

SOUND & VISION[®]

from the "Ultimate Home Theater!" spotlight test report in the June 2004 **S&V**.
Copyright © 2004 by Hachette Filipacchi Media U.S., Inc. All rights reserved.

In the Lab

	BENQ PE8700	SIM2 DOMINO 30	SHARP XV-Z12000
COLOR TEMPERATURE (before/after calibration)	(Low setting)	(Low setting)	(6,500-K setting, Natural picture preset, Standard gamma preset)
Low window (30 IRE)	7,212/6,512 K	8,300/6,478 K	7,310/6,545 K
High window (80 IRE)	7,442/6,507 K	8,108/6,548 K	7,305/6,515 K
BRIGHTNESS (before/after calibration)	10.8/12.4 ftL	8.17/7.1 ftL	6.77/6.9 ftL

Since none of the projectors' color-temperature presets matched the NTSC standard of 6,500 K, each one benefited from color-temperature calibration. After calibration, each measured very close to the standard and displayed good grayscale tracking, varying no more than ± 150 K. The BenQ was a good deal brighter than the other two, but all displayed sufficient brightness in a completely dark room. (Calibration for specific installations needs to be performed by a qualified technician with specialized equipment, so discuss it with your dealer before purchase, or call the Imaging Science Foundation at 561-997-9073.)

The color decoders of each projector were accurate in all areas, except for minor green-channel errors in the Sim2 and BenQ. Primary colors of red, green, and blue were slightly more accurate on the Sharp than the other two. 2:3 pulldown processing was evident in the BenQ and the Sharp but absent from the Sim2. Edge enhancement could be completely eliminated in both the BenQ and the Sharp, but the Sim2 showed accentuation on edges even with sharpness at minimum. It also showed a 1-pixel-wide green fringe on the right and left sides. The Sharp had the quietest fan, followed by the Sim2, while the BenQ's was loudest.

— D.K.