

# REALITY

RATINGS & REVIEWS | practical • unbiased • trusted  
40<sup>TH</sup> anniversary

## The Ratings | Vision Aids — Magnification Loupes

# Panoramic Loupes

### Manufacturer

*Designs for Vision*

<http://www.designsforvision.com>

### Prices

\$2,895.00 - \$2,995.00

Includes:

- Frame
- Carrying case
- Side shields
- Retainer strap
- Plain or single prescription lenses

Options:

- UV filter: \$100.00
- Titanium or fashion frames: \$100.00



### Free trial

45 days

### Warranty

Limited lifetime

### Raves & Rants

- ✓ Crystal clear optics
- ✓ Allows you to see entire arch or close to an entire arch
- ✗ Heavy
- ✗ Frames could be more stylish

2026

**REALITY**

RATINGS & REVIEWS

Four Star Award



☆☆☆☆ 4.4

## Introduction/ Manufacturer's Claims

Did you ever wish you could see an entire dental arch at once, but at a highly magnified view? Well, the clever folks at Designs For Vision (DVI) have made your wish come true. Panoramic Loupes, which are available in 3.5x, 4.5x, and 6.0x, are the first of their kind in dentistry (this review covers the 4.5x). Using a breakthrough in telescopic design, the Panoramics figure to be a paradigm shift in dental magnification.

Most (58%) evaluators really liked the design, 33% found it to be acceptable, and 9% were not impressed. Some comments:

- Lighter than other brands.
- Sleek, modern, minimalistic design.
- Heavy.
- Longer telescopes took a little getting used to. Improved ergonomics help or reduce neck and eye strain.
- They fit well and are comfortable.
- Great field of vision and good magnification.
- Better field of vision.
- Good field of view.

## Type of Loupes

**TTL** (prisms). All evaluators except one thought the quality was really good, while the lone outlier found the quality to be acceptable but not great. Some comments:

- Best I have ever seen, superb.
- I think my Zeiss are better.
- Well designed and engineered.
- Loved the quality of the telescopes.
- Superior quality.
- The highest quality.
- Better field of vision.
- Seems like a very sturdy pair of loupes.
- Clear optics.

As far as the optics specifically, again all evaluators except one thought they were really good, while the lone outlier found it to be acceptable but not great. Some comments:

- Crystal clear.
- I think my Zeiss are slightly better.
- Precise visual clarity.
- Very sharp optics, good peripheral vision.
- Nice.
- It better be for 4.5x.

The Panoramic loupes have ovoid shaped telescopes to increase your peripheral vision. When it comes to seeing an entire arch, only 25% of the evaluators found this to be true, while half stated they could see almost an entire arch and the remaining 25% were only able to visualize a quadrant or half of the arch. Some comments:

- Widest I've ever seen for 4.5x telescopes.
- Cannot see the entire arch.
- It's truly awesome to have double the field and be able to see practically the whole arch. Especially good for doing cosmetic cases and being able to view the entire smile at higher magnification.
- A great improvement in field.

In terms of comfort, most (58%) evaluators thought they were acceptable, 33% found them to be really good, and 9% were not impressed. Some comments:

- Heavy—hurts the bridge of my nose. I asked for help from manufacturer and they told me to take the headlight off. If I did, I would not be able to see. They seemed uninterested in helping or adjusting. I was a bother to them.
- Ideally, if the weight of the loupes could be reduced, they would be more comfortable.
- It is a constant to try and adjust the nose piece.
- Lighter frame helps reduce weight; adjustable nose pads help to prevent frame from digging into the skin. Earpieces can get a bit uncomfortable especially with a mask that has ear loops.
- Still a bit heavy.
- A little heavy.
- They are definitely tighter than my other 2 pairs of loupes. Not a good or bad thing, and not uncomfortable.
- Light weight, good balance.

