



Robin Myers
Imaging

Chromaxion™

The Newsletter of Interesting Imaging Stuff

New Color Chart from Datacolor

At Photokina 2010 Datacolor debuted its new color chart, the SpyderCheckr™. This is Datacolor's competing product to X-Rite's Passport released in 2009.



Here is the SpyderCheckr with the ColorChecker Passport for a size comparison. About four times larger than the Passport, the SpyderCheckr is not pocket size.

Internally there are two reversible pages of patches. On the front side are the color patches. The right page has patches similar to the ColorChecker Classic, but in different locations.



The left page has six more gray patches that when combined with the right page neutral patches create a 12 step grayscale. Additionally, there are extra skin colors, three very light and 3 very dark red, green and blue patches. Finishing out this page are six medium chroma light hues of red, green, blue, cyan, magenta and yellow.

The reversed pages present the same grayscale patches as on the front side plus two large versions of the D4 patch.



Unique amongst color charts, the pages are intended to be replaced when faded or damaged. To help determine when the pages may have been faded by being exposed to a too much UV light, there is a fading indicator patch in the lower-left corner of the left page.

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... *SpyderCheckr*, continued from page 1

Additional hardware features include a tripod mount and a mount for a SpyderCube™.

Software is available from Datacolor to make DNG profiles from images of the SpyderCheckr.

There were some production issues encountered, but taken altogether, this is an interesting new color chart for digital camera profiling. The industry now has another choice for a color chart and the beneficiary is the photographer.

Pricing: \$129 chart only, \$169 with SpyderCube.

For more information, D50 and D65 color values for all the patches, along with some spectral comparisons, download the [SpyderCheckr Technical Report](#).

If you want to examine the color information and the spectral data for the chart, the measurement data is available in the [Spectral Library](#) for use with [SpectraShop 3](#).

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ColorChecker® Passport is a registered trademark of X-Rite, Inc. ([x-rite.com](#)).

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Join In!

A newsletter is only useful if it informs, aids or improves things for its readers. You, the reader can help by sending me your questions, comments, suggestions, even gripes. They will be gratefully received, even the gripes.

Robin Myers Imaging

Website: [rmimaging.com](#)

Email: robin@rmimaging.com

Phone: 925-519-4122

Industry News

North Light Releases New LED Light Unit

North Light Products has just announced a new LED photographic light unit, the **LED 36**. This light has a daylight color balance with a CCT of 5550K. The light output is rate at 5248 lumens and has been measured at 3415 lux at 20 inches. The unit is 38 x 9 x 3 inches in size, fan cooled and comes with a lens. The price is \$2400 each, mounting brackets extra. For more details, contact David Christensen david@northlightproducts.com.

New Solux® Par Bulbs

Tailored Lighting has announced a series of Solux® bulbs available in PAR 20, 30 and 38 forms. The bulbs are rated at 50, 75 and 90 W. All these bulbs output at 3500 K. Check [solux.net](#) for more information.

RM Imaging News

EquaLight™ Improved Twice!

Since the previous issue of Chromaxion™ was released, EquaLight™ has been upgraded to version 3 with batch processing, image previews and adjustable processing. This is the upgrade everyone has been requesting for a long time. In addition, version 3 has been upgraded to version 3.1, which adds tone mapping for the white card image to show lightness levels. Get more information and download your upgrade or a demo version at [rmimaging.com](#).

SpectraShop™ Improved!

In the spirit of continually upgrading and improving SpectraShop to make it the best spectral analysis program available, a new version has just been released. Several features have been added to improve its ability to analyze in and out of gamut RGB colors. Get more information and download your upgrade or a demo version at [rmimaging.com](#).

New SpyderCheckr™ Report

The [SpyderCheckr Technical Report](#) is now available about this new chart from Datacolor. This is a competitor to the X-Rite ColorChecker Passport. Check it out!

Updated ColorChecker® Passport Report

The [ColorChecker Passport Technical Report](#) has been extended to include D50 L*a*b*C*h values, eciRGBv2 and ProPhoto RGB values.