# The Best Washer and Dryer Sets of 2022

## LG WM9000HVA / DLEX9500K

Dimensions: Washer: 40.75” x 29” x 33.75” Dryer: 40.88” x 29” x 33.38” (H x W x D) Finish: Graphite steel Orientation: Front-load Stackable: Yes Special features: Smart features, energy monitoring, remote start Not only has the LG WM9000HVA washing machine and LG DLEX9000V dryer won our Editor’s Choice badge, it’s won our coveted Best of Year award. This pair is one of the best washer and dryer sets we’ve tested to date. The large capacity LG washing machine offers a steam cycle, a sanitizing wash, and a sleek look. Not to mention it impressed us by how well it cleaned, removing about 81% of the stains in our tests, which makes it one of the highest performing washers to ever come through our labs. Users will notice its angled basin, which makes it easier to unload your laundry after a wash. Do note that this washer’s 29-inch width is 2 inches wider than most other washers on the market. Likewise, its matching 9-cubic-foot (who doesn’t love a large load) LG dryer works better than most dryers we’ve tested—it got the laundry in both the normal and bulky cycles 100% dry. This dryer can easily deal with a variety of fabric types and item sizes—it has no trouble with big items like comforters, and gets shirts wrinkle-free. Even though it’s a big investment, we say its performance justifies the cost.

## Samsung WF45R6100AW / DVE45R6100W

Dimensions: Washer: 38.7” x 27” x 31.3” Dryer: 38.7” x 27” x 31.5” (H x W x D) Finish: Champagne, platinum, white Orientation: Front-load Stackable: Yes Special features: Steam wash, self-clean, smart care On our list of best washer and dryer sets, the Samsung WF45R6100AW washer washer and the Samsung DVE45R6100C dryer come out on top as our best value pick. This affordable Samsung washer boasts an amazing number of wash cycle options, and its heavy cycle cleans near-perfectly with one of the best stain removing cycles we’ve ever seen. This washer is a little harder—wear-and-tear-wise—on clothes than we’d like, but the trade-off for its excellent stain removal is worth it. Uniquely, this Samsung washer uses steam cleaning in half of its available cycles, including normal, heavy, and sanitize. If you need a washer to tackle your toughest, dirtiest laundry, this one won’t let you down. For its part, the dryer has a killer normal cycle—getting wet laundry 100% dry in under an hour—one of the most effective normal cycles we’ve ever seen. Additional steam cycles and cycle customization options add to this Samsung dryer’s appeal.

## LG WT7900HBA / DLEX7900

Dimensions: Washer: 44.5” x 27” x 28.38” Dryer: 44.5” x 27” x 29.5” (H x W x D) Finish: Black steel, white Orientation: Top-load Stackable: No Special features: Remote start, smart capabilities, steam cycles Laundry traditionalists will always prefer top-loaders vs front-loaders. If this sounds like you, this workhorse of a washer-dryer pair from LG will be right up your alley. The LG WT7900HBA top-loading washer and the LG DLEX7900BE dryer can handle lots of laundry and lots of different laundry situations. This LG washer’s cycle times are short, including the heavy duty cycle, which performed the best in our stain removal tests and takes less than two hours to run. It also boasts the Allergiene cycle, which claims to remove pet dander and dust mites, and seven steam cycles. When tested, the dryer got our laundry loads more than 80% dry, but the speed dry and delicate cycles are highly effective. It’s also full of neat cycle options and features, including an anti-bacterial cycle and wrinkle care. A huge perk, the dryer door can open to the side or open downward, giving you flexibility when it comes to popping wet, heavy laundry loads into the dryer without wrenching your back.

## LG WashTower WKEX200HBA

Dimensions: 74.38” x 27” x 30.38” (H x W x D) Finish: White, black steel Orientation: Front-load Stackable: n/a (single unit) Special features: Built-in intelligence, TurboWash 360, Wi-Fi capabilities, smart capabilities The LG WashTower WKEX200HBA makes shopping for washers and dryers a lot easier, as you only have to buy one machine, rather than two. This fully integrated laundry center, meaning it’s all one unit rather than two stacked units, features a single, slim design to help it fit into smaller spaces. The LG WashTower that we lab tested offered an above-average performance and got our laundry up to 4% cleaner than average. Plus, it did so in record time. Drying, too, is a breeze. The dryer coordinates with the washer to automatically assign an appropriate drying cycle based on what you selected for the washer. But you can also make manual cycle selections. We don’t see many washer-dryer pairs that feature such great performance at such a low price.

## Miele WXR860WCS / TXR860WP

Dimensions: Washer: 33.5” x 23.5” x 25.3” Dryer: 33.5” x 23.5” x 25.4” (H x W x D) Finish: White Orientation: Front-load Stackable: Yes Special features: Remote monitoring, auto detergent dispensing For the very specific consumer who needs a compact washer and dryer set, the Miele WXR 860WCS compact washer and the Miele TXR860WP Eco & Steam compact dryer is a solid bet, although you’ll pay for it. This Miele compact front-load washer has versatility and innovations that we’d normally see on a full-sized flagship model. For example, its TwinDos feature utilizes pre-filled detergent and oxygen bleach cartridges to automatically dispense the correct amount of detergent, giving you the optimum clean. Its normal cycle is one of the best in its class when it comes to cleaning, combining high-tech features with good-old-fashioned scrubbing. Miele’s matching dryer features temperatures that are gentle on clothes and 19 specialty cycles to take care of your clothing without adding wear and tear. All of the cycles we ran lasted over an hour, offering longer drying times than vented dryers, but what it lacks in speed it makes up for in quality. In the upper left corner of the machine, you’ll find a water jug into which the condensation from your laundry empties. You will have to manually empty it when it reaches maximum capacity.

# The Best Pedal Kayaks of 2022

# The Best Stroller Wagons of 2022

## Gladly Anthem4

* Stroller weight: 42 pounds
* Stroller weight: 42 pounds Max child weight: 50 pounds Max basket weight: 250 pounds Seat style: Raised bench seats, with a stow-away mattress for lie-flat use Folding style: Standing fold or lie flat for storage Canopy style: Collapsible double canopies with breathable mesh inserts Brake: Foot Restraints: A 3-point safety harness in each seat Perks: Parent cup holder and storage area, four child cupholders, a snack tray, and interior mesh pockets. I’m a picky mom. I want pretty much everything I buy for my kids to work well, last forever, look cool, and I want to feel like I got maximum bang for my buck on whatever my purchase was. Gladly Family’s Anthem4 stroller wagon not only met all those criteria, but it surpassed them. It’s got a great turning radius, ample cup holders and kid-friendly pockets, and it’s available in colors that look sleek and stylish. I like that it’s low-profile enough that my kids can climb in and out on their own, meaning I don’t have to fuss with them between every single attraction at the zoo, based on whatever their 4-year-old whims might be. The materials feel substantial and durable, but also not swanky enough that I would feel iffy taking a hose to them after a rogue ice cream incident. While I think it could certainly hold four kids, it’s also not overly huge, coming in at 41 inches long by 30 inches wide. At 40 pounds, it supposedly weighs a bit more than some of the other wagons I tested, but it feels lighter, perhaps because it’s easier to pick up because of the way it folds flat. My main quibble is the brake, which I found to be more fussy than those on some of the other wagons. I like that it’s just the one piece in the middle of the wagon, rather than being on one of the front wheels, but I found myself questioning if I’d pressed it hard enough, and when I wore sandals, I’d often feel it slipping between my foot at my shoe, meaning I really had to be intentional about when I wanted to throw it down. All that being said, it was easy to assemble, fairly user-friendly, and handled well on street surfaces. I thought the Anthem4 also handled well on loose gravel, sand, and uneven ground, and I also enjoyed that the Anthem4’s adjustable handle is a sort of hybrid between a traditional wagon handle and a stroller handle, meaning it’s comfortable to both push or pull, no matter the terrain.

## Gladly Anthem2

* Stroller weight: 40 pounds
* Stroller weight: 40 pounds Max child weight: 50 pounds Max basket weight: 150 pounds Seat style: Raised bench seats, with a stow-away mattress for lie-flat use Folding style: Standing fold or lie flat for storage Canopy style: Collapsible double canopies with breathable mesh inserts Brake: Foot Restraints: A 3-point safety harness in each seat Perks: Parent cup holder and storage area, two child cupholders, a snack tray, and interior mesh pockets. While I tested wagons that were cheaper than the Anthem2, I generally found most of them lacking in some respect. I genuinely feel like one would be wise to spend more on the Anthem2, especially if you’re planning on using this wagon throughout your child’s formative years. If you invest in the car seat adapter, you can use this wagon from day one, meaning you could just skip owning a stroller—or a double stroller—all together. Given that the Anthem2 is basically the same wagon as the Anthem4, just smaller, I really couldn’t find much fault in it. My one quibble is that it only folds flat, meaning that if you’re driving a sedan, you might want to take stock of how much stuff you really need to have in your trunk if you’re also planning on throwing this wagon into the mix.

## Joey Stroller Wagon

* Stroller weight: 37 pounds, including fabric
* Stroller weight: 37 pounds, including fabric Max child weight: 55 pounds Seat style: Raised bench seats, but no mattress Folding style: Standing fold or lie flat for storage Canopy style: One UPF 50+ collapsible canopy included. Can purchase a second one separately Brake: Foot Restraints: A 3-point safety harness in each seat Perks: Mesh footwell, storage basket, key slot, snack tray, and big cup holder The Joey Wagon isn’t cheap, but if you’re looking for a sleek and stylish wagon that can turn on a dime, this could be the pick for you. I liked its relatively small footprint, and how easy it was to lift. While my husband didn’t like the button you had to click on the wagon’s handle to make the lever go up and down, I didn’t mind it once I figured out where not to put my hand while we were walking. The one thing I will say about the Joey Wagon is that, for something that’s fairly pricey, it certainly doesn’t come with a lot of perks. Only one canopy is included in the purchase, which is fine if you just have one kid, but if you have two or you want full bucket coverage, you’re going to have to buy a second one. The cup holder and snack tray is nice, but given the wagon’s smaller size, if you have older kids, their knees might bang into it, making more of a mess than using the tray is really worth.

