

# Reasonable price for signal generator?

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Gents and Ladies,

I'm an engineer interested in marketing a portable (battery powered) square wave generator.

I'd like to ask you what you think you would comfortably pay for the device I have in mind, as follows;

Pros;

50 ohm output impedance nominal (lower at DC, higher at 1 MHz)

Output adjustable from 0 to 5 volts dc p-p.

Square wave (50% +/- 0.5% duty) from 1 Hz to 500 kHz, triangle 500 kHz to 1 MHz\

Output to 250 mA nominal current, 450 mA peak (dc A, not rms)

Nominal Battery life 58 hours.

Power LED.

BNC output

Screw terminal-option Banana (2) output too.

6 ranges, 1.8 decades each (overlapping), <1 Hz to >1MHz

'Heavy Duty' ABS plastic enclosure with battery compartment

Coarse frequency control pot 1.8 decades range

Fine frequency control pot +/- 3% range

Can drive a speaker directly in the audio range

Can drive a light bulb

Can drive any inductor since output protected by diodes.

Can drive a short circuit continuously

TTL compatible signal 1 Hz to 1 MHz.

Power on switch located in level control pot.

Overall dimensions 7" x 4" x 2"

Output buffered, internal voltage regulation.

Frequency continuously adjustable with low drift and jitter

600nS rise / fall times.

Weighs about 5 ounces and fits in any tool box.

Slightly stylish ergonomic black case, rectangular footprint.

Handmade to last a very, very, very long time.

No chinese or indonesian slaves were used in the manufacture.

Made in America, by an American (that and two dollars could get me a coffee;)

Enclosure will resist cracking when dropped on hard surface.

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4 Controls.

Cons;

Only a square wave output, which turns into a triangle wave at 500 kHz due to slew limit.

2mV nominal output offset (never goes to exactly zero)

DC offset not adjustable (signal goes from 0 to 5 or between as set by level control)

No modulation input.

No DC power input option (just the 9 volt battery)

Doesn't go below 1 Hz or above 1 MHz

Nicely labelled, but not painted-on lettering.

No anti-skid feet.

0 buttons or toggle switches.

This unit is designed for portable use, by technicians in the field, or by engineers relocating their project from the lab to living room. It may be the only portable unit of it's capacity to have a bnc / 50 ohm output – or – thumb-screw terminals for attaching small components.

Given that it is good quality, with good, but slightly non-conventional appearance, what would you expect to pay for one if you needed it?

They take several hours apiece to make one, but a buyer wouldn't know that... all surface mount components, lead solder, cleaned double-sided boards, conformal coated .. etc.

Thanks very much for considering my question regarding the asking price for this unit.

– Geoff

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