



## AV LABS 8IN DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME AVL993

**STREET PRICE** \$170  
**CONTACT** AUDION  
**PHONE** 1300 300 364  
**WEB** www.avlabs.net

Hardware-wise, this frame is almost identical to the Shintaro model opposite. However, this one only includes the plug-in weather dongle, not the wireless one. The screen has good colour balance, along with respectable contrast and brightness, and it uses a classier-looking interface than others, if a bit fiddly to use. On the downside, it was a little more grainy than the Shintaro



70%

and it lacks onboard storage. Both frames could use better video playback capabilities — they're limited to MJPEG .avi files. On the whole this isn't a bad unit, but with Shintaro's model packing extra features and selling for around \$20 less, we know which we'd opt for.

**PC User says:** Offers some good features and OK image quality.

## AKAI 7IN DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME ADPF07X

**STREET PRICE** \$45  
**CONTACT** AUDION  
**PHONE** 1300 300 364  
**WEB** www.akai.com



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While it's inexpensive, this 7in frame isn't particularly feature-rich — it pretty much just does photos and slideshows from USB sticks or SD cards. There's no media playback or onboard storage, although there's a basic calendar mode. And while its onscreen colour reproduction is generally OK, there are a couple of things that make it hard to recommend, even at \$45. The first is the 16:9 aspect ratio. With

most digital cameras shooting 4:3 images, to make photos fit, this frame must either crop images at the top and bottom or display large borders on either side. Also disappointing is the resolution: at only 480 x 234, images aren't particularly sharp and can look noticeably pixelated when viewed up close. **PC User says:** Very cheap, but the unusual aspect ratio and low-res screen are turn-offs.

## DIGITAL PHOTO FRAMES OVER 10IN

### KOGAN 12.1IN LCD DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME & MEDIA PLAYER

**RRP** \$109 / **CONTACT** KOGAN / **PHONE** 1300 304 292 / **WEB** www.kogan.com.au

While we're not sold on this one's looks, it's hard to deny the value on offer with this frame, which includes 1GB of internal storage and an 800 x 600-pixel display. Visually, it's passable, though image reproduction was a bit dark out of the box; playing with

the image settings helped a little, but at the expense of blown-out, overly bright whites. We did see a jagged edge or two in our test images, but this frame mostly avoided the pixelation seen in the 10in 640 x 480-pixel models. Its interface is the same as most

of the others here and allows for video playback (stretched to fill the screen) of Xvid/DivX and MJPEG .avi files. Overall, this one is decent for the low price. **PC User says:** Not the greatest image quality, but good value at this price.



75%

### AV LABS 10.4IN CLASSIC WOODEN FRAME AVL996

**STREET PRICE** \$190 / **CONTACT** AUDION  
**PHONE** 1300 300 364 / **WEB** www.avlabs.net

This AV Labs frame offers a good spread of features, including media playback, a decent-sized remote and lots of card slots. Visually, it's not the brightest, most vibrant or highest-contrast screen (cranking up these settings tends to result in washed-out or oversaturated pictures); however, its colours are pleasingly warm and it handles both Xvid/DivX and MJPEG video playback respectably, despite stretching widescreen videos to fit its 4:3 frame. This one's 800 x 600-pixel resolution means it

isn't massively sharp (we noticed some pixelation in certain test images), although it's much better than the other 10.4in frames we saw.

**PC User says:** A high-res screen makes for great pictures.



70%

### KAISER BAAS 15IN DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME

**RRP** \$299.95 / **CONTACT** LAKO PACIFIC  
**PHONE** 1800 657 601 / **WEB** www.kaiserbaas.com

This 15in frame is a big, solid unit and although it sells at a premium price, it packs a nice feature set to sweeten the deal, including a full-featured remote, music and video playback, and 1GB of onboard storage. Visually, this one's a bit of a mixed bag. Its matte-finish 1,024 x 768-pixel LCD has a slight bluish tint and although this is better for skintones, it's not as bright, sharp, or high-contrast as its 8in sibling. Portrait-oriented pictures often weren't detected and during video playback, the aspect ratio of Xvid video files is stretched to fit the frame. That said,

its built-in speaker is better than most and it does make a passable video player. **PC User says:** It's big and packs a lot of storage, but it's pricey and not as visually striking as its 8in sibling.



70%