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Requirements, Registration and Support

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System Requirements

Glidden Color@Home™ II requires the following minimum system configuration:

A 200 MHz Intel® Pentium®-class or faster processor

Microsoft® Windows® 98, Windows 95, Windows NT, or Windows ME operating system

At least 16 megabytes (MB) of random access memory (RAM)

At least 15 MB of available hard disk space; additional disk space is required if you work with many large image files

A 16 bit (high color) video display card

A CD-ROM drive

For achieving the best performance, we recommend the following hardware:

32 MB or more of RAM

A 24 bit (true color) video display card

Monitor resolution of 600 x 800 pixels or greater

A Windows-compatible color printer

Glidden Color@Home™ II's performance improves with more RAM, faster CPUs, and faster and larger hard drives.

Contacting Technical Support

If you have questions about the Glidden Color@Home™ II software, check the information in the online help. If you still need assistance, contact Glidden Customer Service.
1-800-GLIDDEN (1-800-454-3336).

Setting Up Your System

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Adjusting the Monitor's Brightness and Contrast

Most computer monitors have knobs or dials on the front of the monitor that let you adjust the brightness and contrast. For information on how to adjust the brightness and contrast for your monitor, refer to the manufacturer's guide that came with your monitor.

For the best viewing results in Glidden Color@Home™ II, turn the monitor's brightness and contrast controls to maximum.

Adjusting the Monitor's Color Setting

In order for paint colors to display properly, your monitor must support 24-bit or 32-bit true color. Additionally, you must make sure the True Color setting is selected in the Display Properties dialog box.

If your monitor does not support true color, you can still run Glidden Color@Home™ II. However, the displayed colors will not be optimized for color viewing.

To specify the True Color setting for your monitor:

1. Click the Start button on the Windows taskbar.
2. Point to Settings, and then click Control Panel.
3. Double-click the Display icon.
4. The Display Properties dialog box for your monitor appears.
5. Click the Settings tab.
6. In the Colors box, select True Color (either 24 bit or 32 bit). If you do not select True Color, the paint colors will not display properly.
7. If you do not see True Color as an option, try lowering the screen area by sliding the adjustment to the left. Usually a lower screen area allows for a higher color setting.
8. Click OK to save your changes and close the dialog box.

Getting Your Photos into the Computer

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If You Have a Roll of Film

Many photographic labs and photo retailers now offer the service of digitizing film at the same time you get the film developed and printed. These services are available in a few common formats and the options can sometimes be confusing. Here are a few things to consider when ordering digital files with your prints:

Resolution. The resolution represents how much detail will be captured when the film is scanned. A rule of thumb is that bigger is better. A minimum resolution for making good prints is 1024 x 768 pixels. Resolutions less than 1024 x 768 may not yield excellent results when printed.

Price. Just like resolution, bigger will probably mean better. If your photo retailer offers a free disk with your prints, chances are the file will not be large enough. Spending a little more money here will guarantee better results later in the process.

If You Have Photo Prints

The fastest and least expensive way to get prints digitized is to use a desktop flatbed scanner. These devices work like a photocopier and produce high-quality digital images. You place the print under a light blocking cover, the system uses light to scan the print, and the scanner delivers a digital image to your computer. You can purchase a good scanner for as little as \$100.

Many copy service companies offer scanning for a fee. Either they will scan the prints for you, or they will let you rent a workstation that has a scanner attached to it. You can save your scanned images to a disk, take them with you, and work on them later. Using a service company is one way to get digital files from prints without the investment of buying a scanner.

If You Have Photos on a Disk

If you have a disk with image files on it, the rest is easy. All you need to do is copy these files to the hard drive on your computer and open them in Glidden Color@Home™ II.

If You Have a Digital Camera

Digital cameras are great tools for quickly and inexpensively getting pictures into your computer. If your camera has several quality settings, use the highest quality to yield dramatically better results when the pictures are printed.

To get the files from your digital camera to the computer, follow the manufacturer's specified procedure.

If you have not yet purchased a digital camera, but are considering it, be sure to do some homework before you buy. Cameras that are similar in price will yield different results. The key things to compare are resolution and price. Typically, more is better with both of these indicators, and how they relate to image quality.

