

Epson PowerLite 745

Epson touts the PowerLite 745c as being the first sub-4-pound projector with XGA-resolution (1,024 x 768 pixels) and 2,500 ANSI lumens of brightness. In the Presentations lab, however, the unit did not quite hit that spec. While it produces an impressive amount of light for its footprint (7.6 x 11 x 2.7 inches) our test measured 2,125 lumens, 15 percent short of its spec.

Our test photos looked good onscreen, with accurate colors. PowerPoint slides appeared sharp, colorful and bright. Text was fine, but not as sharp as what we saw from the IBM C400 (reviewed opposite).

We did have some gripes with the PowerLite 745c. The projector emits a high-pitch buzz when set in its high-brightness mode. The unit's audio performance was below average, with low overall volume. Video tests yielded only mediocre results.

The PowerLite 745c does have some nice features though. It comes with an 802.11b/g card for wireless connectivity and it has modes to help users quickly optimize the projector for different environments (presentation, living room, blackboard, theater, etc.).

If you need a light, bright and compact projector, the PowerLite 745c is one of the few models on the market to fill that void.