

OUTDOOR MOVIES! by Dan Pemble, Kissimmee, Florida – Oct 2, 2020

Remember in the OLD DAZE when we had the pleasure of watching an outdoor movie at a drive-in theater? Oh yes, this outdoor movie theater offered several treats - including cuddling up to our special sweethearts while watching our favorite movie under a moon-lit or star-lit night sky! It's hard to imagine that things could be much better! Although drive-in theaters are mostly a thing of the past, we can still enjoy outdoor movies with our current-day sweethearts, friends & families, as I describe here.

Following is a photo of our crank up/crank down shade we recently had installed on the west side of our patio. The original intent of this shade was to offer a “shield” from the hot summer sun as it arrived on the west side of our patio. Then, I had other thoughts about this shade. Given its mostly-opaque, white color, and its size of about 6-feet high and 12-feet wide, I felt it could be dual-purposed and used as an outdoor movie screen!



After realizing that our new outdoor shade could be used as a movie screen, I spent quite some time doing research on available video projectors. I didn't want to spend thousands on a projector, so I settled on one that cost just over \$200 and it has turned out to be a gem! It has 1080p “native resolution” and it projects a GREAT picture to fill up the entirety of our noted shade/screen size – with an acceptably-clear picture! I'm no salesman, but if you want an economy-type video projector that will certainly do the job, I recommend the same one that we have purchased; it is the wi-fi-equipped VivuMAGE Explore 3. To supplement its movie-showing capabilities, we purchased an Amazon Prime Fire TV stick and also a Sony DVD player, both of which plug into the projector and thereby offer countless capabilities for movie watching! As it is finally getting cooler outside, we have learned to love outdoor movie watching and the following photo is an example of what we see.

