

8.2.1 Recommended monitor setup for the pro shop counter

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8.2.1 hardware

Spectre Cloud runs entirely in a web browser — there is no software to install and no specific hardware requirement beyond a supported device and an internet connection. That said, the physical setup of the screen or screens at your pro shop counter has a meaningful impact on how efficiently you can use the app day to day. This page covers the monitor configurations that work best for pro shop environments, from a single screen at the counter to a dedicated drill press display, and the practical considerations that go into each.

☐☐ Minimum Screen Requirements

Spectre Cloud is designed for a minimum screen size of **8 inches**. Below this size, the spec sheet layout and measurement fields become too compressed to use comfortably in a fitting workflow. Within that constraint, the app adapts responsively to the screen available — but the larger the working area, the less scrolling and navigation is required to access all the fields on a spec sheet in a single view.

- **8" tablet** — functional minimum. Suitable for mobile use at the press or for shops with very limited counter space.
- **10-12" tablet** — comfortable for all workflows. Most of the spec sheet is visible without scrolling on a 10" screen in landscape orientation.
- **Desktop monitor or laptop screen (21"-27")** — the most comfortable working size for the counter. A full spec sheet, the bowler list, and the Oval Calculator output are all visible simultaneously without scrolling.
- **Widescreen or ultrawide monitor (29"+)** — allows two-panel layouts, side-by-side spec sheet comparison, or simultaneous bowler profile and spec sheet views without switching tabs.

Single-Screen Counter Setup

For most solo operators and small shops, a single screen at the counter is the standard configuration. The key decisions are screen size, orientation, and positioning relative to the bowler and the fitting work area.

Screen size and type

- A **desktop monitor of 24" or larger** is the most comfortable single-screen setup. At this size, the full spec sheet is visible in one view and the bowler's profile and spec sheet history are accessible without leaving the current screen.
- A **laptop** works well if the counter space is limited — a 13"-15" laptop is easier to position flexibly than a full desktop setup.
- A **tablet on a stand** is a practical option in compact counter environments, particularly where the counter doubles as a service area and a fixed monitor is impractical. A 10"-12" tablet in landscape orientation covers all primary Spectre Cloud workflows.

Positioning relative to the bowler

- Position the screen so **you can see it clearly** while taking measurements — a screen you have to lean past the bowler to read slows the fitting down.
- For fitting conversations, angle the screen so the **bowler can see it too** when relevant — the 3D Layout view and the Arsenal are more engaging when the bowler can see the screen rather than having results described to them.
- Avoid positioning the screen directly behind the bowler — it forces you to look past them constantly, which is awkward for both parties during a fitting.

☐☐ Two-Screen Counter Setup

Shops with a dedicated counter area that separates the fitting conversation from the drill press benefit from a two-screen setup — one screen facing the operator at the counter, and a second at the drill press. This is the configuration most commonly used by medium and larger shops.

Counter screen

Used for bowler intake, spec sheet creation, fitting data entry, and the 3D Layout view. Positioned to be readable by both the operator and the bowler.

- ☐ A 24"-27" desktop monitor or a mounted display at counter height works well here.
- ☐ A second input device — a keyboard and mouse on a pull-out shelf — allows comfortable data entry without hunching over a laptop.

Drill press screen

Used to display the completed spec sheet at the press. This screen is a reference display — the driller reads from it rather than entering data. The primary requirements are readability from a short distance and resistance to the workshop environment.

- ☐ A **tablet on an adjustable arm or stand** is the most practical drill press display — it can be positioned at the exact height and angle needed and moved out of the way when not in use.
- ☐ A **small monitor or secondary laptop screen** works if the press has a dedicated surface nearby.
- ☐ A 10"-13" screen is sufficient at the press — the spec sheet at this size is readable from normal working distance without needing to approach the screen closely.
- ☐ Use a **screen protector** on any tablet used at the drill press — drill dust and coverstock particles are hard on unprotected glass.
- ☐ Do not position the drill press screen so close to the press that vibration or debris affect it during operation — mount it on a stable surface at least 30cm from the press head.

