



THE COMPLETE

Mini C-Arm Buyer's Guide

Everything you need to make a confident purchasing decision — from understanding technology to choosing the right model for your practice.

Minicarm.com | Hauppauge, NY

By Christopher Bacon, Co-Founder of Orthoscan

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Hologic InSight FD — Premium Digital Mini C-Arm

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What Is a Mini C-Arm?

A mini C-arm is a compact, portable fluoroscopic imaging system that produces real-time X-ray video of bones and joints. It gets its name from the C-shaped arm that connects the X-ray source on one end to the detector on the other.

Unlike a full-size C-arm — which weighs over 1,000 lbs, requires a radiation technician, and needs a lead-lined room — a mini C-arm is purpose-built for **extremity imaging**: hands, wrists, elbows, ankles, feet, and knees. It weighs as little as 30 lbs, moves freely between rooms, and does not require a separate rad tech to operate in most states.



Orthoscan TAU 1515



Hologic InSight FD

Mini C-Arm vs. Full-Size C-Arm

Feature	Mini C-Arm	Full-Size C-Arm
Weight	30 – 400 lbs	1,000+ lbs
Price Range	\$15,000 – \$70,000+	\$60,000 – \$250,000+
Power (kV)	Up to 78 kV	Up to 120 kV
Primary Use	Extremities (hands, feet, ankles, wrists)	Spine, torso, full-body
Rad Tech Required?	No (most states)	Yes
Lead-Lined Room?	Not required	Required
Mobility	Room-to-room	Room-to-room / stationary
Setup Time	Minutes	Significant infrastructure

Expert Note

Minicarm.com was founded by Christopher Bacon, co-founder of Orthoscan — one of the world's leading mini C-arm manufacturers. When we say we know this equipment inside and out, we mean it literally.

Who Needs a Mini C-Arm?

Mini C-arms are used across a wide range of specialties and facility types. If your practice involves procedures on the extremities, you almost certainly have a use case.

Orthopedic Surgery — Fracture reduction, joint procedures, intraoperative guidance for hands, wrists, and ankles.

Podiatry — Bunion surgery, hammertoe correction, foot and ankle procedures, hardware placement.

Ambulatory Surgery Centers — High-volume extremity procedures where a full-size C-arm is not ergonomically efficient and requires an additional rad tech.

Pain Management — Image-guided injections: knee, wrist, intra-articular joints, and nerve blocks.

Sports Medicine — Rapid, point-of-care imaging for on-site, sideline, and clinic-based triage of suspected athletic injuries.

Emergency / Urgent Care — Immediate fracture and dislocation diagnosis without waiting for radiology.

Private Practice — Bring imaging in-house, reduce referrals, increase revenue per patient visit.

Teaching & Training — Medical schools and training programs use mini C-arms for procedural education.

Veterinary — Small animal orthopedic and exotic animal procedures requiring real-time extremity imaging.

Revenue Consideration

Practices that outsource extremity imaging typically lose \$150–\$400 per imaging referral. With a mini C-arm in-house, that revenue stays in your practice. Visit minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-reimbursement-calculator/ to see what your practice could gain.

New vs. Refurbished: What's the Real Difference?

One of the most common questions we receive: "Should I buy new from the manufacturer or go refurbished?" The honest answer depends on your budget, desired model, and warranty needs — but refurbished is far more compelling than most buyers initially assume.

Factor	New (Factory)	Refurbished (Minicarm.com)
Price Range	\$70,000 – \$100,000+	\$15,000 – \$65,000
Availability	Lead time of weeks to months	Ships same-day to 48 hours
Warranty	1 year (manufacturer)	1 year (Minicarm.com)
Components	All new	New internals, new paint, certified and tested
Support	Manufacturer hotline	Same-day phone/video triage; on-site within 48 hrs
Financing	Standard manufacturer terms	Flexible bank/credit union options
Model Selection	Current lineup only	All models, including "End of Life" units

What "Refurbished" Means at Minicarm.com

Every refurbished unit we sell undergoes a complete rebuild: new internal components, fresh paint, full calibration, and a 100-point pre-ship inspection. It leaves our Hauppauge facility covered by a 1-year warranty. This is not used equipment cleaned up — it is totally refurbished equipment with outstanding value.

Mini C-Arm Pricing Guide

Prices vary significantly by brand, model, age, and condition. Below is a realistic breakdown to set expectations before reaching out for a quote.