# The Best Dry Shampoos of 2022

## Dove Volume & Fullness Dry Shampoo

Dove’s dry shampoo leaves hair feeling almost suspiciously clean, closer to the freshness of a real shampoo than any other product we tested. The spray is fine and leaves behind little to no visible residue or chalky buildup in any hair type, from thin, light hair to thick, dark locks. The spray doesn’t weigh hair down or stiffen it up, but on the flip side, it doesn’t add too much volume, either. It has the recognizably fresh scent of Dove products that so many know and love. If you’re looking for clean, fresh-feeling hair, Dove’s dry shampoo won’t disappoint.

## Drybar Detox Dry Shampoo

Detox DryBar dry shampoo is the quintessential dry shampoo: Though not a texturizing spray, it adds high-impact texture and volume and zaps grease and excess oil with just a little spritz. It’s amazing and effective. It has the brand’s classic, musky salon scent that can be perfumey, if not overpowering at times. It leaves behind some residue that can leave roots feeling a little chalky after use, but the trade-off is incredible volume. The spray comes in both light and dark tones to match your hair color. Keep in mind you can buy 6 bottles of Dove for the price of one Detox, so it may not be the best choice for the budget-conscious consumer, but it does work great on oily hair.

## Moroccanoil Dry Shampoo

Moroccanoil dry shampoo is great for dry, dehydrated, or curly hair. It’s infused with argan oil, so it moisturizes as it de-greases and it actually leaves hair feeling clean and silky instead of chalky and dull, while still adding some volume. It comes in both light and dark tones to match hair, and a little scalp massage totally eliminates any visible residue. Its light vanilla scent is not overwhelming and testers noted that it “smells absolutely delicious,” and “the best of the bunch.” While it doesn’t soak up as much oil as DryBar’s Detox, it’s a great option for those with dryer locks or scalp issues.

# The Best Massage Chairs of 2022

# The Best PS5 Games of 2022

# The Best Knife Sets of 2022

## Misen Essentials 7-Piece Knife Set

* Blade material: High-carbon stainless steel
* Blade material: High-carbon stainless steel Included: 8-inch chef’s knife, 7.5-inch santoku knife, 9.5-inch serrated bread knife, 5.5-inch utility knife, 3.5-inch paring knife, kitchen shears Storage: Walnut wood block This knife set has everything you need, is comfortable to use, and won’t break the bank. The Misen Essentials 7-piece Knife Set topped our recent testing and impressed us with how pleasant it was to use each piece of the set. In addition to the basics—the chef’s knife, paring knife and bread knife—this 7-piece set includes a santoku knife that’s perfect for chopping vegetables and a utility knife that’s perfect for cheese, apples, and smaller vegetables like shallots, plus kitchen sheers and a beautiful walnut storage block. Each knife has a sloped bolster, which means it’s easier to learn how to properly grip the knife on the blade instead of by the handle. We love that Misen provides instructions with every knife for how to properly hold, use, and care for it. We also love the Japanese-style, 15-degree edge on these knives. Combine that with the blades’ thinness, and you get a sharp knife that doesn’t snag when it cuts through food. The serrated bread knife is sharp enough to cut through crusty baguettes without having to apply firm pressure, and it won’t snag on harder parts of sandwiches—like bacon in a BLT. We love that the paring knife is comfortable to use both on the cutting board and when hovering above to core tomatoes or strawberries, too. The kitchen shears are comfortable to hold and have a sharp point that’s perfect for snipping twine, or my favorite use, slicing pizza. This set fits into any kitchen. It’s great for beginners, but that doesn’t mean it’s not also a good fit for more experienced cooks. The knives are sharp enough to tackle heavy-duty tasks, and the high-carbon stainless steel is lightweight enough to use for extended periods. The double-riveted handles (available in four colors) are a little on the heavy side, but they work with the lightweight blades to create a nice balance while you use the knife and contribute to an overall sturdiness that we love. Misen also offers 3-piece and 5-piece Essentials sets, so if you already have storage, or are looking for fewer pieces, you can still take advantage of the savings a set affords.

## Mercer Culinary Genesis 6-Piece Forged Knife Block Set, Tempered Glass Block

* Blade material: Carbon steel
* Blade material: Carbon steel Included: 8-inch chef’s knife, 3.5-inch paring knife, 8-inch serrated bread knife, 5-inch utility knife, 6-inch boning knife Storage: Tempered glass block It’s easy to like the Mercer Culinary Genesis 6-piece Forged Knife Block Set with Tempered Glass Block. The set provides the essential knives plus a bonus boning knife, although it’s one of the few that doesn’t include a honing steel or shears. Still, it’s hard to complain, considering you’ll receive five impressively sharp knives that perform as well as sets three times the price. In addition to the sharp blades, each knife has a great balance and we love the grip of the handles. The serrated knife is one of our favorites in the group. Mercer is a major supplier of culinary school knife kits. Because of its performance and low price, it’s easy to see why we chose this set as our Best Value pick.

# The Best Winter Boots For Men of 2022

## Kamik NationPlus Boot

Constructed using water-resistant leather and a seam-sealed, synthetic rubber shell, the Kamik NationPlus is a good-looking boot. Kamik rates these boots to be able to keep your feet warm in temperatures as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit. I also like that their 11.5-inch tall shaft height makes you feel protected and secure without being too rigid. While they’re not waterproof, the NationPlus Boots offer the best water resistance of any of the boots we found. The only negative for the NationPlus Boot is their heft: they weigh roughly 20% more than the next heaviest set of boots we found, the Sorel Caribou 1964 PAC.

## Sorel Men’s 1964 Pac

With their tall, 9.25-inch shaft, vulcanized rubber lower, and a fur cuff designed to keep snow from getting into the top of the boot, the Sorel Caribou 1964 PAC are a wintertime classic. These boots keep a lot of heat during wear, ensuring that your toes will stay warm as you dare the winter chill on the way to work. And when treading on ice, we these boots provide adequate traction. Sadly, they aren’t waterproof: the 1964 PAC begin to leak just two minutes and 39 seconds into wearing them. So, they might offer adequate protection from stepping in an occasional shallow puddle, but the longer you wear these boots in snow or slush, the greater the possibility that your feet will get wet. That said, should your feet get soaked, Sorel makes it easy to get dry and moving again, quickly: The thick felt liners of the 1964 PAC can be removed and swapped out for a dry set. Additional sets of boot liners can be purchased online. You should know that, like our Best Overall pick, the 1964 PAC’s bulk keeps them from being the nimblest of boots. They’re fine for tasks like walking and shoveling. However, wearing them while driving a car or climbing a ton of stairs can be a heavy drag.

# The Best Electric Longboards of 2022

# The Best Cat Litter Mats of 2022

## PetFusion ToughGrip Cat Litter Mat

* Offers a sturdy, tough grip
* Offers a sturdy, tough grip Soft enough for sensitive paws Fully waterproof mat Available in two sizes: 30” x 23” large and 38” x 26” XL Silicone is ideal for use in cat litter mats because it’s antimicrobial, has a tough grip, and is very easy to clean or wipe down. The PetFusion ToughGrip cat litter mat is gray FDA-grade silicone with a raised wave pattern and an outer lip. The pattern should be placed in a portrait orientation from the front of the litter box to trap litter and encourage paw wiping, while the outer lip keeps litter collected within the mat. The ToughGrip cat litter mat does a great job of staying in place on both hardwood and carpet. It’s comfortable to walk on with bare feet, and was met with approval from two of our cats, who mainly ignored it. However, where the ToughGrip really shines is cleanup—at 5.3 pounds, the extra-large litter mat can be a tad heavy to pick up and shake out, but the method does get rid of all the litter easily. The ToughGrip is also a piece of cake to vacuum, wipe down, wash with soap and water. Following the grooves with a handheld car vacuum helps to collect almost all the litter on a single pass. In a waterproof test we conducted, the mat held all its liquid for well over an hour without leaking or spilling. Aesthetically, the mat is a little utilitarian, and we’ve noticed that it’s prone to picking up bits of dust and debris from the floor. But it does exactly what it’s there to do with a minimum amount of hassle or fuss. This mat is a bit higher in price for a cat litter mat. But for the ease of maintenance alone, it’s well worth it, particularly if you have an older cat or one with health issues who regularly misses the box.

## Fresh Kitty Jumbo Foam Litter Mat

* Soft enough for sensitive paws
* Soft enough for sensitive paws Machine washable Generous in size Has a waterproof bottom layer The Fresh Kitty Jumbo Foam mat impressed us with how much litter it collected and how easy it was to clean with soap and water. Not to mention its low price. Made from a memory-foam layer material, it’s soft and pliant when walked on—which is great for cats with sensitive paws. It also captures a surprising amount of litter in its groove pattern, and was easy to shake out. In a lab test, we found that the mat itself stayed waterproof, though the ribbed surface did channel liquid off of the mat, and it took very little wiping and rinsing to clean it in gunky-mess tests. It’s also machine washable, though it needs to be air dried. At 40 by 25 inches, it’s big enough to fit any of the three litter boxes in our real-use tests, and the black and gray pattern looks attractive against the floor.

# The Best Online Learning Platforms of 2022

## Coursera

Coursera is affordable, easy to navigate, and offers about 5,000 classes. It even hosts classes from top colleges like Columbia University, University of Michigan, and University of California, Berkeley. Coursera nabbed our top spot because it offers a great amount of flexibility thanks to its short instructional videos and reading assignments, making it a great option for those with busy schedules. The interface is also user-friendly and easy to navigate, and the coursework structure is laid out in a way that allows you to follow your progress. To help review this platform, Valerie Li Stack, a senior staff writer for kitchen and cooking at Reviewed, signed up for the “Web Design for Everybody: Basics of Web Development & Coding Specialization” course. Here’s a summary of her personal experience: “The class is structured to encourage learning. The coursework structure was clear and allowed me to track my progress. It was nice having a visual track of my strengths and weaknesses at my disposal. The final project is more involved than the small weekly quizzes, which helped me test my real world knowledge on the subject. Each class had videos, reading assignments, and quizzes. I wasn’t ever doing one thing for too long, which is great because I have a short attention span. This course offers a great amount of flexibility for people who can only find a small amount of time each day dedicated to taking an online class. Thanks to the short video sessions and reading assignments, I can complete the course at my own pace as the elements were all within 10 to 15 minutes. Each class is also accompanied by a transcript, which is helpful for people with hearing difficulties. The only drawback is that the course itself is a bit slow. I think when people sign up for the HTML class, they want to understand the basics but they also want to get to coding as quickly as possible. I think the history of the development of HTML is fascinating, which could be interesting for me in additional reading but not in the video part of the class.”

