2026

Innovatint version 4
Supported Spectrophotometers

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Table of contents

1. Spectrophotometers

BYK 3Angle
BYK Auto-Match III
BYK Auto-Match IV
BYK Mac
BYK-Gardner Spectro Guide (45/0)
BYK-Gardner Spectro Guide (d/8)
BYK-Gardner Spectro2Guide (d/8)
BYK-Gardner Spectro2Guide (45/0)
BYK-Gardner Spectro2Guide Pro 45/0
BYK-Gardner Spectro2Go XS
Chroma Sensor 3 (45/0)
Chroma Sensor 3 (d/8)
Chroma Sensor 45
Chroma Sensor 5
Datacolor Adam
Datacolor 20D
Datacolor 110
Datacolor 110P
Datacolor 200
Datacolor 245
Datacolor 400
Datacolor 500
Datacolor 500UV
Datacolor 550
Datacolor 600
Datacolor 650
Datacolor 800
Datacolor 850
Datacolor ColorReader Spectro*
Datacolor Spectro 55
Datacolor Spectro 700
Datacolor Spectro 700UV
Datacolor Spectro 750
Datacolor Spectro 750UV
Datacolor Spectro 1000
Datacolor Spectro 1050
Datacolor 45IR
Datacolor 45G/45
Datacolor CHECK and CHECK 3
Datacolor Elrepho
Datacolor Elrepho 3000
HunterLab UltraScan XE
Macbeth 2020
Macbeth 2020+
Macbeth 2025
MACBETH COLOR-EYE 2145
MACBETH COLOR-EYE 2180
MACBETH COLOR-EYE 3000
MACBETH COLOR-EYE 7000
MACBETH COLOR-EYE 7000A
MACBETH COLOR-EYE XTH
MCS500: DC/Zeiss 45
Minolta CM-2002
Minolta CM-23d
Minolta CM-2300d
Minolta CM-25d
Minolta CM-2500d
Minolta CM-26d
Minolta CM-2600d
Minolta CM-3220d
Minolta CM-3600a
Minolta CM-3600d
Minolta CM-3610a
Minolta CM-3610d
Minolta CM-3700a
Minolta CM-3700d
Minolta CM-36d
Minolta CM-36dG
Minolta CM-36dGV
Minolta CM-503c
Minolta CM-503i
Minolta CM-508c
Minolta CM-508d
Minolta CM-508i
Minolta CM-512 m3
Minolta CM-525i
Minolta CM-600d
Minolta CM-700d
Nix Spectro 2
Variable Spectro 1
Variable Spectro 1 Pro
X-Rite 552

INNOVATINT SUPPORTED SPECTROPHOTOMETERS	
Datacolor Elrepho 450	X-Rite CF57
Datacolor M2009	X-Rite CFS57 (2x)
Datacolor Mercury	X-Rite CF58
Datacolor Microflash 200d	X-Rite CFS58
Datacolor Microflash 45	X-Rite Ci4100
Datacolor Microflash 45 IR	X-Rite Ci4200
Datacolor Mixflash	X-Rite Ci4200UV
Datacolor R9800	X-Rite Ci51
Datacolor Simulus 2000 ++	X-Rite Ci52
Datacolor Spectraflash 300	X-Rite Ci61
Datacolor Spectraflash 300 UV	X-Rite Ci61 +RTL
Datacolor Spectraflash 350-X	X-Rite Ci62
Datacolor Spectraflash 450	X-Rite Ci64
Datacolor Spectraflash 450-X	X-Rite Ci7500
Datacolor Spectraflash 500	X-Rite Ci7600
Datacolor Spectraflash 600	X-Rite Ci7800
Datacolor Spectraflash 600+	X-Rite Color i5
Datacolor Spectraflash 600-X	X-Rite Color i7
Datacolor Spectraflash 650-X	X-Rite i1Paint
Datacolor Textflash 2000	X-Rite RM400
Datacolor Textflash 3880	X-Rite RM425
Datacolor Textflash 3881	X-Rite RM61
Datacolor Textflash 3890	X-Rite SP52
Datacolor Uniflash	X-Rite SP62
Dataflash 100	X-Rite SP64
Dataflash 110	X-Rite VS205
Dataflash 2000	X-Rite VS450
Dataflash 250 RS	X-Rite VS3100
Dataflash 80	X-Rite VS3200
HunterLab LabScan XE	Simulation (Vibrantz simulation spectro)