Photography Tips

To improve the quality of your images as well as your ability to paint them quickly and easily, remember these tips when photographing a room or your house:

Lighting. Outdoors, try to have the sun behind you or to the side of you when you take a picture. This will ensure that your house is well exposed, and that the sun will not shine in the lens and cause your home to look underexposed. Indoors, turn on all lights in the room and try to photograph when the room receives maximum sunlight.

Timing. The time of day that you take the picture may affect color. In rooms with lots of windows, pictures taken later in the day will be redder and warmer. Pictures taken too early in the day may look dark and underexposed. Pictures taken with lots of sunlight tend to produce the truest color.

Unobstructed View. If possible, position the shot so that the picture has as few obstructions as possible. Outdoors, avoid power lines, trees and cars. Indoors, try to eliminate all clutter from the room. Taking a clean picture enables you to work faster and more efficiently.

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Opening Glidden Color@Home™ II

To open Glidden Color@Home™ II, double-click the Glidden Color@Home™ II icon on the desktop.

You can also open Glidden Color@Home™ II as follows:

1. Click the Start button on the Windows taskbar.
2. Point to Programs, and then point to Glidden Color@Home™ II.
3. Click Glidden Color@Home™ II.

Closing Glidden Color@Home™ II

To exit from Glidden Color@Home™ II, simply click the Close (X) button in the upper-right corner of the window.

About Glidden Color@Home™ II Main Window

When you start the application and open a file, Glidden Color@Home™ II displays the main window. The main window gives you access to the categories to explore and a menu bar. Take a moment to explore and get to know the function and location of the major components in the main window. There is also a step-by-step tutorial that will walk you through and give you a better understanding of all the great Color@Home™ II features.

Below are some of the names and features that will be utilized throughout the Glidden Color@Home™ II program.

Menu bar: Lists of the available menus positioned along the top of the screen. Click the menu title to view the commands for that menu.

Paint My Home: After you've loaded pictures of your home, both interior or exterior or both, open them up in Glidden Color@Home™ II and begin creating an exciting new look for your home.

Paint Interiors and Exteriors: This is the work area where you can paint homes, both interior and exterior, to get ideas and inspiration as to how you would like to paint your own home.

Glidden Moods: Glidden has taken all of their hundreds of paint colors and divided them into four color groups - Vibrant, Fresh, Warm and Calm. All colors within a Mood are designed to harmonize together.

[Take Our Tutorial](#)

Take Our Tutorial

Take the step-by-step tutorial to get a better understanding of how all the great features and tools can be best utilized. Click the help button on the upper right corner of the screen to access the tutorial.

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Basic Procedure to Paint an Existing Glidden Color@Home™ II Image

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Painting Interiors

Choose which interior room you would like to paint. Then, choose one of the sample rooms offered.

To begin painting, click on one of the items listed in the Surface Areas menu. Then click on one of the color Mood tabs along the top of the image. Click on the color of your choice. To paint other areas of the house, click on the next item in the Surface Areas section and follow the same process.

Painting Exteriors

Select the home you wish to paint. You can select a home style that is similar to yours, or any of the choices just for practice.

To begin painting, click on one of the items listed in the Surface Area menu. Then click on one of the color Mood tabs along the top of the image. Click on the color of your choice. To paint other areas of the house, click on the next item in the Surface Areas section and follow the same process.

Open Image

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Supported Image Formats

You can open the following types of files in Glidden Color@Home™ II:

- JPEG (.jpg)
- Compressed TIFF (.tif)
- Bitmap (.bmp)

If your image file is not in one of these formats, you will not be able to open the file using Glidden Color@Home™ II. You can, however, convert your file into a format that Glidden Color@Home™ II supports. Many graphics, photo and imaging programs have options that let you export or save the image to one of these formats. For example, a typical Windows installation includes the *Imaging* application. This application is useful for changing the format of an image file.

