

Laser pointers

SAFETY WARNING: Avoid a laser beam shining directly, or by reflection, into someone's eye. It could cause permanent damage

When presenting photos or a PowerPoint using a laptop and a projector, it is often convenient to be able to walk away from the projector (inevitably in front of the screen) and talk from a position beside the screen where you can be seen by the audience. There are three ways this can be done:

- ◇ A long cable from the projector to the laptop (inevitably carrying the risk that someone will trip over it and cause the laptop, projector, or both to crash to the floor);
- ◇ A laser pointer that interfaces with the laptop by UHF radio, and has simple FORWARD and BACK buttons to control the slides;
- ◇ A wireless mouse for a more detailed selection of what is on the screen (see separate note).

This note covers the second of these options:

The photo is of pointer Tag 010 or 120 (described as *Kensington Presenter Pointer 33374EU*). At the right hand side, can be seen something protruding that looks like a USB memory stick. This is the receiver that plugs into any USB socket on a laptop. When the receiver is pushed fully home in the hand-held unit, the power is switched off.



The top red button controls the laser pointer. Then there are three buttons that can control the media being shown: FORWARD and BACK buttons to choose next or previous slides in a PowerPoint, or PLAY for a movie, and one with a square label that blanks the screen during a PowerPoint presentation. I have tested these devices with my Dell XPS computer and it works well. I've not tried them with an Apple Mac. They use standard AAA batteries; spares are available in a QMH cupboard.

We then have two laser pointers (Tags 016 and 095) described as *Presenter PP-1000*. These have 3 buttons – FORWARD, BACK and LASER. In principle they are the same as the Kensington pointer. These pointers use 12V type MN21 batteries, which are fiddly to insert. If one of these fails, please let me know and I'll fix it. I have tested both pointers with my Dell computer and they work well.



AT THE END OF A SESSION, PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN THE USB RECEIVER TO ITS STORAGE LOCATION.

Roger Kemp, 31 December 2025

Email: lmu3aequipment@gmail.com

Mobile: 07793742051