** Known limitation: Connectivity issues related to Bluetooth communication with Datacolor ColorReader devices may occur depending on the hardware setup. Such issues are outside the scope of Innovatint software and its responsibility.*

2. Colorimeters

Colorimeter	Connection type	Operating system
Datacolor Select	Cable	Windows
Datacolor ColorReader Pro*	Bluetooth	Windows
X-Rite Capsure	Bluetooth	Windows
Colorix Color Catch3	Cable	Windows
Colorix Nano	Bluetooth	Windows
Colorix Nano2	Cable	Windows
NIX	Cable	Windows
NIX Pro	Cable	Windows
NIX Pro 2	Bluetooth	Windows

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3. Color Data Classes and Device Compatibility in Innovatint

Measurement Devices in Innovatint

Innovatint can be connected to different types of color measurement devices:

- **Sphere spectrophotometers (d/8° or similar geometry)**
- **45/0 spectrophotometers**
- **Colorimeters**

Although all these devices measure color, they do not measure it in the same way. For this reason, Innovatint treats measurement data from different device types separately.

What Is a Color Data Class?

In Innovatint, all measurement data is stored in the database according to a **color data class**.

A color data class defines:

- The measurement geometry (e.g., Sphere, 45/0)
- The physical measurement principle (spectral vs. colorimetric)

Each device type is assigned to its own class:

- All **Sphere spectrophotometers** share a common Sphere class.
- All **45/0 spectrophotometers** share a common 45/0 class.
- Each **colorimeter** has its own individual class.

Color data from one class is not automatically compatible with data from another class.

Why Classes Cannot Be Used Interchangeably

Spectrophotometers (Sphere and 45/0)

Spectrophotometers measure **spectral reflectance data** across the visible wavelength range

Although Sphere and 45/0 geometries differ, their data is relatively close in structure. Innovatint includes a proprietary conversion model that allows:

- **45/0 measurements to be converted into Sphere data**
- Gloss level must be provided for accurate conversion

This conversion makes it possible, in most cases, to use 45/0 devices in systems that rely on Sphere reference data.

Colorimeters

Colorimeters do **not** measure full spectral data. Instead, they measure color values through filtered sensor responses designed to approximate human vision.

Because of this:

- Colorimeter data is not spectral data.
- It cannot be converted into spectrophotometer data.
- Each colorimeter model behaves differently.
- Each colorimeter therefore requires its own dedicated class.

For these reasons, colorimeter measurements cannot be used interchangeably with spectrophotometer measurements.

Impact on Search Closest Color

For the **Search Closest Color** function in Innovatint to work:

- The database must contain **reference measurements**
- These reference measurements must be stored in the **same class** as the measuring device
- Reference data must be entered using Innovatint LAB software

Spectrophotometers

- If the database contains Sphere reference data, Sphere devices will work directly.
- 45/0 devices can:
    - Use their native 45/0 class (if reference data exists), or
    - Convert to Sphere (if gloss is provided), provided Sphere reference data exists.

Colorimeters

With colorimeters:

- **Color matching is not possible**
- Only **Search Closest Color** is available
- Search Closest Color works only if:
    - **The database contains reference data in the specific class of that colorimeter model**

If no reference data exists in that specific class, no results will be found.

Summary of Differences

Feature	Sphere Spectrophotometer	45/0 Spectrophotometer	Colorimeter
Measures spectral data	Yes	Yes	No
Own data class	Sphere class	45/0 class	Individual class per device
Convertible to Sphere	—	Yes (with gloss)	No
Color matching possible	Yes	Yes	No
Search Closest requires matching class data	Yes	Yes	Yes