

## Press Ratings

Ratings are based on:

1. The ability to do top quality prints both **intaglio** and **relief**.
2. The ability to do intaglio easily, time after time without the strain being on you.
3. The ability of the press to endure overloading and other abuse over long periods.
4. The ability to adjust and re-adjust simply and quickly for all types of printing.
5. The ability of the press to be maintenance free.
6. The ability of the press to have a level of portability without compromising on the presses integrity (materials & construction).
7. The ability of the press if necessary to be repaired using standard 'off the shelf' parts .

These are the aspects that make a press a good etching/relief press and I consider the benchmark rating to be **7**.

From a range from 1 to 10, 10 being the best, here are the ratings I give for my press range.

Boxer 50cm	-	10.0
Cachet 45cm	-	9.5
Kudos 40cm	-	8.7
Kudos 45cm	-	8.5
Pequeno	-	8.2
Gem 35cm	-	7.8
Gem 40cm	-	7.6
Gem 45cm	-	7.5
Piccolo L/W	-	7.5

It will be noticed the narrower beds, for a given model have a higher rating. This is because they are easier to use assuming you are using the full width of the bed on the wider presses. It's a correlation between gear ration and bed width. Also the narrower the press for a given design is stronger and has greater rigidity. These ratings are based on my 52 years in engineering and 37 years in press manufacture. I believe I am one of the longest manufacturers of presses in the UK. Judging my own and other peoples presses on the abilities of the press as described above, I consider most presses in the UK to fall below the 6 mark And in some cases presses would be accredited a mark of 2.

I hope this assists in a better understanding of what is required of a proper etching press and helps your decision. [www.rollacopresses.co.uk](http://www.rollacopresses.co.uk)