

PRESS CUTTINGS

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X-Rite promises affordable profiler

ColorMunki is a new entry-level colour profiling hardware and software package from X-Rite. Aimed at designers and photographers who need to control their print output as well as their monitors, ColorMunki is likely to cost something over £300, which is considerably less than the same company's GretagMacbeth packages based around the familiar Eye-One Pro colorimeter.

As the pic shows, ColorMunki is based around a single 'spectral device' unit which is used for both monitor and print reading (and digital projectors too, if needed). For printer profiling it generates sample sheets with large colour patches that you run the device over by hand. The software can create RGB or CMYK profiles, depending on the type of printer being used.

It can also be used to read the colour value of any surface it is placed on, which may be useful for designers wishing to match the colour of,

say, a car, a garment or an unknown printed sample, with the option of displaying the



nearest Pantone, RGB or CMYK value (X-Rite now owns Pantone).

Another function is to read the ambient lighting temperature colour in a room, which can be used to set the white balance of digital cameras.

There will be two main packages, both at the same price: ColorMunki Photo and Design. Photo is for monitor and printer profiling and includes the additional DigitalPouch feature which can check viewing conditions at a photo receiving site. Design is for reading colours from the real world and save them into palettes. There's also Create, a lower-cost system with a different monitor-only reader and colour palette creation software.

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