressive contrast ratio of 12,000:1.

Perhaps inevitably, this figure isn't a 'native' one; it's only achieved via a manual iris adjustment system. But there's nothing inherently wrong

The rivals



/InFocus IN81 ★★★★★

Another full HD projector from InFocus that's a grand cheaper and great value, but not as good as the IN82. Reviewed: Issue 328

/JVC DLA-HD1 ★★★★★

Around £3k if you shop around, this DILA projector is rainbow effect-free and has stunning black levels and detail. Reviewed: Issue 319

Ease of use ★★★★★

The IN82's basic, but surprisingly effective (and backlit), remote control works harmoniously with the projector's largely fuss-free onscreen menus, making the long features list really very accessible.

The projector's ball-joint mount is very helpful, if a touch fiddly, leaving as our only real gripe the fact that at 1.2x, the projector's zoom isn't especially flexible.

Picture ★★★★★

The IN82's impressive specifications translate into remarkably good pictures by £3k standards.

For starters, the strikingly high contrast and brightness figures make a massive difference to the overall image. For such an affordable projector you get a startlingly deep black level response along with really potent bright sections. This sort of 'cinematic dynamism', for want of a better description, is usually one of the chief image qualities that persuades videophiles to spend £5k or more on a projector.

Black levels as robust as those experienced on the IN82 are often joined by strong colour palettes, and so it proves here. With the BrilliantColor feature implemented, in particular, vibrant films such as *Casino Royale* on Blu-ray look remarkably intense, with usually troublesome rich reds and blues looking potent and natural. Yet the projector also handles skin tones with great subtlety.

The IN82's 1080p resolution, meanwhile, makes its presence felt in the exceptional clarity and detail of its HD presentations, especially if you deactivate the projector's overscanning

so that sources can be mapped perfectly, pixel by pixel. The sort of sharpness and detail displayed is rare in an affordable, single-chip DLP such as this one.

Chuck in some surprisingly adept handling of SD sources by PixelWorks processing and little rainbow effect or fizzing over moving objects and the IN82 really does look pretty special.

Value ★★★★★

While it's a tad noisy, the IN82's pictures wouldn't look out of place on a projector costing at least a grand more ☉

with letting users adjust the iris, and you won't have to worry about the brightness 'stepping' or flicker that can affect projectors with automatic systems like this.

Another eye-catching piece of spec is a claimed maximum lamp output of 1,500 ANSI Lumens, which is a seriously high figure.

"The high contrast and brightness figures really make a difference to the final image on screen"

Also boding well for the IN82's picture quality is its image processing, which is the 10-bit DNX system from PixelWorks known for its exemplary noise suppression and sharp, clean scaling in previous InFocus models.

During our tests we got real mileage out of colour gamut adjustment, a flesh tone calibrator, a black level calibrator and the software part of TI's BrilliantColor system that boosts colour response.

If this all sounds too complex, the projector can also be calibrated for you by an expert from the Imaging Science Foundation.

Fact file

- / DLP projector
- / Full HD
- / 1,920 x 1,080 pixels
- / 12,000:1 contrast ratio
- / Pixelworks DNX processing



Lab report

- / Time in Lab: 12 days
- / Serial No: AVPJ7300137

476mm



148mm

Playback

Test
Colour
Black level
Contrast
Detail

Rating



Power consumption:

Standby: 18W
In use: 270W

Lab notes: As good a set of results as you'll see for the IN82's money

Spec check

Type: DLP
Panel shape: 16:9
Resolution: 1,920 x 1,080
HD Ready: Yes
Quoted contrast ratio: 12,000:1
Quoted brightness: 1,500 ANSI Lumens
Throw ratio: 1.85-2.21:1 (distance/width)
Supported video formats: 480i/p, 576i/p, 720p, 1080i, 1080p (50/60/35/24)
Dimensions: 476(w) x 148(h) x 432(d)mm
Weight: 6.4kg

/ Other features: DarkChip3 technology; ISF settings; 30-33dB noise output; 1.2x zoom; 136% image offset; keystone correction; adjustable iris; noise reduction; gamma presets; adjustable RGB colours
/ Sockets: Inputs: HDMI v1.3; 1DA (HDMI compatible via supplied adaptor); S-video; composite video; RS-232 port; component video; IR jack; 12V triggers
/ Contact: 01423 359054
www.csesolutions.co.uk

WHAT TV We say

The IN82 is quite simply the best projector we've seen this side of £3k

