



*Ikivo Animator's* interface owes much of its identity to the Adobe applications it aims to complement, which makes it simple to use for anyone familiar with *Creative Suite 2*.

## Ikivo Animator 1.1

ANIMATE YOUR MEDIA WITH THIS SVG ANIMATOR BUILT WITH ADOBE IN MIND

MAC Yes PC Yes

### PRICE

£199

### CONTACT

Ikivo  
+46 853 481180  
www.ikivo.com

### FOR

- Adobe-influenced interface
- Easy to use
- Round trip editing with vector software

### AGAINST

- Limited usage
- Expensive
- No toolbar

### VERDICT

*Ikivo Animator 1.1* is a well-presented and functional SVG animation tool, but we think the price is a little steep for a single function utility.



Mobile devices have been growing in popularity over the past few years and, as a result, demand for specifically designed content is taking off. On the back of this trend, companies such as Ikivo have sprung up aiming to fill a hole in the market and help designers create content for the small screen.

*Ikivo Animator 1.1* has been designed with Adobe *Creative Suite* very much in mind, borrowing many elements that will make regular Adobe users feel at home. A timeline gives you control over the position, rotation, scale and appearance of any SVG object. It takes a little mastering, but making the required adjustments is pretty intuitive.

*Animator* certainly plugs an animation-editing gap in Adobe, between creating SVG content in *Illustrator* and preparing it for online delivery in *GoLive*. Macromedia users, however, will wonder what all the fuss is about considering the capabilities of *FreeHand*, *Flash* and *Dreamweaver* already available to them.

Despite all the palettes and features, most of the editing is carried out directly on the canvas by making manual adjustments. However, without access to a toolbar, any changes must be carefully executed to avoid inadvertently affecting other attributes.

The software is pretty well constructed, although with little change from £200 you may want to make full use of the 15-day trial before making any final buying decision.



Although not as stylish as Wacom's Intuos range, the Graphire Bluetooth is still a reliable and luxurious gadget, providing continuous wireless operation for up to 25 hours.

## Graphire Bluetooth

WIRELESS GRAPHIC TABLET FROM WACOM FOR THE MOBILE DESIGNER

MAC Yes PC Yes

### PRICE

£189.99

### CONTACT

Wacom  
+49 2151 36140  
www.wacom-europe.com

### FOR

- True mobile graphic tablet
- Lightweight A5 portability
- 25-hour battery charge

### AGAINST

- No protective case included
- Yet another battery charger to carry around

### VERDICT

A non-essential device for the mobile user, but if you have the budget and do a fair amount of travelling you'll be sure to appreciate the freedom it allows.



Wacom's products have been tested enough over the years for us to know that the arrival of a new A5 tablet with 512 levels of pressure-sensitivity, 2,000dpi and tilt recognition is going to be a pretty special event. As with all Wacom tablets, there are no batteries contained within the stylus, mouse or cables joining the components, but with the Graphire Bluetooth, the company has gone one step further and removed all of the cables to provide a truly wireless experience.

Installation is a simple task and, once complete, the process of pairing your tablet with your laptop is pretty painless. The process is helped along by a blinking light that stabilises once connection is established. Users unfamiliar with Bluetooth may encounter a few hurdles, though these are usually associated with the configuration of your computer.

The tablet is powered by a rechargeable Li-polymer battery with up to 25 hours of continuous operation, which will easily outlast your laptop and, weighing less than 1kg, the unit won't add too much bulk to your backpack. The A5 size is a reasonable balance between function and portability being a similar size to a notebook, while an integrated stylus holder will ensure you don't lose your pen.

Although not as stylish as the Intuos range, the Graphire Bluetooth is a luxurious yet functional gadget. It's just a shame you'll need to drag around yet another power pack if you're heading off on a longer trip...