

AP Testbench

Over the next few pages we present this week's **equipment tests**, **reader questions** and **technique pointers**

MacWet Climatec gloves £29.99

www.macwet.com

MACWET is a name associated with gloves designed for sporting disciplines, such as cycling, horse riding and golf, but the product should not be overlooked by photographers. The palm of the glove is made from Aquatec, a material that gives a superb level of grip and free movement, even if the gloves are wet.

The gloves are available in two ranges in 14 sizes, and there are instructions on the website that can be used to ensure the correct size is selected for a snug fit. A tight fit means that accessing the controls of a camera, even the fiddly buttons on a small compact camera, is almost as easy as using bare hands. However, touchscreen devices cannot be operated through the material of the gloves.

The Climatec long-cuff version on test here is meant for cooler weather, with increased warmth thanks to the fleece-lined, windproof and water-resistant back of the glove. The gloves are designed for cold conditions, rather than for warmth in freezing weather. Over the course of several weeks using the gloves, they show no sign of wear and I have no doubt they will last for a while yet. In short, the MacWet Climatec gloves provide good grip and intricate control of kit whether the conditions are wet or dry. **Tim Coleman**



Amateur Photographer
Snug-fitting gloves for secure grip and firm control of camera kit
★★★★☆

The AP guarantee to you

All our tests are conducted by people who understand the product area, as well as photography. We aim to discover any shortcomings, as well as finding those aspects that deserve praise. All our tests are thorough, honest and independent

Philips PicoPix PPX2480 pocket projector £299.99

www.picopix.philips.com

THE PHILIPS PicoPix PPX2480 is the company's flagship pocket projector, measuring just 105x105x31.5mm and weighing 270g. Despite its diminutive size, the projector uses DLP (Digital Light Processing) technology and an LED light source for up to 80 lumens brightness and 1000:1 contrast ratio. The native resolution is 854x480 pixels (WVGA), with up to 1080p formats being supported. Depending on the ambient lighting conditions, clear viewing of a diagonal screen size up to three metres is possible. Colour corrections for different wall colours are available, although disappointingly there is no keystone correction.

Direct connectivity is possible for a wide range of devices, including a camera, via mini USB, HDMI (which enables live view) and SD memory card ports (3.5mm audio out), while VGA, mini USB, mini USB to USB female adapter and composite audio/video cables are included. Mac users will need to buy another cable. Sharing photos and videos is easy without a computer, via a USB stick, SD memory card or internal memory with a 2GB capacity. Ultimately, the projector is a convenient way to share images, giving a bright and punchy display with pleasing colours. **Tim Coleman**



Amateur Photographer
A tiny projector that packs a big punch
★★★★☆

FORTHCOMING TESTS In the next few weeks AP hopes to run the following equipment through the most rigorous testing procedures in the industry...

Fujifilm X-Pro1

We take a close look at the 16-million-pixel compact system camera from Fujifilm with an APS-C-sized sensor.

AP 31 March

Tiffen variable ND filter

The Tiffen variable ND filter offers control over the level of light coming through the lens in a range of 2 (ND 0.6) to 8 (ND 2.4) stops.

AP 31 March

Olympus OM-D E-M5

It certainly has the looks, but it also packs a new 16-million-pixel sensor and EVF. We test the Olympus OM-D E-M5.

AP 7 April

Nikon D4

With its 16.2-million-pixel CMOS sensor and 10fps with autofocus, the D4 could be the best professional DSLR yet. We put it to the test.

AP 14 April

Pentax K-01

Pentax's unconventionally styled 16.1-million-pixel K-01 is the first mirrorless camera to use Pentax's existing K mount.

AP 21 April

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MACWET is a name associated with gloves designed for sporting disciplines, namely cycling, horse riding and golf, but the product should not be overlooked by photographers. The palm of the glove is made from 'Aquatec' material, which gives a superb level of grip and free movement, even if the material is wet. A camera simply will not slip out of your hand on account of wet conditions. The gloves are available in any of 14 sizes, and there are instructions on the website to ensure the correct size is selected, for a snug fit. A tight fit means that accessing the controls of a camera, even fiddly buttons on a small compact camera, is virtually as easy as with glove-less hands. Touchscreen devices cannot be operated through the material of the gloves however.

The Climatec long cuff version on test here is meant for cooler weather, with increased warmth thanks to the fleece lined, windproof and water-resistant back of the glove. The gloves are not designed for warmth in freezing weather. Over the course of several weeks using the gloves, they show no sign of wear and I have no doubt they will last for a while yet. In short, the Climatec Macwet gloves provide good grip and intricate control of kit whether the conditions are wet or dry. **Tim Coleman**

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THE PHILIPS PicoPix PPX2480 is the company's flagship pocket projector, measuring a mere 105x105x31.5mm and weighing 270g. This means the projector is small enough to fit in a trouser pocket. Despite its diminutive size, the projector uses DLP (Digital Light Processing) technology and a LED light source for up to 80 lumens brightness and 1000:1 contrast ratio. The native resolution is 854x480 pixels (WVGA), and up to 1080p formats are supported too. Depending on the ambient lighting conditions, clear viewing of a diagonal screen size up to three metres is possible. Colour corrections for different wall colours are available, although disappointingly there is no keystone correction.

Connectivity is possible for a wide range of devices, via mini USB, 3.5mm audio out, HDMI and SD memory card ports, while VGA, mini USB, mini USB to USB female adaptor and composite audio/video cables are included. Mac users will need to buy another cable however. Sharing photos and videos is easy without a computer, via a USB stick, SD memory card or internal memory with a 2GB capacity. JPEG, TIFF and PNG files are supported. The built-in speaker is loud for such a small unit and fills a quiet room.



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Canon PowerShot G1 X vs G12 vs EOS 600D

Just how good is the Canon PowerShot G1 X? We test it against the G12 and EOS 600D.

AP 24 March

Tiffen Variable ND filter

The Tiffen Variable ND filter offers control over the level of light coming through the lens in a range of 2 (ND 0.6) to 8 (ND 2.4) stops.

AP 31 March

MagneFlash Splash Mono 30

We test a splash and rain-resistant portable lighting kit that costs less than £300.

AP 31 March

Olympus OM-D EM-5

We test the 16-million-pixel retro-styled micro four thirds camera from Olympus.

AP 7 April

Fujifilm X-Pro1

We take a close look at the 16-million-pixel compact system camera from Fujifilm with an APS-C-sized sensor.

AP 14 April