

Short-throw vs Long-throw Projector

When purchasing a projector, a lot of things are usually considered, one of which is whether a projector is short-throw or long-throw.

No need to feel lost, I'll explain what that means.

To understand these different categories of projectors, you need to take note of the term 'throw'. Simply put, this is the approximate distance that you need to be able to cast an image from the projector to the screen.

It's that simple!

So now let's see what short-throw and long-throw projectors are.

A **short-throw projector** is one that can create a large image at a short distance. The closer the projector is to the screen, the larger the image gets.

A **long-throw projector**, on the other hand, casts large images at a long distance. To get a 100" screen size, you need to create at least six feet distance from the projector to the screen.

How to know if your projector is short-throw or long-throw

You can easily tell if your projector is short-throw or long-throw by looking out for the inscription "ST" or "LT" on your projector's model number.

"ST" and "LT" are initials for short-throw and long-throw, respectively. So if the model number ends with ST, usually it means the projector is a short-throw, and vice versa if it's marked LT.

Some major differences between short-throw and long-throw projectors.

- Short-throw projectors need a small space between the projector and the screen to produce a larger image, while long-throw projectors need more space. To get a 100" image size, short-throw projectors need to be placed about four feet from the screen, and long-throw projectors need at least six feet distance.

- Short-throw projectors tend to produce more heat than long-throw projectors because they contain a chip used to modify the geometry of the image.
- Long-throw projectors are less expensive than short-throw projectors. This is because long-throw projectors are easier to build.

Now, let's dive into the details of each.

In this part of the article, we will be looking at each projector in detail. You will get to know;

- How these projectors work,
- Where they can be used,
- And some of their pros and cons.

So let's get into it.

Short-throw projectors

Like I mentioned earlier, a short-throw projector is used to cast bigger images from a short distance. This makes them very useful in an environment with little space.

Suppose you want to make a classroom presentation, watch a movie in a small apartment, the short-throw projector will be an excellent choice for you. The reason for this is that you only need a little space to get a large image.

Pros;

- It is suitable as a business projector for travellers. You won't need to bother about the size of the room for the presentation because all you need is just a little space between the projector and the screen, and you will have the right image.
- Short-throw projectors tend to be smaller, and this helps with portability. No stress in moving your device around. It's just superb!

- It can be used for video games. So if you're a fan of video games, you might want to get yourself a short-throw projector. Trust me, it's going to be fun all the way

Cons;

Short-throw projectors do not come cheap, and this mainly due to their amazing benefits.

Long-throw projectors

Long-throw projectors cast a larger image at a far distance. For instance, if a presentation is to be done in a large hall, then long-throw projectors are the best pick.

Pros;

- They can be easily built and therefore, cost less.
- They are perfect for large hall exhibitions.

Cons;

- Their usage is limited to large spaces. If the projector is moved closer to the screen, the image may become smaller.
- Long-throw projectors are prone to disruption when in use. Anyone can easily walk across space between the projector and the screen, and spoil the show.

When would you use a short-throw projector?

You should consider a short-throw projector if you intend to project in an area with just a little space available. Say a classroom or your bedroom.

When it comes to getting that cinematic experience in the comfort of your home, you should consider using a short-throw projector. This is because it offers a larger image and less disruption when viewing.

What is considered a short-throw projector?

When a projector needs only a little space to get a large image, it can be considered a short-throw projector. The space can be about four feet or less. The closer the projector is to the screen, the larger the image.

For a short-throw projector, when the projector is moved farther away from the screen, creating a distance of more than four feet, the image becomes blurry. And that's not what you want.

Do you need a special screen for a short-throw projector?

Well, the thing is, to get the best image, you'll actually need a short-throw projector screen. And I'll tell you why.

When you use a bare wall, the image will appear flat, and the brightness will be affected, especially if you have any lighting in the room. So, to avoid this, it's better to get a short-throw projector screen.

Are ultra-short-throw projectors good?

First, what are ultra-short-throw projectors?

These are projectors that produce a larger image with a very short distance between the projector and the screen. This means that, compared to a short-throw projector, ultra-short-throw projectors need even smaller space to cast larger images, at most, 15 inches.

Now, as to whether they are good or not. I'll say Ultra-short-throw projectors are good. They are your best pick if you need to project in a room or space that is very small.