Converting an Image to a Different Format

Open an imaging, paint or graphics program. For example:

1. Click Start on the Windows taskbar.
2. Select Programs/Accessories/Imaging to open the *Imaging for Windows* application.
3. Open the image file you want to convert.
4. Clicking the Import button lets you save or export the image into another format (for example, Save As or Export).
5. Be sure to specify JPEG, Compressed TIFF or Bitmap as the file format.
6. Save your changes, and then exit from the application.
7. At this point, you can return to Glidden Color@Home™ II and open the file.

Working with Paint Surface Areas

[About the Surface Areas](#)

About the Surface Areas

Each wall, trim or furnishing surface you paint in Glidden Color@Home™ II is represented by a separate Surface Area. For example, in a bedroom, your walls will be one surface and your trim (if a different color) will be another. This makes it easy to change colors. A few things to remember:

- A Surface Area can only represent one color.
- You need to define the items in the room or house that belong to each Surface Area (**see Basic Procedure to Paint Your Photo**). Once defined, you can change the color at any time.

Working with Color Palettes

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About Glidden Moods

Thanks to Glidden's Mood Collections, coordinating colors has never been easier. Just choose the Mood you want in a room:

- *Vibrant*, for a dramatic, rich look.
- *Fresh*, for a clean and breezy finish.
- *Warm* for cozy, mellow, relaxed shades.
- *Calm*, which features soft, subtle and muted colors.

Choose one Mood, and all the colors within that Mood are designed to coordinate perfectly! To discover which Mood is right for your decorating project, click on the Glidden Moods button at the top of the screen. This will take you through an informational video that demonstrates the decorating possibilities with each.

Selecting a Color Palette

Before using a paint tool, be sure to select the palette and paint color you want. Each Mood palette offers several color family groupings to work with. Simply choose the "color-family" that appeals to you and begin creating. Remember, you can create as many combinations as you want, or change them as often as you want until you've found the perfect combination.

Switching to a Different Mood-Inspired Palette

You can switch to a different Mood palette at any time. To switch to a different palette, click on one of the four Mood tabs at the top of the main window.

Colors from various palettes can be incorporated into any photo. To do so, click on the Surface Area you want changed, select the correct Mood palette, then make your color selection.

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Changing the color of a Surface Area already painted

Click on the Surface Area button you've already painted, then select a new paint color. You can use the current color palette or select a different palette from the menu along the top.

Helpful Hints

- When you first paint a new Surface Area, pick a color that you can easily see as you paint. For example, if the original wall color is dark green, paint with a white or bright yellow. Do not worry about the final color at this point. You can change the color later.
- By using a contrasting color, you can easily see what you are doing and notice imperfections. You can apply the correct paint colors to the room when you finish painting.
- Paint the Walls first. Painting the trim goes faster once the Walls are done.
- [Zoom In or Enlarge](#) a certain area to paint fine details. It is easier to paint around objects, fixtures and obstructions if you magnify your view of the image.
- Paint a little over the edges of accessories, such as picture frames, accent tables, plants or bushes. Typically, the overlap looks better than a space with no color.
- Do not be too fussy with your painting. The printed image will be smaller and smoother than the image you see on the screen.

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Painting with the Paint Bucket

The Paint Bucket tool is designed to fill irregularly shaped areas automatically. It is useful for painting areas around accessories in a room, as well as small areas of a certain color. The tool applies paint based on how the image is interpreted.

To paint using the Paint Bucket:

1. Click the Paint Bucket button on the toolbar.
2. Select the desired paint color from the palette.
3. Click on the Surface Area you want to paint.

Or, click on a point that represents the color of the area you want to paint. Glidden Color@Home™ II applies paint to the immediate area around the selected point. The size of the area painted depends on the Bucket Coverage Adjustment setting.



Painting by Selection

The Paint Pen tool allows for quick and extremely accurate painting of any area or shape. This tool works with a "Connect-the-Dots" concept.

You define the area by clicking points on the screen. Glidden Color@Home™ II connects a line between the points. You can use up to 500 points to define the area.

The area can be any shape as long as the shape does not intersect itself. In addition, you must close the shape by clicking your last point next to your first point.

When you close the shape, Glidden Color@Home™ II automatically fills the area with the currently selected paint.