## LinkedIn Learning

LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda Learning) is a great option for those looking to either brush up on or further hone their professional skills. However, it is only accessible for those who pay for a premium membership to LinkedIn—a professional networking platform. LinkedIn Learning offers more than 16,000 courses. You can find a wide range of classes that focus on project management, Photoshop, graphic design, HTML coding, and much more. This platform caters specifically to people interested in business and technology. As for the specific course that was taken, the pacing was just right and the coursework was broken down into 1 to 5 minute sections. To help evaluate this platform, Kate McCarthy, Reviewed’s senior social media manager, took the “Introduction to Graphic Design: Photoshop” class. Here’s what she had to say about it: “For anyone who has basic Photoshop skills and wants to learn how to make their own designs pop, I’d definitely recommend this course from LinkedIn Learning. The instructor goes through the process at just the right pace and the course is structured in a way where you can pause the videos and rewatch multiple times (without having to rewatch a 20 minute long video). Plus, you come out with a finished product. The course was a little over an hour in length and was broken down into three separate chapters (creating the content, building the layout, and wrapping up). Each chapter had anywhere between 5 to 10 sections in it. The individual sections were also labeled with how long it would take. The shortest was less than a minute and the longest was just over 5 minutes. I liked this visual representation because I knew what I was going to get in each chapter and how long each section would take. Since I did this course in pieces, (though I could’ve done it all in one sitting), it was nice to see what was coming up and where a natural place to stop would be. While there’s a lot I liked about this course and learning platform, the instructor mentioned that it’s not a class for Photoshop beginners. I would’ve been able to follow along better if I had more basic Photoshop skills and it would’ve taken me less time fooling around with the settings and just familiarizing myself with it in general. Even though this was explicitly stated at the start of the course, maybe LinkedIn could do a better job with making that apparent in the title.”

## MasterClass

Whether you’re looking to learn more about the art of storytelling or pick up a new musical instrument, MasterClass is a fantastic learning platform for artists and creative thinkers. There’s more than 100 high-quality courses in its catalog and the production value of the instructional videos are high quality. However, the biggest draw to this platform is the celebrity instructor. It offers interesting courses such as voice acting classes from Nancy Cartwright (aka the voice of Bart Simpson), acting lessons from Academy Award winning actress Helen Mirren, writing lessons from Dan Brown, and much more. The only downfall is that it’s not very interactive, so you won’t actually get to talk to the celebrity instructor. To help review this platform, Melissa Rorech, Reviewed’s video producer, took “Margaret Atwood’s Creative Writing” because she wants to become a better writer. Here’s what Rorech shared about her experience: “Overall, I found the course to be interesting and beneficial. Margaret Atwood had a lot of good tidbits of information about writing from her many years of experience. There weren’t any assignments in the video class itself, but there were in the accompanying workbook. Margaret never mentioned the workbook, so I barely looked at it until the end. The accompanying workbook has a lot of good websites and tips for getting started with writing whereas Margaret herself has a lot of functional tips on how to get in the right mindset. Margaret challenges you to think of things in different ways. She suggested imagining scenes from different points of views, narratives, locations, and so on. She talks about where you need to get inspiration from and how you need to write if you want to be a writer. The simplest advice she gave was to sit down and start writing. Most people don’t write until they have an idea for the next great American novel, but that may never come, so you’ve just got to start writing anything. Experiences, short stories, poetry, anything. A fairy tale flipped around. A traumatic memory from another’s perspective. Once you get in the habit of writing, then you can move onto bigger works. As someone who wants to become a better writer and maybe someday write a book, this class was really helpful. It motivated me to start writing outside of work for myself, not for money or anyone else. It’s a lot easier now to sit down and let the words flow because I have the confidence of Margaret Atwood’s advice backing me up.”

# The Best Dishwashers of 2022

## Bosch SHPM88Z75N

* Finishes: Stainless steel
* Finishes: Stainless steel Cycles: Heavy, Auto, Delicate, Normal, Speed 60, Rinse Special features: Stainless steel tub, extra dry option, sanitize option, CrystalDry technology, adjustable upper rack, delayed start The Bosch 800 Series SHPM88Z75N excels at cleaning dishes, and it stands out for its CrystalDry feature, which uses zeolite crystals to completely dry dishes, even plastic containers. The SHPM88Z75N handled every dishwashing test we threw at it, cleaning dishes better than most others. It was nearly perfect during its Heavy cycle. Plus, with a sound rating of 40 dBA, this Bosch is also one of the quietest dishwashers we tested. While the SHPM88Z75N does an amazing job removing some of our more difficult stains, we did find occasional redeposit on dishes. Also, the controls didn’t always respond at the first touch during testing.

## Miele G 5266 SCVi SFP

* Finishes: Stainless steel
* Finishes: Stainless steel Cycles: Normal, Quick, Pots, Rinse Special features: Stainless steel tub, third rack, AutoOpen drying, ExtraClean & ExtraDry, delayed start The Miele G 5266 SCVi SF is an excellent dishwasher, offering great cleaning, sleek design, and functionality. With some high-end models, you pay for a dishwasher’s look and style, not increased cleaning performance. That’s not true with the G 5266. During testing, it delivered nearly spotless dishes with no redeposit. There’s more to the G 5266 than style and cleaning prowess, though. Maxing out at 42 dBA, it’s soft while running. Also, its third rack accommodates normal-sized utensils, as well as larger items, and the upper rack can be adjusted vertically and also tilted at an angle to help with loading and unloading. There’s not a lot to dislike about the G 5266, other than its premium price. If you like its look and have the money to spend, it won’t let you down.

## Beko DUT25401X

* Finishes: Fingerprint-free stainless steel, black, white
* Finishes: Fingerprint-free stainless steel, black, white Cycles: Heavy+, Normal, Quick & Shine, Express, Rinse & Hold Special features: Height adjustable upper rack, stainless steel tub, ProSmart Inverter motor, soil sensor, SilentTech, delayed start The Beko DUT25401X has an incredibly low price tag while still offering excellent, energy-efficient performance. When testing stain removal power, this dishwasher’s heavy cycle performed like a champ, with a near perfect score. The DUT25401X performed slightly above average during its normal cycle and slightly below average during its quick wash. While testing the DUT25401X on those three cycles, it also used less water and was more energy efficient than average. Plates and glasses were completely dry at the end of this dishwasher’s normal cycle, as well. We also love this dishwasher’s upper rack, which features different tines for multiple dishes and offers an angled height adjustment. There are also two height-adjustable shelves/wine racks and a mini third rack, which is attached. There’s not much that we don’t like about this dishwasher, but its control panel is poorly designed, and it takes some effort to make your cycle selections.

# The Best Secured Credit Cards of 2022

## Discover it Secured

Among the best secured credit cards, this one earns the top position on our list because it offers plenty of consumer-friendly features: a path to a security deposit refund, credit-building tools, a solid rewards program, no annual fee, and no late fee when you miss your first payment. How the deposit works: You can make a security deposit of $200 to $2,500. Discover automatically reviews your account every month, starting at eight months, and may refund your security deposit if you’ve shown responsible use. You can also get your deposit back if you pay your balance in full and close the account. Other important features: With this rewards card, you earn 2% cash back at gas stations and restaurants on up to $1,000 in purchases each quarter, and you earn unlimited 1% cash back on all other purchases. Plus, the issuer will match all the cash back you earn in the first year. Discover also provides free access to your FICO credit scores, which can help you understand your overall credit health. Fees and APR: There’s no annual fee, and cardholders get a free pass on their first late payment (thereafter, late payments incur a fee). The card also comes with a low variable APR and charges a balance transfer fee and cash advance fee. Learn more about the Discover it Secured

## Capital One Platinum Secured Credit Card

The Capital One Platinum Secured is our runner-up because you can grow your credit line without putting down extra money—a major win for people who don’t have the cash on hand for a large deposit—and it has no annual fee. How the deposit works: Based on your credit, Capital One will assign you a minimum security deposit: $49, $99, or $200 (or put down more, if you choose). You’ll get a credit line of at least $200 once you pay the initial deposit, which means you may qualify to pay a $49 deposit for a credit line of $200. In as little as six months, Capital One may grant you an even higher amount without requiring an additional deposit.  Capital One may decide to refund your deposit as a statement credit, or you can ask for the deposit back if you close the account in good standing. Other important features: Like many cards for bad credit, this one comes with no rewards program—but if chasing rewards will cause you to spend more, then it’s best to get a card without them. Capital One also has its own credit-tracking program, CreditWise, which is free for everyone (even people without a Capital One card). Fees and APR: The variable APR is on the higher side, but can be avoided if you don’t carry a balance. There’s also a cash advance fee and late payment fee, but no annual fee. Learn more about the Capital One Platinum Secured

# The Best Cordless Leaf Blowers of 2022

## Ego Power+ LB7654

Power: If you need a cordless blower to access the back corners of your yard, the high-powered Ego Power+ LB7654 is your best bet. This blower can move 765 cubic feet of air per minute and you can feel that power as soon as you hit the Thrust button. It has an intuitive design with buttons placed where the hand naturally falls. The speed control button has a tab that makes one-handed operation easy. Most of our tests were conducted on the low setting, as it has plenty of power to accomplish a variety of yard jobs. The Thrust power button proved most effective at clearing out large, embedded piles of leaves, but that same power can also eliminate most of your mulch if you’re not careful. It’s all the power you need to take care of a large yard. Comfort: With the battery attached, the Ego LB7654 is well balanced. The motor is located in the middle of the blower and is well protected from pant legs and windbreakers. The design is streamlined and well thought out. The only drawback to its design is the size of the battery. With the battery attached, the blower weighs in at a hefty 9.6 pounds. There are hooks on the blower for a shoulder strap, but no straps were included. Carrying this blower around the yard could become a chore in itself. Noise: The Ego registered 86 decibels on the lowest setting, so it is at the upper range of noise levels for a yard tool. This machine is perfect for larger yards where there is more room between homes. Battery: At 30 minutes, the Ego LB7654 had the best run-time of the cordless blowers we tested.