Model	Condition	Typical Price Range
OEC 6600	Refurbished	\$10,000 – \$15,000
OEC 6800	Refurbished	\$15,000 – \$20,000
OEC Elite Miniview	Refurbished	\$35,000 – \$48,000
Hologic Fluoroscanner Premier	Refurbished	\$10,000 – \$15,000
Hologic InSight 1	Refurbished	\$10,000 – \$25,000
Hologic InSight 2	Refurbished	\$15,000 – \$25,000
Hologic InSight FD	Refurbished	\$35,000 – \$45,000
Hologic InSight FD Flex	New	Call for pricing
Orthoscan UC	Refurbished	\$15,000 – \$20,000
Orthoscan HD	Refurbished	\$20,000 – \$25,000
Orthoscan FD	Refurbished	\$30,000 – \$35,000
Orthoscan FD-OR	Refurbished	\$33,000 – \$38,000
Orthoscan FD Pulse	Refurbished	\$35,000 – \$45,000
Orthoscan TAU 1512	Refurbished	\$55,000 – \$65,000
Orthoscan TAU 1515	Refurbished	\$60,000 – \$72,000
Orthoscan TAU 2020	Refurbished	\$68,000 – \$80,000
Any New Factory Unit	New	\$70,000 – \$100,000+

Every Model We Carry — By Brand

Minicarm.com carries Hologic, Orthoscan, and OEC mini C-arms in new, refurbished, and rental configurations. Below is a complete listing.

Orthoscan

One of the global leaders in mini C-arm technology. Co-founded by Christopher Bacon — our own founder.



Orthoscan FD



Orthoscan FD-OR



Orthoscan TAU 1515



Orthoscan MDI

Model	Description
Orthoscan UC	Entry-level, image intensifier
Orthoscan HD	High-definition, image intensifier
Orthoscan FD	Flat detector, entry-level digital
Orthoscan FD-OR	OR-optimized for surgical suites
Orthoscan FD Pulse	Pulsed fluoroscopy, low dose
Orthoscan MDI (Mobile DI)	Point-of-care mobile unit
Orthoscan TAU 1512	15x12cm detector, latest generation
Orthoscan TAU 1515	15x15cm detector, larger FOV
Orthoscan TAU 2020	20x20cm detector, widest FOV

Hologic

Hologic has set the industry standard in compact fluoroscopic mini C-arm imaging.



Hologic InSight FD



Hologic InSight 2

Model	Description
Fluoroscanner Premier Encore	Classic workhorse model
Hologic InSight 1	Entry-level Hologic
Hologic InSight 2	Reliable, cost-efficient
Hologic InSight FD	Rotating flat detector
Hologic InSight FD Flex	Rotating flat detector

GE OEC

Battle-tested, long-lasting imaging systems trusted across hospitals and surgical centers.



OEC Elite Miniview — Current flagship OEC model

Model	Description
OEC 6600	Budget-friendly, entry-level OEC
OEC 6800	Proven workhorse, wide support
OEC Elite Miniview	Current flagship OEC model
OEC MiniView MAX	Extended FOV, newer release

Should You Buy, Rent, or Finance?

The right acquisition model depends on your procedure volume, budget, and how long you intend to use the equipment.

Scenario	Best Option	Why
Permanent addition, budget available	Purchase (New or Refurbished)	Best long-term ROI; own the asset
Testing the waters / trial period	Rental (Monthly)	No commitment; upgrade or return
Your unit is down for repair	Rental (Daily / Weekly)	We ship overnight; no patient downtime
Training course or one-time event	Short-Term Rental	Daily/weekly options, overnight delivery
Budget constraints, permanent need	Finance (Purchase)	Own the asset with manageable payments
Seasonal / variable volume	Yearly Rental or Lease	Flexibility without long-term capital tie-up

For details on rental options, visit minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-rental/. For financing information, visit minicarm.com/financing/.

The Step-by-Step Buying Process

Here is exactly how buying a mini C-arm from Minicarm.com works, from first contact to first image.

1. Define Your Use Case and Volume

What procedures will you use it for? How many per week? How large is the room? These answers drive model selection more than any spec sheet.

2. Request a Free Quote

Call (800) 643-2998 or visit minicarm.com/request-a-quote/. We will ask the right questions and recommend 2–3 models for your specific situation.

3. Review Your Options

We will walk you through trade-offs between models and conditions, and show current inventory availability. No pressure — just honest guidance.

4. Arrange Financing if Needed

We work directly with banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions. Most decisions come back in 24–48 hours.

5. Confirm Shipping and Site Preparation

Mini C-arms do not require a lead-lined room, but confirm state registration requirements before delivery.

