# top Solicks Polaro Sprint

#### SCANNERS FOR ALL APPLICATIONS

By Jack and Sue Drafahl

high-end

# Polaroid SprintScan 35 Plus

PHOTO graphic EDITOR'S CHOICE **AWARD** 

Polaroid's SprintScan 35 Plus is a high-end desktop 35mm film scanner that offers 36-bit (12 bits per color), 2700dpi scans in under a minute. It has an optical density range of 3.4

to enhance images requiring high shadow detail. This makes it ideal for high-quality printing applications and preparation of images for the Web. It is compatible with Windows or Macintosh and has a street price of around \$1800.



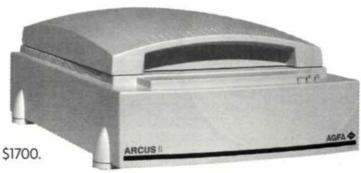


## Nikon Super Coolscan

Nikon's Super Coolscan (LS-1000) gives you 36-bit full-color scans at 2700 dpi in less than 40 seconds. It is a single-pass RGB scanner with a wide dynamic range. No holder is needed for mounted slides, while a provided strip-film holder accommodates up to six frames. The LS-1000 comes with Nikon Scan software which provides comprehensive control of color balance, contrast, brightness, shadow detail and sharpening. An optional automatic 50-slide feeder makes automated film archiving a cinch. The Super Coolscan supports both Windows and Macintosh, and has a street price of about \$1800.

### Agfa Arcus II

The **Arcus II** flatbed scanner from **Agfa** features a true optical resolution of 600x1200 dpi and 2400 dpi interpolated resolution in 36-bit color. It can scan legal-size reflective art and features a built-in transparency module that makes it possible to scan up to 8x10-inch transparencies. The bundled FotoLook scanning software includes batch processing, color conversion and descreening. The scanner also comes bundled with the full version of Adobe Photoshop, and is available for PC and Macintosh. The Arcus II offers professional results for a street price of about \$1700.



#### mid-range



#### Konica Qscan

The Konica Qscan is an easy-to-use film scanner that allows quick input of 35mm and APS negatives and slides into your computer. The Qscan has the ability to adjust for correct color and density to each emulsion. Images can be scanned at a resolution of up to 1200 dpi in full 24-bit color. The Qscan takes about 70 seconds per 35mm film frame and 50 seconds for APS film. It works with both Windows 95 and Macintosh. At a suggested retail price of \$799, the Qscan offers a convenient and cost-effective way to digitize high-quality images



#### **HP PhotoSmart Scanner**

The **Hewlett-Packard PhotoSmart Scanner** is part of the PhotoSmart PC photography system that includes a photo printer, scanner and digital camera. The unit scans negatives and slides at 2400 dpi and prints up to 5x7 inches at 300 dpi. It requires only 40 seconds for the final scan, which you can rotate, size, crop, or modify in color or exposure. The PhotoSmart comes bundled with Microsoft's Picture It! image-editing software and the required SCSI interface card for a suggested list price of \$499.

#### **UMAX Astra 1200S**

The **Astra 1200S** flatbed from **Umax** has a maximum optical resolution of 600x1200 dpi (9600 dpi interpolated). Its legal-size 81/2x14-inch scan bed offers image scanning in 30-bit color. Images are acquired via VistaScan, which allows optimal scanning parameters, and Presto! Page Manager, which makes it possible to drag and drop images into a variety of popular applications. A transparency module is available as an option. The UMAX Astra 1200S is bundled with Adobe PhotoDeluxe and has a street price of around \$300.

#### entry-level

**Epson Perfection 600** 

The **Epson Perfection 600** features 600x1200 dpi optical resolution with 4800 dpi interpolated resolution. Its 30-bit color depth and a 81/2x14 legal-size scan bed offer a powerful scanning machine in an economical package. The Perfection 600's scan driver automatically sharpens, balances, and color-corrects images to deliver high-quality results. The Perfection 600 driver also features batch scanning which quickly speeds up the scanning process. An optional transparency adapter sells for \$199. The Perfection 600 scanner is available for both Windows and Macintosh and includes an Adaptec SCSI board for use with PCs. It has an attractive street price of about \$300.

Storm EasyPhoto Reader

**Storm** Technology offers the **EasyPhoto Reader**, which scans photos up to 5x7 at the touch of a button. It features a detachable scanner head, which makes it possible to scan from books and magazines. The EasyPhoto Reader connects to the parallel port for quick setup and comes with Adobe PhotoDeluxe software for special image editing or applying special effects to photos. It also includes EasyPhoto Phone, which allows you to send photos to friends and family over the phone without an Internet connection. The scanner features 200 dpi optical resolution and up to 1200 dpi enhanced resolution with 24-bit true color and automatic JPEG compression, all for \$149.

#### Microtek ScanMaker E3 Plus

Microtek's latest is the flatbed ScanMaker E3 Plus, a 30-bit scanner that offers 300x600 dpi optical resolution and 4800 dpi interpolated resolution. It has a scan area of 81/2x13.5 inches and features Zero Reflection Design Technology to improve scan quality by reducing light bounceback. Its enhanced parallel port connection is easy to install—just connect the cable and install the software. The ScanMaker E3 Plus comes with image-optimization and color-management software, a transparent-media adapter and 10-page Auto Document Feeder. It's quite affordable at a suggested street price of \$149.