## Power

**4.5x.** All evaluators found it to be really good. Some comments:

- Really did not notice any difference with other 4.5x models. However, I never did a side by side comparison.
- Nice magnification — you will definitely notice an improvement if you are used to 3.5x or less magnification loupes.
- Better than other 4.5x models I've used.
- I love Designs for Vision. The best quality.
- Great.

## Frames

There are 11 different types of frames available on the DVI site, but only two types (Yeoman and Steam) will support the 4.5x Panoramic scopes. Yeoman are the original black DVI frames, but they are now available in Chromatic colors (red, blue, pink, and light gray). Steam frames, available in black, gray, purple, brown and navy) are still conventional in design, but not as clunky as Yeoman.

Some comments:

- Same old buddy holly style.
- Heavy, rigid, cumbersome, and ugly.
- I would prefer to have a sport-type Oakley-like frame option.
- I like the color options and lighter frame.
- Not the most stylish.
- A little top heavy.
- I would like a sportier design.
- Frames are not very attractive or stylish.

## Weight

**4.5oz/127.6g** (mounted on a cool navy blue Steam frame and with the side shields attached). While this weight cannot be considered feather-like, they really don't feel heavier than other prism loupes with similar magnification levels.

Half the evaluators found the weight to be acceptable, 25% thought it was nice and lightweight, and 25% considered them to be too heavy. Some comments:

- Little bit front heavy — must be used with head strap.
- I have no problems with heavy loupes anyway.
- Not balanced.
- Would be ideal to have a 4.5x magnification telescope that does not increase in weight as the magnification increases.
- Much lighter frame helps reduce the weight and counteract the larger telescopes.
- I find them comfortable and light although I have tried lighter ones.
- They aren't light, but acceptable for what they offer.
- Weight is good.

## Size

Most (75%) evaluators found the size to be acceptable, 17% thought they were larger than other 4.5x loupes, and 8% considered them to be nice and small. Some comments:

- Much smaller and lighter than Zeiss.
- Size is smaller than my 4.5x.
- Optics are longer than my other loupes.
- Frames are big but loupes are good size.

## Packaging

They come to you safely sequestered in the familiar DVI silver and matte black plastic case lined with antimicrobial black foam. The case has a secure fastener that keeps the loupes well protected.

Most (75%) evaluators really liked the case and found it protects the loupes well, while the other 25% thought it was acceptable.

## Strengths



- Widest field of vision for a 4.5x I've ever seen.
- Lighter than Zeiss. Good field of view.
- Optics and clarity are very good.
- The panoramic field of view is a great engineering and design improvement over traditional limited field of view designs of yesterday. You get a quality crisp and clear view at 4.5x magnification.
- Good magnification.
- Ability to see whole arch at higher magnification is a gamechanger.
- I really like the optical quality and the fit of the loupes. I use them every day.
- Good quality.
- Quality of optics. Heavy duty.
- Much better field of vision.
- Slightly wider field of view, not earth-shattering though.
- Balanced light weight, good optics, large field of view.

## Weaknesses



- Frames could use an upgrade.
- Sometimes I would like a wider field but does the job.
- Mounting — frame — light — and balance are not meant for comfort.
- The weight of the loupes is quite heavy and requires tightening the silicone croakie-like retainers very tightly around your head.
- They keep falling off of my face and when tied down to the back of my head, they squish in my cheeks.
- Field of view is very difficult to get used to.
- Weight and style — not ideal but acceptable.
- A little top heavy, but not a deal breaker.
- Design.
- Frames could be better ( minor detail though). And I like the versatility of flip up loupes — you can look over them or flip them up.
- If you use a headlight, it also has to have a wide spot or you will have shadows at the outer edges of the field of vision.

