

USB TABLET COMPARISON: "MONOPRICE" VERSUS "WACOM INTUOS"

HIGH-LEVEL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Here is a comparison of "Wacom Intuos" USB tablets and "Monoprice" USB tablets: The "Monoprice" is a viable low-cost tablet for the rest of us while the "Wacom.." is a quality device for professional artists and other power users.

"WACOM INTUOS" USB TABLETS

[Wacom "Intuos" USB tablets](#) are approximately 3 times the cost of "Monoprice" tablets, but if you need a super-accurate and durable tablet and/or if you need the "free" bundled software, they are a good deal.

Wacom's bundled software options are described at <http://wacom.com/en/Products/Intuos/Free-Software.aspx>

The Blog page of an artist who is a great fan of "Wacom Intuos" tablets can be found at <http://psd.tutsplus.com/articles/tools/how-to-choose-a-graphics-tablet-that-fits-your-needs/>.

Our older model "Wacom Intuos3" "6x9-in" tablet (circa 2009) installed successfully into all "Windows 7", "Windows XP", "Windows Vista", "Mac OS X 10.6", and "Mac OS X 10.7" computers that we tested it with.

"MONOPRICE" USB TABLETS

For the rest of us (at approximately one-third the price of a comparable Wacom "Intuos" tablet), **Monoprice.com sells a line of inexpensive USB tablets** that are described at

http://www.monoprice.com/products/subdepartment.asp?c_id=108&cp_id=10841

The "Tablet Software" applications that are bundled onto the CD that arrives with a Monoprice tablet provides some amazing capabilities for drawing into documents, presentations, and (temporarily) onto the Windows "Desktop". These applications work with "Windows XP" and "Windows 7" computers. We were unable to get them to work in "Windows Vista" computers.

The Monoprice tablet has a pen that requires an AAA battery while the "Wacom Intuos" tablet has a pen that does not require a battery. This battery in the Monoprice makes its pen much heavier than the battery-less pens of the "Wacom Intuos" tablets.

The "Wacom Intuos" tablet has a wireless mouse while the "Monoprice" tablet does not have a mouse.

We tested a "Monoprice" tablet (circa November 2011) with various "Windows 7" and "Macintosh" computers.

For a test, we successfully installed Bill Browlee's 12x9-in. "Monoprice" tablet into an Mac computer that was running "OS X 10.7 Lion".

See

http://aztcs.org/meeting_notes/mac/tablets/Monoprice/tablet-Monoprice-Mac.pdf
for details.

Our 12x9-in. "Monoprice" tablet initially failed to operate in 3 of the 6 "Windows 7" computers that we attempted to install it into.

However, we developed a "workaround procedure" which successfully installed the "Monoprice" tablet into the three "Windows 7" computers that we initially failed with.