



EXAMINE



Epson EH-TW4500 Home Projector

TOP-NOTCH FULL HD PROJECTIONS.

TEXT // ALVIN SOON



The TW4500 produces above-average gradients of brightness, showing a good level of clarity in the dark and light areas.

AT A GLANCE

SYSTEM
RGB LCD

LCD SIZE
0.74"

NATIVE RESOLUTION
1080p

DIMENSIONS
390x450x145mm

PRICE
\$4,888

Shopping for a home projector is an exercise in acronyms; DLP, LCD and LCOS - each a projector technology with its own pros and cons. Generally speaking, DLP projectors have higher contrast and cost less, but their spinning color wheels can produce rainbow effects which bother some viewers to no end. LCOS projectors are like a cross between DLP and LCD, with smooth images and no rainbow effects, but at a larger bulk as well as higher cost.

3LCD projectors - named for splitting white light into the three primaries of red, green and blue - which have been pioneered and driven by Epson, promise brighter colors and finer image gradations without any rainbow effects. At the same time, LCD projectors usually have lower contrast images compared to DLP projectors, but that's been improving with better auto iris technology which dynamically adjusts images. With that in mind, we check out the TW4500, which fills in the mid-level full HD home

projector range, and see if it manages to deliver the goods.

The TW4500 comes with lens shift, which is handy for installation. Lens shift lets you move the projected image without distortion. Unlike digital keystone correction which compresses the image, lens shift physically moves the lens in the projector so you won't have to move the entire projector to get an uncompressed, true image.

The TW4500 offers a range of manual tweaks to the image, including seven presets including x.v.Color. x.v.Color (also known as xVYCC or Extended-gamut YCC) has a color gamut 1.8 times larger than that of the common sRGB color space. This mode will give you a richer range of colors but only with movies shot in the x.v.Color space, a specification unfortunately not supported by Blu-ray, and only in certain HD camcorders. Otherwise, we found the other presets to be pleasant viewing, especially Theatre Black 1 (there are two Theatre Black settings) for movies.

Images from the TW4500 are stunning; it gives you deep blacks

with clear details and smooth gradients. Clarity in the most extreme highlights is even better, with clear gradients leading up to pure white. Colors are richly defined and action is smooth; there's simply no reason to fault the TW4500's performance. Most impressive of all, the TW4500 runs very quiet when in use, which is a big plus for a home entertainment projector. We found the Epson EH-TW4500 to be a solid all-round performer, with a large screen, above average image and compelling price.

VERDICT SCORES ARE OUT OF 10.



Verdict:
9.0

GOLD
HWM
MALAYSIA

PHYSIQUE: 9.0
FEATURES: 9.0
USER-FRIENDLINESS: 9.0
PERFORMANCE: 9.0
VALUE: 9.0

Very easy to use media home server for the HD enthusiast

SPECIFICATIONS PIXEL NUMBER 2,073,600 dots (1920 x 1080) x 3 // **ASPECT RATIO** 16:9 // **LENS** Type: Optical Zoom (Manual) / Focus (Manual), F-number: 2.0 - 3.17, Focal Length: 22.5mm - 47.2mm, Zoom Ratio: 1 - 2.1 // **LAMP TYPE** 200W UHE (E-TORL) // **LAMP HOURS** 4,000 hours // **LAMP BRIGHTNESS** 1600lm // **CONTRAST RATIO** 200,000:1 // **KEystone CORRECTION** N/A // **CONNECTIVITY** HDMI Input Port (Ver.1.3a, Deep, x.v.Color), Component Video - Y Cable Input Port, Component Video - Cb/Pb Cable Input Port, Component Video - Cr/Pr // **WEIGHT** 7.5 kg