## BOTTOM LINE

- Best 4.5x loupes on the market hands down.
- I would recommend these loupes.
- Great optics in a package that makes them unusable for me on a consistent basis. I only utilize when I am searching for an endodontic canal.
- These loupes are a nice improvement in providing the user with a wider field of view at a 4.5x magnification compared to traditional loupes with a standard field of view. You get a crisp and clear view and have a quality durable design. Ideally, more sport frame options and lighter weight telescopes would help improve this quality product.
- Good loupes — the weight seems to be the problem.
- Awesome product — I highly recommend them.
- I have other 4.5x loupes and I find the optical quality of the Panoramics to be superior. These are very good, comfortable loupes I would highly recommend.
- My hygienist really likes them, but I do not for except for endo.
- Love the quality. My original DVI pair is over 30 years old. Highly recommend them.
- Buy them.
- A really solid offering that will probably last a long time.
- Great product.



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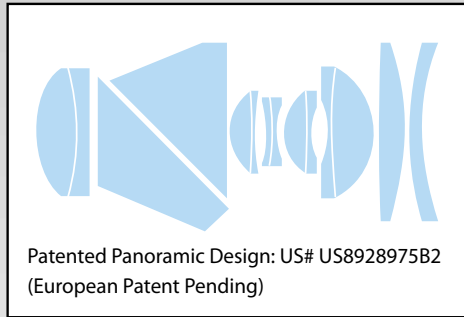
**NEW**



# Panoramic Loupes

Introducing the first advancement in telescopic optics in 100 years

See the bigger picture with the new patented panoramic field design, doubling the viewable area over prismatic expanded field optics. Designs for Vision's new panoramic loupes provide precision magnification with an unprecedented field of view.



Loupes	4.5X Classic Expanded Field	NEW 4.5X Panoramic Field
Viewable Area	24 cm <sup>2</sup>	65 cm <sup>2</sup>
Field Diameter	5.5 cm	9 x 7 cm
Angle of View	9°	16°

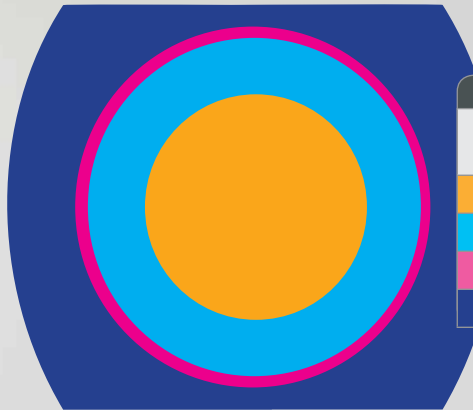
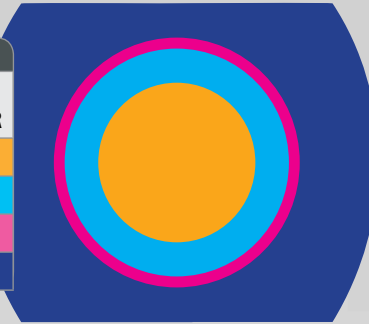
  

<p><b>Actual Size</b></p>		
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**NEW 4.5X**

4.5x		
TYPE OF LOUPES	VIEWABLE AREA	FIELD DIAMETER
Galilean	10 cm <sup>2</sup>	3.5 cm
Micro-EF	20 cm <sup>2</sup>	5.0 cm
Classic-EF	24 cm <sup>2</sup>	5.5 cm
Panoramic	65 cm <sup>2</sup>	9 x 7 cm



3.5x		
TYPE OF LOUPES	VIEWABLE AREA	FIELD DIAMETER
Galilean	20 cm <sup>2</sup>	5.0 cm
Micro-EF	44 cm <sup>2</sup>	7.5 cm
Classic-EF	50 cm <sup>2</sup>	8.0 cm
Panoramic	100 cm <sup>2</sup>	11.1 x 9 cm

**3.5X**

**3.5X Classic Expanded Field**

50 cm<sup>2</sup>  
8 cm  
14°



**3.5X Panoramic Field**

100 cm<sup>2</sup>  
11.1 x 9 cm  
20°