☐☐ Tablet-Only Setup

For solo operators, mobile shops, or shops where a full desktop setup is not practical, a single tablet handles the entire Spectre Cloud workflow. This configuration is fully supported and widely used.

- ☐ A **10"-12" tablet in landscape orientation** is the recommended tablet configuration for solo operation — large enough to use the full spec sheet comfortably, portable enough to carry between counter and press.
- ☐ Use a **quality case with a built-in stand** — the ability to prop the tablet at a reading angle at both the counter and the press without a separate accessory is a significant convenience in a busy fitting session.
- ☐ **iPad, Android tablet, or Windows tablet** — all are supported. Choose the platform that aligns with your other shop technology for the most seamless experience (e.g., an iPad if you use other Apple devices in the shop).
- ☐ Connect a **Bluetooth keyboard** for data entry if you find touchscreen typing slow during measurement entry — a compact wireless keyboard adds minimal footprint to the counter and significantly speeds up spec sheet completion.

☐☐ Connectivity Considerations

Spectre Cloud requires an active internet connection for full functionality. Monitor setup decisions should account for where and how the device connects:

- ☐ **Wired ethernet** for desktop or laptop counter setups — more reliable than Wi-Fi in a workshop environment where wireless interference from equipment can cause connection drops.
- ☐ **Wi-Fi** for tablets and laptops — ensure the access point covers both the counter and the drill press area. A connection that works at the counter but drops at the press is a workflow interruption.
- ☐ **Position the Wi-Fi access point** for coverage of the working area, not just the reception area — if the router is at the front of the shop and the drill press is at the back, a range extender or additional access point may be needed.
- ☐ **Mobile data backup** — if your shop's internet goes down during a fitting session, a phone with a mobile data connection can run Spectre Cloud as a hotspot while the primary connection is restored.

☐☐ Lighting and Glare

Workshop lighting — typically bright overhead fluorescent or LED strips — creates screen glare that makes displays difficult to read during a fitting. A few practical adjustments resolve most glare problems:

- ☐ **Matte screen protectors** on tablets significantly reduce workshop glare without affecting readability.
- ☐ **Anti-glare desktop monitors** are worth specifying when purchasing a counter display for a pro shop — they cost marginally more than glossy alternatives and pay back the

difference many times over in comfort.

- **Adjust screen brightness** to match the ambient light level — a screen that is comfortable at home may be too dim under bright workshop lighting.
- **Angle the screen** away from direct overhead light sources if possible — a small tilt adjustment is often enough to eliminate the worst glare without compromising viewing angle.

Summary — Recommended Setups by Shop Type

Shop type	Recommended setup	Key consideration
Solo operator, compact space	10-12" tablet on a stand at the counter, carried to the press	Quality case with built-in stand; screen protector; Bluetooth keyboard optional
Solo operator, dedicated counter	24" desktop monitor or laptop at the counter; tablet at the press	Wired connection at counter preferred; tablet on adjustable arm at press
Multi-staff shop	Desktop monitor at counter; tablet or secondary monitor at press; each staff member logs in with their own credentials	Individual user accounts for each staff member; ensure Wi-Fi covers the full workshop area
Multi-location shop	Per-location counter and press setup as above; all locations access the same Spectre Cloud account	Consistent device standards across locations; consider centralised device management if locations are managed by the same owner
Mobile or event pro shop	Single tablet; mobile data connection as primary or backup internet	Fully charged battery or portable power bank; screen protector essential in event environments

Related Sections

- 01.3 — Minimum requirements and supported devices
- 01.4 — Supported browsers and operating systems
- 8.1.5 — Managing staff access and user accounts
- 8.2.2 — Adding and removing plugins
- 09.x — Troubleshooting: connectivity and device issues

Tip: If you are setting up Spectre Cloud on a new device for the first time, spend ten minutes configuring the browser before a fitting session — log in, confirm the layout displays correctly, check that the 3D Layout view renders if you use Arsenal Plus, and run through a test spec sheet from start to finish. Discovering a display or connectivity issue during a live fitting is avoidable with

a short pre-use check.

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