## Kobalt KHB 3040-06

Power: Formerly our top cordless pick, the Kobalt KHB 3040-06 moves leaves and debris more quickly than most other cordless blowers in our testing, blowing out an estimated 480 CFM. It also has a variable-speed trigger and a Turbo button for increasing power to dislodge stubborn wet leaves. And at a fraction of the price as our Best Overall pick, it’s a great budget buy, as well. Comfort: The Kobalt KHB 3040-06 also feels well-balanced and easy to carry, unlike other cordless models which are back-heavy due to battery weight. Noise: Close up, it sounds like a household vacuum, not a gigantic grinding machine, although it isn’t quiet. Kobalt representatives say it has a noise rating of under 65 decibels at 50 feet, which means it meets most leaf blower noise laws. Of course, it’s much noisier for the person operating it, so wear ear protection to prevent hearing loss. Battery: The one drawback to the Kobalt KHB 3040-06 is its relatively short running time. With the blower set on minimum power, the Kobalt ran for 16 minutes, 30 seconds on its lowest setting. If you’re thinking of running your blower continuously for a longer span, consider buying an extra battery.

# The Best Artificial Christmas Trees of 2022

## Twinkly App-Controlled 7.5’ Fir Tree (TWT400SPP-BUS)

Of all the artificial trees we’ve tested, the Twinkly Christmas tree is the best artificial Christmas tree we’ve come across for several reasons. It looks and feels realistic, with sturdy branches and thick plastic Fir tree needles made from PE and PVC materials. The tree, which comes in three sections, is ready for decorating almost right out of the box (very minimal fluffing required). However, one of our favorite things about this pre-lit tree is that it can be controlled via the Twinkly app where you can create custom lighting scenes and displays for a truly unique Christmas tree experience. In the app, you can choose from preset color schemes and create your own patterns, as well as choose from a rainbow wheel of colors and shades of whites to finally settle that longstanding household debate of white versus multi color tree lights. With an app-controlled tree, you also have the added benefit of remote management features like creating on/off schedules and controlling light brightness. And, for any smart home aficionados out there, this tree is also compatible with voice assistants Alexa and Google Assistant. (A Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connection is required to pair the tree with the app.) The Twinkly tree we tested stands 7.5-feet tall but it is also available in 5- and 6-foot sizes. Included with the tree is a dark green metal stand that can easily be covered with a standard tree skirt, but a tree storage back is not. The Twinkly tree is covered in 400 LED lights that look a bit different from the bulbs you’ll find on traditional strands of tree lights, with a flat head instead of a candle-esqe top. The power cord is long enough that you shouldn’t need to use an extension cord. If you’re looking for an artificial tree that’s ready to go out of the box, the Twinkly tree is the one you want. From its authentic look and feel to ease of use with pre-lit, app-controlled lights, the Twinkly artificial tree is one the whole family can get behind.

## Best Choice Products Pre-Lit Spruce, 7.5’

Artificial Christmas trees can be costly, with some running up well over a grand. If your budget can’t accommodate that kind of hit, you can still get a good-looking one for less. PE trees, like the most highly rated on our list, cost more than PVC (polyvinyl chloride), because they are more realistic looking (especially up close), more durable, and last longer. This said, once decorated and lit, all the trees we tested look fairly magical. Best Choice Products Pre-Lit Spruce offers great value for the price. Our initial disappointment in how it looked straight out of the box, coupled with the papery feel of its PVC needles, changed to a happy surprise by the time we had fluffed all the branches. It struck a nice balance between full branches and a restrained silhouette that fits nicely into the corner of a room. Set up is straightforward, and while connecting the lights between the tree’s three sections is required, the process went smoothly and the entire tree lit up at once. Decorated and illuminated, this tree could pass as real.

## National Tree Company Downswept Douglas Green Fir, 7.5’

This is a realistic, mostly PE tree, and, with a maximum width of almost 5 feet across, it is generously proportioned. Set up and break down are easy, but the fact that it weighs 50 pounds should be considered. We had a little trouble separating the top two sections during disassembly. (After the fact, we noted that this optional tip was given in the instructions: Lubricating middle section pole ends prior to assembly will make sections easier to separate when disassembling to store). In appearance, the Downswept Douglas Green Fir is quite lovely. It boasts National Tree Company’s “Feel Real” technology that produces branch tips that are molded from actual branches and give the tree its lush look. There is also ample decorating space, thanks to nearly 2,000 crush-resistant branch tips.

## Best Choice Products Pre-Lit Snow Flocked Artificial Pine Christmas Tree w/ Warm White Lights (7.5’)

A flocked artificial Christmas tree like the Best Choice Products Pre-Lit Snow Flocked Artificial Tree can create a cozy winter wonderland right in your living room. The snow-covered branches, covered in 550 warm white lights, are soft to the touch and easy to fluff. On the downside, this tree is a mess, flaking off fake snow all throughout the fluffing process. Additionally, adding to the mess is the fact that the tree requires ample fluffing—up to two hours of your time. We enlisted some special elves to help us fluff this tree faster, but it still took three of us almost an hour. Be prepared for the tree to shed any time you touch it, including when hanging ornaments, so homes with curious pets and small children may want to steer clear of this option and check out our No. 1 pick. The branches are bendable but are fairly forgiving, so avoid hanging heavy ornaments on this tree. This is a stunning flocked tree that you’ll want to “set and forget,” allowing you to admire its wintery beauty from a distance without all the mess.

# The Best Tofu Presses of 2022

## Noya Adjustable Tofu Press

* Material: BPA-free plastic
* Material: BPA-free plastic Dimensions: 7.48 x 5.11 x 6.49 inches Weight: 1.79 pounds Dishwasher-safe? Yes This vibrant, BPA-free press produced some of the firmest tofu during testing, and it includes handy features that made my pressing experience as seamless as possible. Once the tofu is placed in the removable drip tray, simply twist the silicone dial to your desired setting (the inch and centimeter measurements will help guide you to your perfect block), and wait. The excess water drips mess-free into the bottom of the container, and there’s a built-in pour spout at the top to make draining extra easy. Once it’s ready, removing the tofu is also a cinch, thanks to the handles on the removable drip tray (which I found can also double as a cutting surface). No more plopping tofu blocks with lingering water onto your countertop, hoping they don’t break in the process. This press also comes with a marinating lid, so it can double as tupperware while your tofu soaks in your favorite sauce. When I tested this press, I found that it was able to produce firm, dry tofu in just 15 minutes with no cracks. It was also a breeze to clean, since I was able to toss all the parts right in the dishwasher (including the spring, which is made of rust-resistant stainless steel). And aside from helpful instructions, the Noya press also comes with a cheesecloth, which can substitute paper towels for additional drying and other tasks like DIY cheesemaking. If you’re looking for a clever, easy-to-use press, this is a fantastic choice.

## TofuXpress TX1 Gourmet Food Press

* Material: Food-grade thermoplastic & stainless steel
* Material: Food-grade thermoplastic & stainless steel Dimensions: 5 x 5 x 5 inches Weight: 1.05 pounds Dishwasher-safe? Yes You might be wondering why any tofu press should cost $50—especially when the structure and features are pretty straightforward. But hear us out: For those interested in investing in long-lasting, deeply effective kitchen tools, the TofuXpress is worth it. When I tested it, I found that it resulted in some seriously firm tofu after just 15 minutes. Plus, its easy-to-use structure and accompanying guidebook made it a great choice for tofu newbies and longtime lovers alike. It’s also made from FDA-approved thermoplastic and stainless steel, so it’s built to last and easy to clean. This press only has one press setting, but set-up is minimal and it doesn’t require continuous tightening. So once you lock in the springed lid, you can leave it in the fridge for as long (or little) as you’d like. It’s also unique in that the excess water collects at the top of the container, rather than the bottom; once you’re ready to remove it, just tilt the press over the sink to drain all the water out. The container’s base also doubles as a lid that’s helpful for storing marinated tofu in the fridge. I was only hands-on with this tofu press for a short time, but I was encouraged by several Amazon reviewers who claimed that this product has lasted them years—sometimes close to a decade—without breaking.

# The Best Kids’ Halloween Costumes of 2022

# The Best Car Seats of 2022

## Uppababy Mesa V2

* Car seat weight: 9.9 pounds
* Car seat weight: 9.9 pounds Weight limit: 35 pounds The UppaBaby Mesa V2 hit all the marks of a quality, easy-to-use car seat. Our baby tester loved this seat, snuggling right in and falling asleep almost immediately every time we used it. The harness is comfortable both for an infant (with the infant insert installed) or an older baby, which wasn’t the case for all the seats we tested. It’s also easy to tighten or loosen the harness as needed, with just a push of a button. The Mesa V2 weighs a little under 10 pounds, putting it on the lighter end of all the car seats on the market. It was thin enough to fit well into the backseat of our Honda CRV, and its strap-based system made it easy to install. Some car seats require a kickstand, but the Mesa uses a belt that autoretracts as soon as you latch it in, securing the seat into the car. The Mesa comes with a base but if you ever find yourself without one, you can also use the “European routing system” to thread a seatbelt through the back, which keeps the car seat secure. To remove the car seat from the base, you only need to grab the handle on the back of the seat; it’s a one-handed release. The only true downside to the UppaBaby Mesa car seat is that you’ll need to buy into the slightly pricier UppaBaby system if you want to attach the car seat to a stroller.

## Chicco KeyFit 35

* Car seat weight: 10 pounds (without base)
* Car seat weight: 10 pounds (without base) Weight limit: 35 pounds We used the older model of this carseat with our son in 2019, and found that the updated version is even more comfortable for tiny humans. The Chicco KeyFit car seat has high safety ratings, and Lily Ray liked this seat as much as the UppaBaby car seat. She took long naps inside, smiled when being strapped in, and didn’t complain as much as she did in other seats even during long road trips. The harness is one of the easiest to loosen or tighten, even when your baby is small, and there’s decent padding around both the harness and straps. The infant insert includes a headrest, which keeps the baby comfortable on bouncy terrain and makes this car seat adaptable even for tiny preemies (which our son was, back in 2019). The KeyFit is easy to install, using the same strap-based system as the Mesa, with clips that snap into any car. Overall, the installation process takes less than a minute, and there’s no kickstand. The car seat itself is about 10 pounds, so it’s substantially heavier than the Mesa, and it’s definitely less attractive. Carrying it around is doable, but annoying. The liner is washable, either by hand or in the washing machine, and we can vouch for the seat’s longevity, as well.