To select and paint an area using the Paint Pen:

1. Click the Paint Pen button on the toolbar.
2. Using the Connect-the-Dots concept, place the cursor where you want to begin, and then click. A red dot indicates the point you selected.
3. Move the cursor to a second point and click again. Glidden Color@Home™ II displays a second red dot and draws a dotted line between the two points.
4. Continue in this fashion until you outline the desired area. Be sure to close the shape by clicking your last point next to your first point.
5. Glidden Color@Home™ II recognizes when you completed the shape and fills the area with the selected paint color.
6. Paint Pen will not paint over another color or Surface Area. Therefore, if you are painting next to an existing color area, you can overlap the colors and a clean line will result between the two colors.



Using the Paint X

Use the Paint X tool to paint four-sided areas. You draw an X to define the area. This tool is especially useful when painting large, rectangular areas or for quickly painting many small rectangles.

To paint a four-sided area using the Paint X:

1. Select a color from the palette.
2. Move the cursor to one corner of the area you want to paint.
3. Drag the cursor to the diagonally opposite corner of the box. A green line marks your selection on the screen.
4. Repeat the procedure to define the rest of the box.
5. When you draw the second line to form an X, Glidden Color@Home™ II automatically fills the area with the selected color.

Note: The two lines must intersect for the Paint X tool to work. If the lines do not cross, Glidden Color@Home™ II erases both lines and resets the tool. No painting occurs.



Painting with a Brush

The Paint Brush tool lets you paint freehand. You can select the brush size to use. This tool is very effective for painting small areas quickly and accurately.

To paint using the Paint Brush tool:

1. Click on a color selection.
2. Move the cursor to the area you want to paint.
3. Click and drag the Paint Brush. Adjust the brush size (see below), if necessary. It's that easy.



Setting the Brush Size

You can control the size of the Paint Brush with the Brush Size setting. Note that the Brush Size setting controls the size of the Paint Brush tool as well as the size of the Erase tool.

To adjust the Brush Size:

1. Click the Paint Brush button on the toolbar. Notice that the Brush Size slider, along with the current brush size, appear on the toolbar. The size of the ball changes to represent the selected size of the Paint Brush. The change in size takes effect immediately.
2. Moving the slider to the left makes the brush smaller, therefore painting less area with each click and drag. Moving the slider to the right makes the brush bigger, therefore painting more area with each click and drag.
3. The new setting does not affect any areas you already painted. Glidden Color@Home™ II uses the new setting the next time you use the Paint Brush or Erase tool. It continues to use this setting until you change it again.

Erasing Paint from an Image

Erase

Eraser X

Eraser Pen

Setting the Eraser Size



Erase

To remove paint from a specified area:

1. Click the Erase button on the toolbar.
2. Move the cursor to the area you want to erase.
3. Click and drag the eraser. Adjust the eraser size, if necessary. Release the button, and the picture will return to the original format.



Eraser X

Use the Eraser X tool to remove paint from four-sided areas. You draw an X to define the area. This tool is especially useful when removing paint from windows, doors and trim, as well as cleaning up edges that you may have over painted.

To erase paint from a four-sided area using the Eraser X tool:

1. Move the cursor to one corner of the area you want to erase.
2. Drag the cursor to the diagonally opposite corner of the box. A red line marks your selection on the screen.
3. Repeat the procedure to define the rest of the box.
4. When you draw the second line to form an X, Glidden Color@Home™ II removes the paint from the defined area and restores the original color.

Note: The two lines must intersect for the Eraser X tool to work. If the lines do not cross, Glidden Color@Home™ II erases both lines and resets the tool. It does not remove any paint.



Eraser Pen

The Eraser Pen tool lets you erase freehand. You can select the pen size to use. This tool is very effective for erasing small, detailed areas quickly and accurately. When you erase a color from an area, Glidden Color@Home™ II reveals the original picture beneath. You can paint the area again.