6. Delivery, Setup & Training

We ship same-day to 48 hours for most units. Our Field Service Engineers can perform on-site setup and training, or walk your team through it on video.

7. Ongoing Support & Service

Every unit comes with a 1-year warranty and access to our national service network. We also offer preventive maintenance plans.

SECTION 08

Service, Parts & Ongoing Maintenance

Buying the equipment is only the beginning. Mini C-arms are precision imaging systems — they require periodic maintenance and fast service when issues arise.

The Minicarm.com Difference

We resolve 85% of service issues over the phone or video. When on-site service is needed, we are there same-day to 48 hours, nationwide.

Key Service Resources:

- Mini C-Arm Service Plans — same-day to 48hr on-site: minicarm.com/service/
- Mini C-Arm Parts — thousands in-stock, ships same day: minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-parts/
- Sell Your Mini C-Arm — we buy used equipment: minicarm.com/sell-mini-c-arms/

We recommend a full inspection once per year. Annual preventive maintenance plans include inspection, calibration, and any needed adjustments to keep your unit performing at peak levels.

SECTION 09

Regulations, Compliance & State Requirements

Mini C-arms are regulated as radiation-emitting medical devices. Requirements vary by state — some require formal registration before operating, others are minimal.

Key Compliance Questions Before Buying:

- Does your state require registration with a radiation control program?
- Is a radiation safety officer required?
- Can the treating physician operate the unit directly?
- Do you need lead shielding or dosimetry badges for staff?

For the full state-by-state regulations guide, visit minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-regulations-by-state-2025/. For Canadian buyers, visit minicarm.com/canada-mini-c-arm-sales-service/.

SECTION 10

Further Reading & Expert Resources

If You're Still Deciding:

- 2026 Mini C-Arm Pricing Guide — minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-pricing-guide-2026/
- Mini C-Arm FAQs — minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-faqs/
- Why Minicarm.com Is the Industry Leader — minicarm.com/mini-c-arm-expertise-industry-leader/

Model Comparisons:

- Hologic InSight FD vs. Other Mini C-Arms — minicarm.com/hologic-insight-fd-comparison/
- Hologic InSight 2 vs. Other Mini C-Arms — minicarm.com/hologic-insight-2-comparison/
- Orthoscan FD vs. FD-OR vs. FD Pulse — minicarm.com/orthoscan-fd-comparison/
- Orthoscan Mobile DI vs. Others — minicarm.com/orthoscan-mobile-di-comparison/
- Orthoscan FD-OR vs. Others — minicarm.com/orthoscan-fd-or-comparison/
- Orthoscan FD Pulse vs. Others — minicarm.com/orthoscan-fd-pulse-comparison/

SECTION 11

Buyer FAQs

Q: Do I need a radiation technician to operate a mini C-arm?

In most states, no. Mini C-arms are designed to be operated by the treating physician. Requirements vary by state — check our state regulations guide for your specific location.

Q: How much does a mini C-arm cost?

A refurbished mini C-arm costs between \$15,000 and \$65,000 depending on brand and model. New factory units start at \$70,000 and can exceed \$100,000. Minicarm.com offers all conditions — new, refurbished, and rental.

Q: How long does shipping take?

We ship same-day to 48 hours for most units, including overnight delivery for rental units. We service all 50 states and ship internationally.

Q: What's included in a refurbished unit from Minicarm.com?

Every refurbished unit includes new internal components, fresh paint, a full 100-point pre-ship inspection, calibration, and a 1-year warranty. On-site service and 24/7 phone support are available.

Q: Can I try before I buy?

Yes — we offer monthly and yearly rentals that can convert to a purchase. This is a popular option for practices wanting to confirm a model fits their workflow before committing.

Q: What happens if I'm having issues with the machine?

Call us at (800) 643-2998. We resolve 85% of issues over the phone or video. If on-site service is needed, we are there same-day to 48 hours. We keep thousands of parts in stock for same-day shipping.

Q: How often does a mini C-arm need preventive maintenance?

We recommend a full inspection once per year. We offer annual PM plans that include inspection, calibration, and any needed adjustments.

Q: I have a specific model in mind. Can you source it?

Almost certainly yes. We carry the broadest inventory in the U.S., including manufacturer "end of life" models, which we can support for many years. Contact us with your model and we will check availability.

Ready to Find Your Mini C-Arm?

Our team has decades of hands-on experience with every model we sell.
Get a free, no-obligation quote and we will match you to the right unit for your practice.

(800) 643-2998

minicarm.com/request-a-quote/

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