# The Best Gas & Electric Ranges Under $800 of 2022

## Samsung NX58H5600SS

We loved this 5.8 cu ft. 5-burner gas range. It has nicely designed, stainless steel dials that create a super smooth turning experience, and the large digital display panel makes it easy to enter your precise oven temperature. The grates are well designed for easy cleaning, and you can remove the middle grate to place the custom griddle directly over the griddle burner. In addition to aesthetics, the Samsung NX58H5600SS is built to perform. It preheats exceptionally fast and did well on both the baking and roasting tasks. While the burners didn’t heat our cast iron pan as evenly as some of the other ovens, it was quick to boil water. It comes in at a nice budget price for a convection oven, but it looks and performs much more like a high-end range.

# The Best Galaxy Projectors of 2022

# The Best E-Readers of 2022

## Amazon Kindle (11th Gen, 2022)

* Screen size: 6” e-ink display
* Screen size: 6” e-ink display Storage: 8 or 16 GB Waterproofing: None Battery Life: Weeks of battery life File support: AZW, EPUB, HTML, MOBI, PDF, RTF, TXT, Audible audio content The 11th-Generation Amazon Kindle (2022) is the best e-reader, for most people. The 2022 Kindle offers most of the features of the larger, feature-packed Kindle Paperwhite, for around $100—or less if you can find it during one of Amazon’s numerous annual sales. At just 6.2 by 4.3 by 0.32 inches in size and 5.6 ounces, the 2022 Kindle is a compact, lightweight joy to use. It’s small enough to slip into the backpack of a pair of jeans and light enough that I was able to read, one-handed with it, for hours at a time. Amazon has equipped this e-reader with a six-inch, 300 PPI (Pixels Per Inch) display: the same pixel density users of the Kindle Oasis and Kindle Paperwhite enjoy. It’s a serious step up from the last-generation, base-model Kindle’s 167 PPI display. Text is crisp and legible, at any of the numerous font sizes the device supports, making it easy to avoid eyestrain. It’s worth noting that the 2022 Kindle employs four LEDs to light its display. During testing, I found the display was bright enough to be able to read, no matter the lighting conditions. However, the lighting is uneven, especially when placed side-by-side with a Kindle Paperwhite, which uses 17 LEDs to illuminate its touchscreen. No matter whether you prefer to listen to or read a good book, the Amazon Kindle Store remains the best place online to find the content you’re after. The company’s online store offers millions of books, comics, manga, and periodicals. Additionally, Audible, owned by Amazon, ensures that you’ll never be starved for audio content. I tested the 2022 Kindle with 16 GB of storage, which is the option I suggest, for most people. 16GB is enough room to hold thousands of ebooks or, dozens of ebooks to listen to via a pair of Bluetooth earphones. No matter what media you use the 2022 Kindle to consume, you’ll find the device’s various settings, your library of content, and the e-reader’s portal to the Kindle Store easy to navigate. Menus, options, and most importantly, page turns are all incredibly responsive to the touch. During the two weeks that I tested this e-reader, I noticed no lag. However, it’s not perfect. If you want a waterproof device for a little poolside reading, look elsewhere. The Kindle Paperwhite and Kobo’s Libra H2O are both great options. I was also disappointed that the 2022 Kindle’s screen lighting can’t change color to help you get as far away from blue spectrum light as possible. However, this was no doubt omitted as a way of keeping the device’s cost low. It’s hard to be angry at that sort of thing.

## Kobo Libra 2

* Screen size: 7” e-ink display
* Screen size: 7” e-ink display Storage: 32GB Waterproofing: IPX8 Battery Life: Weeks of battery life File support: 15 file formats supported natively (EPUB, EPUB3, FlePub, PDF, MOBI, JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP, TIFF, TXT, HTML, RTF, CBZ, CBR) The Kobo Libra 2 is waterproof, with an IPX8 rating that allows it to be submerged in 6.56 feet of water for up to 60 minutes at a time. Given its 7.01 x 7.64 x 1.18 inches-inch dimensions and 7.58-ounce weight, I was surprised by the strength of its build quality. Its seven-inch, 300-PPI (Pixels Per Inch) display and even front lighting with adjustable color temperature controls, make the H20 easy on the eyes. Its readability is enhanced by a large selection of fonts, font sizes, and weights. Its physical buttons and touch interface make for easy navigation. A built-in accelerometer detects when you change the device’s orientation and adjusts the H20’s display accordingly. This makes using the e-reader with your left or right hand a pleasure. The Kobo bookstore features over three million titles and offers an all-you-can-read monthly subscription service. Additionally, the H20’s OverDrive functionality makes it possible to borrow digital books and periodicals from your local library. Finally, there’s Pocket: a free-to-use read-it-later service that allows you to send articles and long-form content to peruse later. Click the extension and the content will be synced to your Kobo device in an e-reader-friendly format. With so much to offer booklovers, you’d want to believe that this device would be neck-and-neck with any e-reader that Amazon has to offer. Unfortunately, this isn’t the case. As with all of Kobo’s recent offerings, the Libra 2’s excellent hardware and onboard services are taken out at the knees by its user interface. While Amazon has continued to improve user experience, Kobo’s UI remains a tough nut to crack. Important features, such as the ability to access Pocket content or to invert the display for nighttime reading, are hidden away and not immediately easy to find.

## Amazon Kindle Paperwhite (11th Generation)

* Screen size: 6.8” e-ink display
* Screen size: 6.8” e-ink display Storage: 8GB (32GB for the pricier Signature Edition) Waterproofing: IPX8 Battery Life: Weeks of battery life File support: Kindle Format 8 (AZW3), Kindle (AZW), TXT, PDF, unprotected MOBI, PRC natively; HTML DOC, DOCX, JPEG, GIF, PNG, PMP through conversion; Audible audio format (AAX) The 2021 (11th generation) Kindle Paperwhite is slightly larger and about an ounce heavier than its predecessor. However, it’s still light enough to hold with one hand, for a good, long reading session. Thanks to its larger dimensions and thinner screen bezels, the 2021 Paperwhite is able to accommodate a 6.8-inch E Ink display: a significant upgrade over the six-inch display that had been the signature of the product line since 2012. Text and grayscale images appear crisp, thanks to the new display’s 300 dots per inch resolution and consistent side lighting, made possible by 17 strategically-placed LEDs. For the first time, Paperwhite readers have the ability to change the color temperature of the device’s lighting which can help reduce eye strain (in my experience) and help to diminish the amount of blue light that you’re exposed to. All of this extra display real estate and lighting are backed up by a faster processor than the last version. Charging has gotten faster, too, thanks to Amazon’s sunsetting of Micro USB in favor of a USB-C charging port. What hasn’t changed is that 2021 Paperwhite owners still have access to Amazon’s unrivaled collection of e-books, comics, newspapers, and periodicals as well as Audible audiobooks and podcasts. Additionally, it’s still tough enough to survive the casual abuse of being knocked around in a book bag and other similar misadventures. And, as with the 2018 edition Paperwhite, the latest iteration has been awarded an IPX8 rating. This means that it will continue to function, even if it’s left in close to seven feet of freshwater, for up to an hour. At the time this review was written, Amazon offered two different versions of the 2021 Kindle Paperwhite. The premium version of the device called the Kindle Paperwhite Signature Edition (available at Amazon), comes with 32GB of internal storage, a light sensor to automatically change the device’s display brightness to match exterior lighting conditions, and 10-Watt wireless Qi charging. The entry-level Paperwhite comes packing 8GB or 16GB of storage and forgoes the Signature Edition’s light sensor and Qi charging capabilities. If you have your heart set on a Paperwhite, It’s my opinion that most people should invest in the entry-level model. While 8GB or 16GB isn’t a lot of storage if you’re using a laptop full of software, it’s more than enough space to store thousands of e-books. Additionally, for a device that can go for weeks between charges, wireless charging isn’t so much a convenience as it is an absurdity. Charging your Kindle’s battery via USB-C is faster and far more efficient.

# The Best Karaoke Machines of 2022

# The Best Cast Iron Griddles of 2022

# The Best External Hard Drives of 2022

# The Best Christmas Tree Stands of 2022

## Jack-Post 7304 Welded Steel Tree Stand

Right out of the box, our top pick feels like a perfect Christmas tree stand. The heavy-duty welded steel construction, which requires no assembly whatsoever, is rugged and durable, able to easily support an 8-foot tree. While it’s far easier to install a Christmas tree with two people, I was able to do it by myself without much difficulty. The triple spike at the bottom of the bowl holds the base of the tree trunk, while the four threaded eye bolts keep it secure and tip-free in every direction. During the knock-over testing, the tree hardly moved at all in the stand. And, the plastic feet protect your floors from any damage if the stand does move at all. Maintenance is equally simple with the Jack Post Christmas tree stand. The watering bowl extends out several inches from the tree ring, so there is plenty of room to fit a regular pitcher in. With a 1.7-gallon capacity, the stand should hold enough water for a couple of days, though you should check the water level daily. Removing the tree was even easier than installing it. Overall, I can’t imagine a better design for a Christmas tree stand.

## Jack-Post Oasis 519-ST Tree Stand

If you’re looking for a basic, straightforward Christmas tree stand, consider the Oasis. Made of heavy-duty plastic, it has five threaded eye bolts and nuts to secure the tree. The base is medium-width at 19-inches, and is rated for up to an 8-foot tree. In our knock-over tests, the stand did wobble some, but never came close to actually falling over. Just be careful before you install it each year—ensure that the plastic hasn’t cracked so that the water doesn’t leak all over your floor and presents. One challenge with installing this tree stand are the nuts. They screw off the ends of the eye bolts easily, particularly when they’ve already grabbed the tree. If you need to adjust the positioning of the tree, don’t drop the nut when backing off any of the bolts. This problem could be easily solved with some removable LocTite before putting the tree in. All in all, this is a decent quality stand that should last you several years. If you’re getting less than an 8-foot tree, it’s a hard value to pass up.

# The Best Dishwashers That Dry Your Dishes of 2022

## Bosch SHPM88Z75N

When it comes to drying dishes, Bosch has the market cornered, thanks to its trademark CrystalDry technology, which uses zeolite crystals to completely dry all of your dishes, and does so efficiently. This major selling point of the SHPM88Z75N—and the one you care about if you’re reading this guide—guarantees that even the plastic food storage containers, which always seem to need a couple of passes with a dish towel before you can put them away, will be entirely dry. Overall, the SHPM88Z75N is everything we’ve come to expect from the Bosch dishwasher brand—quiet, efficient, and stylish. This dishwasher does an amazing job removing some difficult stains, like burnt-on cheese and spinach. However, as is the case with most dishwashers, the spinach that got blasted off of our test dishes was occasionally redeposited onto other dishes.