To erase using the Eraser Pen tool:

1. Click the Eraser Pen tool on the toolbar.
2. Using the "Connect-the-Dots" concept, place the cursor where you want to begin, and then click. A red dot indicates the point you selected.
3. Move the cursor to a second point and click again. Glidden Color@Home™ II displays a second red dot and draws a dotted line between the two points.
4. Continue in this fashion until you outline the desired area. Be sure to close the shape by clicking your last point next to your first point.
5. Glidden Color@Home™ II recognizes when you completed the shape and erases the area. The original color will then be displayed.

Setting the Eraser Size

You can control the size of the eraser with the Brush Size setting.

Note that the Brush Size setting controls the size of the Paint Brush tool as well as the size of the Erase tool.

To adjust the Eraser Size:

1. Click the Paint Brush button on the toolbar. Notice that the Brush Size slider, along with the current brush size, appear on the toolbar. The size of the ball changes to represent the selected size of the Paint Brush. The change in size takes effect immediately.
2. Moving the slider to the left makes the brush smaller, therefore painting less area with each click and drag. Moving the slider to the right makes the brush bigger, therefore painting more area with each click and drag.
3. The new setting does not affect any areas you already painted. Glidden Color@Home™ II uses the new setting the next time you use the Paint Brush or Erase tool. It continues to use this setting until you change it again.

Undoing

[Undoing Your Last Change](#)



Undoing Your Last Change

The Undo command (ARROW) on the toolbar deletes the last single paint or erase action you performed. Undo is useful if you make a mistake or simply do not like the results of the last change you made. To undo your last change, click the Arrow button on the toolbar.

Changing How the Image Is Displayed


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Rotating the Image

If an image is not correctly oriented on the screen, use the Rotate Image command to rotate the image clockwise in 90° increments.

1. To rotate the image: Click the Rotate Image button on the toolbar . Glidden Color@Home™ II rotates the image 90° clockwise.
2. Continue to click the Rotate Image button until your image is upright.

Zooming In and Zooming Out

The Zoom commands let you enlarge or shrink the view of the entire image on the screen. It is very handy to magnify (zoom in) an image to paint areas with details or fine edges, and nice to zoom out to view an entire image at once.

Zooming in or out does not affect how the image will print, or how it is saved to disk. Zooming only affects how the image is displayed.



To Zoom In on the entire picture:

1. Under the Zoom/Move heading, click on the Plus sign (+) in the toolbar.
2. Click on the center of the area you want to view in detail. Glidden Color@Home™ II increases the magnification of the image.
3. Continue to click on the image until you see the detail you want. Use the scroll bars or the Move tool to bring other areas of the image into view.

To Zoom In on a specific area of detail:



1. Click on the Magnifying Glass in the toolbar. Your cursor will now appear as a Magnifying Glass.
2. Place your cursor (Magnifying Glass) on the specific area you want to Zoom In on.
3. Continue clicking to continue magnifying.
4. To back away from the area you have magnified, simply click on the Minus sign (-) in the toolbar.

To Zoom Out on an entire picture:

- Under the Zoom/Move heading, click on the Minus sign (-) in the toolbar.

To Zoom while using another tool:

1. You can activate the Zoom commands while you are using a painting or an erasing tool. For example, suppose the Erase tool is currently selected.
2. Under the Zoom/Move heading, click on the Plus sign (+) in the toolbar.
3. Click on the center of the area you want to view in detail. Glidden Color@Home™ II increases the magnification of the image.
4. Continue to click on the image until you see the detail you want. Use the scroll bars or the Move tool to bring other areas of the image in to view.

Moving the Image View

There may be times when the entire image does not fit in the current window. For example, you may have zoomed in to magnify your view of the image or you may have reduced the window size. In these cases, use the Move tool to display areas of the image not visible in the window.

To pan around the current image:



1. Click the Move button on the toolbar.
2. Place the hand-shaped cursor anywhere over the image.
3. Drag the cursor to move the image.
4. You can also use the scroll bars on the bottom and right edges of the window to view other areas of the image.

Magnifying an Image

If you want to Magnify a certain area for detail while using another tool:

1. Click on the Magnifying Glass in the toolbar. Your cursor will now appear as a Magnifying Glass.
2. Place your cursor (Magnifying Glass) on the specific area you want to Zoom In on.
3. Continue clicking to continue magnifying.
4. To back away from the area you have magnified, simply click on the Minus sign (-) in the toolbar.
5. To return to the tool you were using, simply click on that tool in the toolbar. All settings will remain the same.

