## Selecting the Correct Screen Size Does size matter?

With projection screens, definitely. However, bigger is not necessarily better. Ever wondered why the last seats to fill in a cinema are the ones at the front? This is because the screen is too big for the viewing distance. When determining the correct screen size, we must consider the minimum viewing distance and the maximum viewing distance. In other words, what is the best screen size for your room?


The minimum viewing distance is the closest distance to the screen one can sit before losing the ability to see the picture as a whole. Once a person is closer than this, the human eye cannot capture the whole picture - the eye can only focus on a part and will have to continuously scan the screen to read the entire image. The minimum viewing distance is 2 x the width of the screen.

The maximum viewing distance is the farthest distance one can be from the screen to be able to comfortably capture the image.

## The maximum viewing distance is $6 \times$ the width of the screen.

We have prepared the following chart for you showing the acceptable viewing distances for common screen sizes. The shaded areas represent the "best seats in the house".


Calculations: For the best screen size suitable for the room, use the following as a guide.

- Take the distance of the closest seat to the screen and divide by 2.
- Take the distance of the farthest seat to the screen and divide by 6.