# The Best Kids’ Face Masks of 2022

## Happy Masks Pro Series

If you’re looking for a comfortable, protective mask that kids won’t complain about wearing, the Happy Masks Pro Series are the way to go. These are some of the most breathable masks on the market and they claim to be some of the most protective. Designed by a retired chief scientist with a doctoral degree in filtration, these masks incorporate a nanofiber membrane filter that has been pharmaceutically tested. Happy Masks guarantees that these masks will block over 99.9% of airborne bacteria, pollution, and virus nanoparticles, making them the safest reusable mask we’ve found. Lightweight and breathable, they come with adjustable ear straps and a nose wire, and their innovative 3-D design allows for air circulation when breathing. According to Happy Masks, they will last for 50 washes, if cared for according to instructions, which makes them one of the most long-lasting reusable masks as well. You get a lot of bang for your buck with these masks. There are some downsides to Happy Masks, however. First is that they have to be washed by hand—putting them through a laundry cycle renders the built-in filter ineffective—which means that you’ll need to order quite a few of these if you wash them after every use. They also begin to show stains after a while so you’ll want to retire them. All that taken into account, they’re still the favorite. If you want a long-lasting reusable mask with excellent protection, or if your child complains about a mask feeling constricting or being hard to breathe in, Happy Masks are the answer to all of your prayers.

# The Best Digital Microscopes of 2022

# The Best Cast Iron Cookware of 2022

# The Best Camping Stoves of 2022

# The Best Refrigerators of 2022

## Bosch B36FD50SNS

* Dimensions: 70” x 35.63” x 32.13” (H x W x D)
* Dimensions: 70” x 35.63” x 32.13” (H x W x D) Measured usable space: 12.71-cubic-foot refrigerator, 4.92-cubic-foot freezer Style: French door Dispensers: Through-the-door ice and water Finish: Stainless steel The Bosch B36FD50SNS is nearly perfect. Temperatures in both the fridge and freezer are exactly where they should be and don’t waver. Its fridge and freezer offer more storage than most other French doors. Its crispers hang on to humidity. It has a through-the-door water and ice dispenser. It also features a sleek, stainless steel finish. In fact, the only point we can find to critique is that its spill-capture shelves only have lips in the front, not sides or back. While this fridge costs more than the average French-door fridge, between its excellent performance, features, and Bosch’s excellent warranty, we think it’s worth its purchase price.

# The Best Air Purifiers of 2022

## Blueair DustMagnet 5410i

* Area coverage: 356 square feet
* Area coverage: 356 square feet Dimensions: 26 x 11 x 11 inches Color options: Matte white plastic, gray fabric Maximum noise level: 49 decibels The Blueair DustMagnet 5410i is the best all-around air purifier we’ve tested. In lab testing, it cut through particle pollution at an impressive rate. It also combined excellent performance with a thoughtful design. It’s not just an air purifier but also a handy end-table. Given the exceptional particle removal, the DustMagnet is an ideal choice if you’re concerned about smoke particles, pollen, pet dander, or airborne dust. Even at its highest fan setting, the DustMagnet is one of the quietest air purifiers we’ve tested, and in sleep mode, it’s whisper quiet. Swapping out your bedside table for this air purifier won’t disturb your sleep. The smart features that monitor air quality and filter life and integrate with Alexa and Google Home are another plus. App installation wasn’t the smoothest, but overall the air purifier was a snap to set up and use. Chemical absorption was the only area where the DustMagnet fell a little short, with lower than average performance at removing VOCs. The DustMagnet uses a HEPASilent filter. This isn’t quite the same as a HEPA filter, meaning it hasn’t been rated in the same way for the efficiency of small particle filtering. HEPASilent refers to the low noise levels we measured. The filter is less dense than most HEPA filters, so it doesn’t need a noisy, powerful fan to create air flow. Despite the lower density filter, the DustMagnet uses an ingenious workaround to compensate. An electrostatic filter clumps particles together, making them easier to trap with the HEPASilent filter.

## Winix 5500-2

* Area coverage: 360 square feet
* Area coverage: 360 square feet Dimensions: 15 x 8 x 24 inches Color options: Black Maximum noise level: 57 decibels The Winix 5500-2 is our best value performer, scoring well for particle and chemical removal, ease of use, and low filter replacement costs. The impressive all round performance comes from a combination of filters. A washable pre-filter protects the other filters from large items like pet hair, and a true HEPA filter captures microscopic particles. A carbon filter absorbs chemical pollutants, like VOCs from paint and cleaning products, and is washable to extend its life. Finally, the Plasmawave stage produces reactive ions that break down more chemicals. We love the automatic features: An air sensor adjusts performance to match the air quality. Also, a light sensor which dims the controls and turns down the fan for sleep mode after dark. The washable filter stages and relatively long filter life keep filter costs low. Get the Winix 5500-2 filter replacement

## LG PuriCare AeroTower U9CV1C

* Area coverage: 818 square feet
* Area coverage: 818 square feet Dimensions: 44 x 11 x 11 inches Color options: Silver, beige Maximum noise level: 50 decibels The LG PuriCare AeroTower is a HEPA rated air purifier for large spaces. It performed well for both particle and chemical filtering in our lab tests. The flexible functions, automated controls, and smart features placed it near the top of our rankings. Unlike most air purifiers, the Aerotower is a tall, tapering, column. In fact, it resembles a skyscraper near LG’s head office. Although the appearance may not suit all tastes, that extra height has a function. Air purifiers rely on unobstructed airflow to work at their best. The top two-thirds of the tower is a ductless fan with adjustable rotation, flow rate, and flow patterns. This creates excellent air circulation. The AeroTower’s design means that you’re getting two products in one, a ductless room fan, and an air purifier. It also one of the largest square footage ratings we’ve tested, so if you like the looks and have lots of space, go for this elegant LG. Get the LG PuriCare Aerotower filter replacement

## Coway Airmega Icon

* Area coverage: 649 square feet
* Area coverage: 649 square feet Dimensions: 21 x 9 x 22 inches Color options: Beige Maximum noise level: 50 decibels The Coway Airmega Icon may be the best looking air purifier we’ve tested. Admittedly, that’s a low bar, but with the legs and fabric treatment, this is as stylish as air purifiers get. It looks more like a mid-century end table than a typical air purifier. Appearance doesn’t mean much if the air purifier doesn’t perform well. In lab tests the Icon was a solid all round performer for both particle and chemical filtering. The Icon also has sophisticated air quality and light sensing so it runs in a quiet, low energy mode at night or if the air quality is good. It will even charge your phone. The extensive area coverage makes this a good choice for large rooms or open plan homes. Cleaning the fabric cover is a potential downside, but if you want something more stylish and energy efficient than the average air purifier, the Icon is a sound choice. Get the Coway Airmega Icon filter replacement

## Medify MA-50

* Area coverage: 1,100 square feet
* Area coverage: 1,100 square feet Dimensions: 8 x 8 x 21 inches Color options: Black, white, silver Maximum noise level: 56 decibels The Medify MA-50 is a powerful air purifier with true HEPA filtration. Its efficient design, with a central fan pulling air through filters on all four sides, maximizes its filtering capacity. The Medify’s filters are rated HEPA 13, a high-efficiency type often used in medical facilities. The HEPA filters can remove the aerosols that spread SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID. High-quality filters are expensive, so the annual filter replacement costs are high. Also, the better the filter, the more it blocks airflow. This means that the fans need to be powerful to pull air through the filter, meaning an intrusive noise level at higher settings. The MA-50 is designed for large rooms, so it is better suited to an open plan home or office. Fortunately, Medify also has a range of air purifiers with the same HEPA filtration rating, but for small spaces. These are the Medify MA-40, MA-25, and MA14. We didn’t test the smaller units directly, but their similar filter design should give equivalent high performance. Get the Medify MA-50 filter replacement

# The Best Humidifiers of 2022

## Levoit Classic 300S

* Type: Cool mist humidifier
* Type: Cool mist humidifier Water tank capacity: 1.59 gallons Dimensions: 9.6 x 7.5 x 13.4 inches The Levoit Classic 300S lived up to its reputation with an easy-to-use experience, quiet operation, and high-power humidity. Its reservoir holds about two gallons of water. During our three-hour test run, it used about 2.5 pints of water. This rate translates to 16 hours of continuous running at full steam. In addition to its staying power, the 300S brings the humidity. On average, it raised the humidity by 29 percent—the second-highest score of all the humidifiers we tested. The 300S was almost whisper-quiet. People who run a humidifier while they sleep will also like the relatively dim display and lack of superfluous lights. The Levoit Classic 300S has plenty of usability perks, as well. It has a no-spill fill system that you fill from the top, a huge boon if you plan on constantly running your humidifier. Best of all, the 300S is a smart humidifier. From the free app, you can start, stop, and create schedules from your phone. You can even command this model with your voice via your Amazon Alexa or Google Home. Overall, we think the Levoit Classic 300S is the best humidifier for most people. It’s quiet and small enough to go on a bedside table without disturbing you. Yet, the test results show that it can easily humidify a large room. Whatever your needs, we think this humidifier can accommodate them.

## Honeywell Designer Series HUL430

* Type: Cool mist humidifier
* Type: Cool mist humidifier Water tank capacity: 1.25 gallons Dimensions: 8.8 x 8.8 x 13.2 inches The Honeywell HUL430 is the sports car of the humidifier world—it has a handsome design and high output. But like a sports car, the HUL430’s output means it’s short on endurance. We weighed the HUL430 before and after testing and calculated that this humidifier can run for 14 hours on the highest setting. You’ll get a lot of mist for that water consumption. In our testing chamber, this Honeywell raised the humidity 28 percent over a three-hour period. Honeywell has also put a lot of thought into the usability of the HUL430. The tank was easy to remove and fill, with a handle built into the top. It also comes with a well-received nightlight. Overall, if you’re looking for an attractive and powerful piece of humidifying machinery, look no further than the Honeywell HUL430.

## Vornado EV100

* Type: Evaporator humidifier
* Type: Evaporator humidifier Water tank capacity: 1 gallon Dimensions: 8 x 12.96 x 12.23 inches Vornado is probably more famous for making fans, but the company also produces a mean humidifier. Efficiency is the word of the day when it comes to the EV100. During testing, it used only 0.7 pints over three hours. We did the math, and that means this humidifier can run for over 32 hours on its max setting. However, we did have some gripes with this unit. Evaporative models have two drawbacks. First, evaporative humidifiers rely on a fan to work, which is great if you like white noise, but annoying if you crave silence. Second, evaporative humidifiers don’t produce any visible mist. Our sensors did show that the EV100 raised the humidity in the room by 19 percent, but some of our testers did not find it as pleasing as the ultrasonic humidifiers or warm misters. If you need to humidify a room constantly, for whatever reason, the Vornado EV100 is worth checking out.