Displaying Before and After Images

Once you begin to apply paint to an image, you may want to view the original image (no paint), as well as the painted image. Look for the View Before and View After buttons in the bottom portion of the Glidden Color@Home™ II window.

- To view the original image, click the View Before button.
- To view the image with your paint applied, click the View After button.
- These commands only change how the image is displayed. They do not affect the image in any way.

Saving

Saving Your Project

Saving Your Project

Use the Save Project command located on the bottom toolbar to save your painting work at any time. This will take you to your Project Planner page. You will also be prompted to save the image to your hard drive by naming the file. An example might be *kitchen1.jpg*

You can open the file at any time by going to your Project Planner and double clicking on the photo you would like to use. Then you can continue painting, make changes, or repaint the image completely.

Printing

[Printing Your Project Planner Worksheet](#)

Printing Your Project Planner Worksheet

When you're ready to print your work, just click the Print Project button on the bottom toolbar. Or you can go to your Project Planner and print out previously saved images at any time.

Uploading images to www.Glidden.com

Create your own secure Home Diary on the Glidden Web site, and you can access your project information via the Web anytime, anywhere. To upload your images to the site:

1. Click Save Project. Color@Home II will create a personalized Project Planner worksheet. (To access projects you've already saved, click on the Project Planner button at the top of the screen.)
2. Click the Upload Project button on your Project Planner worksheet. Color@Home II automatically delivers your Project Planner page to the Glidden.com Web site, where you'll be prompted to create a personalized, secure Home Diary.
3. Simply walk into any Glidden dealer and they can retrieve your Project Planner.

Tip: Use the Project Description area on the Project Planner to enter all information needed to complete your project. Include tools and supplies, room dimensions or questions. You'll be able to retrieve this information when you need it most: when you visit your Glidden dealer.

Frequently Asked Questions

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FAQs about Opening and Viewing Images

Glidden Color@Home™ II cannot open my image file. Why?

Glidden Color@Home™ II supports JPEG, Compressed TIFF, and Bitmap files. If your image file is not in one of these formats, you will not be able to open the file using Glidden Color@Home™ II. You can, however, [convert your file](#) into a format that Glidden Color@Home™ II supports.

Are pictures of houses supplied with Glidden Color@Home™ II?

Yes. There are 29 digital images. To access these images, choose the Paint Interiors and Exteriors option on the Glidden Color@Home™ II intro page.

Why is the picture upside down in the Glidden Color@Home™ II window?

Some images are scanned upside down and then saved to disk that way. If an image is not correctly oriented on the screen, use the [Rotate Image](#) command to rotate the image clockwise in 90° increments. Continue until your image is upright.

FAQs about Colors and Color Palettes

The paint colors do not look accurate on the monitor. Why?

In order for the paint colors to display properly, your monitor must support 24-bit or 32-bit true color. Additionally, you must make sure the [True Color setting](#) is selected in the Display Properties dialog box.

The paint colors do not look accurate on the printed image. Why?

You need to adjust the properties for your printer, and then calibrate your printer. Calibration ensures a more accurate match between the actual paint color and the colors on the printed image.

FAQs about Product and Image Requirements

Will my computer work with Glidden Color@Home™ II?

If your computer can run Windows 95 or Windows 98, it can run Glidden Color@Home™ II. Performance improves with more RAM, increased processor speed, and faster and larger hard drives. It is also recommended that the computer support 24-bit color. Check out the [system requirements](#) for more details.

Do I need a digital camera to use Glidden Color@Home™ II?

No. You only need a way to get your prints or photographs into your computer. For example, you can use a [desktop scanner](#) to scan prints into your computer. You can also ask your photo retailer to place your [images on disk](#) when you get your film developed.

What is the best resolution for an image?

A resolution of 1024 x 768 will provide enough information to make a good print. Resolutions less than 1024 x 768 may not yield excellent results when printed.

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