# The Best Christmas Lights of 2022

# The Best Nonstick Pans of 2022

## OXO Non-Stick Pro 10-inch Open Frypan

We were pleasantly surprised when one of the least expensive pans we tested also received the highest scores. OXO’s attention to detail rarely disappoints, and this 10-inch Non-Stick Pro Open Fry Pan was a winner from the beginning. The long metal handle was smooth with an ergonomic design that was comfortable to hold and balance, and it stays cool during use. The OXO aced all our tests. Fried eggs moved freely around in the pan without any cooking oil, and the angle of its edges made it effortless to flip over-easy eggs with the flick of a wrist. The omelet we made didn’t stick or leave any residue in the pan, and we ended up with a dish we’d be proud to serve at a restaurant. The product heated quickly, and when we added room-temperature water to the heated pan, it recovered its original temperature within one minute. That heat recovery was further evidenced by our pancake test, creating a light and fluffy pancake that had even browning on both sides. We had no problems naming this 3-layer PTFE, heavy-gauge anodized aluminum pan our choice for Best Overall. In fact, I ordered a set of 8- and 10-inch pans for my home kitchen right after testing it! The only flaw we could find is that it’s not induction-capable.

## GreenPan Valencia Pro Ceramic Nonstick 11” Fry Pan

When it comes to ceramic nonstick skillets, there are a lot of beautiful options on the market, but we prefer function over aesthetics. That’s not to say the GreenPan Valencia Pro 11-inch Ceramic Nonstick Fry Pan doesn’t look good—it does—that’s just not its priority. In regular, everyday use it performs as well as its PTFE counterparts even if it doesn’t have quite the same eye-catching appeal as its ceramic competitors. Fried eggs cook without sticking and scrambled eggs leave no trace. Sauces reduce perfectly and quesadillas brown beautifully. In addition to its superior nonstick qualities, this pan browns meat exceptionally well and creates a true fond (the browning on the pan where all the flavor is) while still deglazing and cleaning up with little effort. The GreenPan Valencia Pro is lightweight and easy to maneuver, allowing us to flip a few eggs at one time with the flick of the wrist. It also heats evenly and retains heat well. It’s oven and broiler-safe up to 600°F and works with induction cooktops. This skillet also comes as part of an 11-piece set, which includes all the pots, pans, and skillets you need to cook and entertain with ease.

## All-Clad 4110 NS R2 10-inch

All-Clad’s USA-made, bonded stainless-steel pans regularly top performance lists. They make our favorite stainless-steel skillet, so we weren’t surprised their nonstick aced our tests. This pan features their renowned all-clad stainless-steel bottom with three layers of PFOA-free nonstick coating. Although we recommend hand-washing nonstick pans, it is dishwasher-safe and oven-safe to up to 500 degrees Fahrenheit. The induction-compatible All-Clad earned top marks on all our tests. Omelets slid easily on the surface, and pancakes turned out light and fluffy. Of all the pans in our test group, the All-Clad was the quickest to warm up and provided the most even heating, browning both sides of the pancake nicely. It was one of the heaviest pans we tested, but the straight handle design balanced the weight well. While it was slightly too hefty to flip eggs, the nonstick coating still performed. The eggs released easily, and we could flip them with the flick of a spatula, even without cooking oil. Our only significant complaint is the lofty price tag. All-Clad backs their cookware with a limited lifetime guarantee, but they don’t cover normal wear and tear. Several Amazon reviewers note that the warranty doesn’t cover scratches to the nonstick surface, so you’ll want to take very good care of this expensive pan to avoid longevity issues.

# The Best Incontinence Underwear of 2022

## Thinx Speax Hiphugger

Thinx Speax incontinence underwear is one of the highest quality pairs we tested and is far from the image you may have of “adult diapers.” The reusable Speax panties are ultra comfortable, thanks to their soft nylon-spandex blend and high quality stitching. We didn’t notice any fading, fraying, or other signs of wear after three wash/dry cycles during testing, and one of our testers who continued using Speax regularly is impressed with how well they’ve held up after nearly six months of occasional use. Not that we’re surprised: They’re from the makers of Thinx, the same company that makes the best period underwear we’ve tested. In addition to its quality construction, the Speax underwear, which we reviewed in the hiphugger style, is also stylish for a garment that’s designed to be utilitarian. The seamless, inconspicuous design eliminates any worries you might have about visible panty lines or unsightly bunching. The various cuts—bikini, high-waist, French cut, thong, and hiphugger—are available in women’s sizes XS to 3X and a number of colors and patterns. Because they can absorb up to 8 teaspoons of fluid, these underpants work well for those dealing with mild incontinence. But if you require a more absorbent pair, read on.

## Always Discreet Maximum Protection Underwear

Those experiencing heavy incontinence will want to try Always’ Discreet, a disposable, single-use, pull-up underwear that’s highly absorbent. We found that the Always Discreet was able to absorb a full cup of water during our tests while leaving little to no dampness on the underlying towel placed to absorb overflow. This result makes them our number one pick for heavy leakage. Unfortunately, a design that’s built to absorb more liquid means a sacrifice or two in other areas, namely style and comfort. According to our testers, these panties, which we tested in the “maximum protection” style, are not so discreet, as they leave a visible panty line and even crinkle slightly when you walk. According to one tester, “They were fine under sundresses, but wearing them to work out under leggings was not cute!” However, our testers were able to forgive these negatives because the underpants earned such high marks for absorbency. And the Always Discreet is one of the most attractive and comfortable single-use panties (for what that’s worth). It still makes you feel like you’re wearing regular underwear, even if each pair is designed to be thrown away after a day of use. The Always Discreet comes in sizes S/M to XXL and in a limited color selection, including white, black, and pale pink. The ones we tested are lightly scented for odor control, and our testers didn’t find the scent overwhelming or unpleasant. A fragrance-free version is also available.

# The Best Camping Cookware of 2022

# The Best Credit Cards of 2022

## Chase Freedom Flex

The Chase Freedom Flex is the latest card from Chase, and it offers a combination of flat cash-back rates and a rotating bonus category, so you can have the best of both worlds. The best news: All of these big-time benefits come at no cost, which is why it’s our best credit card with no annual fee. Points: All year round, cardholders earn 3% cash back on dining, including takeout and delivery orders from eligible services. You’ll also snag 3% on drugstore spending. Even better, travelers can earn 5% cash back when they book hotels, airfare, car rentals, and more through Chase Ultimate Rewards. Additionally, there’s a 5% bonus category that changes each quarter, which Chase usually announces a few weeks in advance. It may focus on specific retailers such as Amazon or Walmart. Or, it might include areas like groceries, wholesalers, or department stores. Just remember to activate the bonus category in order to grab the extra cash back, and take note that there’s a combined cap of $1,500 per quarter. For all of your spending in between, you’ll earn 1%. All in all, not too shabby. Perks: For the first 15 months, take advantage of 0% introductory APR on purchases (after which a variable rate between 17.24% and 25.99% applies). There’s also a few built-in Chase benefits, like cell phone protection, which means if you pay your monthly bill with your card, you’re covered up to $1,000 per year should your device be stolen or damaged. It comes with extended warranty protection and trip cancellation/interruption insurance as well. Learn more about the Chase Freedom Flex

## Citi Double Cash

When it comes to unlimited cash-back credit cards, the standard rate is 1.5%. The Citi Double Cash card beats that at 2%, plus it makes redeeming points a breeze—a nice combination for those of us looking for a no-fuss rewards program. Oh, and there’s no annual fee. Points: You’ll earn unlimited 1% cash back on your purchases when you swipe your card, and another 1% when you make your minimum payment on time. If you regularly pay your bills, this is a 2% cash-back card with no spending caps. You can redeem cash back as ThankYou points to use in Citi’s rewards portal, or once you reach $25, as a statement credit, direct deposit, or check. Perks: Like most no-annual-fee credit cards, there’s not much in the way of extra benefits. At the moment, the Citi Double Cash card includes a balance transfer offer. While there is a balance transfer fee for any transactions you make within the first four months, there is a bit more wiggle room—18 months on balance transfers—to finish your payments. Keep in mind that after the introductory period, the variable APR will increase to 17.74% - 27.74%, based on your creditworthiness. And for a limited time only, Citi is offering $200 cash back after you spend $1,500 on purchases in the first six months of your account opening. Learn more about the Citi Double Cash

## Blue Cash Preferred Card from American Express

These days, with the refrigerator mere feet from your makeshift work-from-home desk at the dining table, who isn’t spending a lot of money on groceries? The Blue Cash Preferred rewards you for your weekly errand, with a generous spending cap for the top rewards rate—a whopping 6%. For this reason, the Blue Cash Preferred is our best card for groceries. There’s a $0 intro annual fee for the first year, then $95 for each subsequent year. While the fee seems high, you can easily make up for it depending on your grocery budget. As always, terms apply. See rates and fees. Points: Each year, cardholders earn an impressive 6% back on up to $6,000 spent at U.S. supermarkets. Budget-wise, that works out to about $115 per week—after that, the rate drops to 1%. Just note that like most credit cards that reward grocery spending, the terms exclude wholesale clubs like BJ’s and Costco as well as superstores such as Target and Walmart—but if that’s where you regularly spend your money, we have some recommendations. Beyond stocking your pantry, the Blue Cash Preferred rewards spending on select U.S. streaming services, with 6% cash back on payments to Apple Music, HBO Max, Netflix, and other platforms that fuel your workout soundtracks and weekend TV marathons. Cardholders also earn 3% on transit spending—think train fare, ride-shares, and parking—and at U.S. gas stations, plus 1% on other eligible purchases. Cardholders can redeem the cash-back as a statement credit. Perks: The Blue Cash Preferred is a solid choice for its introductory APR offer. You can make interest-free purchases and balance transfers for 12 months from the date of opening an account, after which a variable interest rate (17.74% to 28.74%) kicks in. See rates and fees as other terms apply. There is a fee of either $5 or 5% (whichever is greater) for each balance transfer. There’s also a few built-in AmEx perks, including car rental loss and damage protection, return protection, and a Global Assist Hotline while you’re on the road. Learn more about the Blue Cash Preferred

## Discover it Secured

Some of us have made mistakes and face a hard time getting approved for new accounts with bad credit. Or, we’re brand-new to credit altogether, which can lead to the same difficulties. Enter Discover it Secured, one of the rare secured cards that will help you get your credit on track and offers a rewards program. While approved applicants need to put down a deposit equivalent to their credit limit—at least $200 or as much as $2,500—it is refundable. Plus, there’s no annual fee. Points: Each quarter, cardholders earn 2% cash back on up to $1,000 at gas stations and restaurants—a potential annual return of $80 if you max out the spending cap. Everything else earns 1%. Perks: Discover matches the cash-back you earn in the first year. Translation: Rack up $100 in rewards, and they’ll add another $100 on top of that. After eight months, the issuer will review your account every billing cycle to see if you’re eligible to receive your security deposit back and upgrade to an unsecured card. You’ll also have access to your FICO score through the mobile app, your online account, and monthly statements to track your progress as you build your credit. You’ll get a pass on your first late payment, and won’t face a penalty APR. As always, we recommend paying your balance in full and on time every month—subsequent late payments incur a fee up to $40. Learn more about the Discover it Secured

## Capital One Quicksilver Cash Rewards Credit Card

If you have a big purchase on the horizon, the Capital One Quicksilver Cash Rewards Credit Card is a great pick to help you save money. There’s no annual fee on this card, which also comes with a long-term 0% APR introductory period and solid cash back rewards programs. Points: The Capital One Quicksilver awards 1.5% cash back on all your purchases, no matter the vendor or price. So, if you buy a $1,000 item, you’ll receive $15 in points to redeem as a statement credit or check. And, because there’s no cap to the awards limit on your potential rewards, collecting points can pay big dividends in the long run term. Perks: You’ll get a $200 cash bonus after you spend $500 in the first three months—a pretty good reward for simply spending money. Add that to an introductory 0% APR for purchases (and balance transfers) during the first 15 months, and that $1,000 item becomes fifteen $67 dollar monthly payments. There is still a 3% fee on balance transfer amounts transferred within the first 15 months and once the grace period expires, the APR hikes to between 17.99%-27.99% (Variable). Learn more about the Capital One Quicksilver Cash Rewards Credit Card

## American Express® Business Gold Card

With a $295 annual fee, the American Express® Business Gold Card can help you organize expenses and earn rewards for purchases you make to build your business. Keep in mind that terms and restrictions apply. See rates and fees. Points: You’ll earn points on any employee cards you set up, for a number of expenses including travel, computer equipment, shipping, and advertising, which could go a long way in helping you get your business off the ground. Specifically, you’ll get 4x Membership Rewards points on up to $150,000 in combined purchases in two categories where your business spent the most each billing cycle. If your business spends $150,000 on, say, software and online advertising, the primary account will receive 600,000 points to spend in the Membership Rewards portal, or cash out into your bank account. After that, you’ll earn 1 point per dollar spent. Perks: You can earn a welcome offer of 70,000 Membership Rewards points after spending $10,000 within three months of account opening. The card also offers several expense management options. You can set up employee cards with customizable spending limits, transfer data from your American Express online statement directly into your QuickBooks account, and use a mobile app to add receipts and notes to transactions. Learn more about the American Express Business Gold

## Chase Sapphire Preferred

The Chase Sapphire Preferred Card is a solid pick whether you’re big on staycations, plan to sightsee abroad, or love to cruise the seas. The card’s top-tier benefits come with a $95 annual fee, plus there’s a major sign-up bonus for new cardholders. Points: The Sapphire Preferred card earns 2 Ultimate Rewards points per dollar spent on travel, or 5 points when booked through the Chase travel portal. Cardholders also earn 3 Ultimate Reward points for dining at restaurants, on takeout, and with eligible delivery services, and that same rewards rate applies to online grocery orders (except at Target, Walmart, and wholesale clubs). All other purchases bring in 1 Ultimate Reward point per dollar. Points can then be used to book hotels, cruises, car rentals, vacation rentals, and more directly through Chase’s travel portal with a value of 1.25 cents per point ($0.0125). For additional flexibility, points can be transferred—at the same value—to Ultimate Rewards partners, including programs with Hyatt and United Airlines. If you just want the cash back, Ultimate Rewards points can be redeemed for cash at a rate of 1 point for $0.01. So, those 10,000 points could cover a $125 night in a partner hotel, or could put a cool $100 back in your bank account. Perks: The Sapphire Preferred has many great benefits in addition to how flexible the points are, and at the moment Chase offers a sign-up bonus for new cardholders: Spend $4,000 within the first three months of account opening, and you’ll earn 60,000 points. That’s $750 if you book travel through the issuer’s portal. Year-round, it offers primary car rental insurance coverage, so you can avoid paying extra for insurance with the rental company. Primary means that if something happens to your rental car you won’t have to first make a claim with your own insurance policy. For jet-setters out there, it also doesn’t charge foreign transaction fees for any trips you make abroad, which is key to saving up to 3% on your purchases when you travel internationally. Learn more about the Chase Sapphire Preferred

## Chase Sapphire Reserve

If you frequently travel abroad, you’ll save a lot on your trip if you have a credit card that doesn’t charge foreign transaction fees, and the Chase Sapphire Reserve is our top pick for this category. There is a $550 annual fee, however, the $300 annual travel credit, along with a few other perks, can make this card worth the cost. Points: Chase created a proprietary reward system called Ultimate Reward points. The Sapphire Reserve card offers 3 Ultimate Rewards points per dollar spent on all travel and dining purchases after you receive your $300 travel credit, and 1 Ultimate Reward point per dollar spent on everything else. The points can then be used to book hotels, cruises, car rentals, vacation rentals, and tourist activities directly through Chase’s travel portal at a rate of 1.5 cents per point ($0.015). For additional flexibility, points can also be transferred to partners like Hyatt and United Airlines. Or for a rewards boost, travelers can use their card to book excursions through the Chase portal and rack up 10 points per dollar on dining, hotel stays, and car rentals, and 5 points per dollar on flights. It’s also possible to earn 80,000 bonus points if you spend $4,000 on purchases in the first 3 months of opening an account. That translates to $1,200 that can be used towards travel costs when redeemed through the Chase Ultimate Rewards program. Perks: The Chase Sapphire Reserve offers purchase protection (basically, insurance for your purchases) and extended warranty protection (to extend the manufacturer’s warranty for items you purchase) that may come in handy when purchasing kitchen appliances, televisions, and other big-ticket items. It also offers primary car rental insurance coverage up to $75,000 in physical damages or theft, meaning you don’t have to pay extra for the car rental company’s insurance, and if something happens to your rental car, you won’t have to make a claim to your own insurance policy first. You’ll benefit from trip delay coverage, trip cancellation coverage, and lost and damaged baggage coverage. What’s more, the Sapphire Reserve offers a $300 annual travel credit, where the first $300 in travel purchases (from taxi fares to hotels to flights) made on your card each year will be refunded via a statement credit, effectively reducing the annual fee to $250. As you’d expect with a premium travel card, You’ll also receive a TSA PreCheck or Global Entry application fee credit (a $85 or $100 value) every four years, and a Priority Pass Select Membership, giving you access to more than 1,300 airport lounges across the world. Learn more about the Chase Sapphire Reserve

## Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Signature

Facing a global pandemic, a lot of us turned to shopping on the internet. More specifically, we logged into Amazon. The e-commerce giant reported a huge surge in sales in a recent quarterly report as we tracked down toilet paper, hand sanitizer, and just about everything else from the comfort of our homes. If you’re a Prime member who already pays for perks like free two-day shipping, and the site is your go-to for household essentials, groceries, and everything in between, you might want to add the Amazon Prime Rewards card to your wallet. That goes extra if you’re a regular shopper at your nearby Whole Foods. Points: Eligible cardholders earn 5% cash back at Amazon and Whole Foods Market. For groceries, that includes shopping in-person, online orders with the supermarket chain, and even Amazon Fresh. While a slightly lower rate than our best credit card for groceries, this one does not have a spending cap. (One thing to note: Should you cancel your Prime membership, the cash-back percentage will be reduced to 3% for this category.) You’ll also rack up 2% on dining, gas, and drugstore purchases. For other spending, you’ll earn 1%. Perks: Travelers in particular may get some extra benefits out of this card. Take advantage of no foreign transaction fees, travel accident insurance, and reimbursements for delayed or missing luggage. Beyond that, cardholders also benefit from extended warranty protection and an auto rental collision damage waiver. Learn more about the Amazon Prime Rewards card

# The Best Leaf Blowers of 2022

## Worx WG520

Power: This tornado of a leaf blower claims it can move 600 cubic feet of air per minute—the second-highest CFM measurement in our testing—and it’s easy to believe. The Worx WG520 was unmatched in its ability to clear leaves off any surface from a distance, including wet, matted leaves glued to the pavement. If you’re not looking to blow all your potted plants off the porch, though, the Worx has a speed dial to adjust its air blasts from hurricane pounding down to normal leaf-blower levels. For $60, you’re getting an effective, powerful machine. Comfort: At 7.2 pounds, the Worx WG520 is easy to carry. Aesthetically, it looks less like a radioactive “Fortnite” gun than any other blower we tested. Noise: The Worx’s one downfall is that it’s loud for a corded pick, spewing up to 82 decibels at its highest speed. The noise is higher-pitched than landscapers’ gasoline-powered blowers, and less annoying at a distance, but you should still wear ear protection when you use this blower.

## Ego Power+ LB7654

Power: If you need a cordless blower to access the back corners of your yard, the Ego Power+ LB7654 is your best bet. This battery-powered leaf blower can move 765 cubic feet of air per minute and you can feel it as soon as you hit the Thrust button. It has an intuitive design, with buttons placed where the hand naturally falls. The speed control button has a tab that makes one-handed operation easy. Most of our tests were conducted on the low setting, as there is plenty of power to accomplish a variety of yard jobs. The Thrust power button proved most effective at clearing out large, embedded piles of leaves, but that same power can also eliminate most of your mulch if you’re not careful. It’s all the power you need to take care of a large yard. Comfort: With the battery attached, the Ego LB7654 is very well balanced. The motor is located in the middle of the blower, and is well protected from pant legs and windbreakers. The design is streamlined and well thought out. The only drawback to its design is the size of the battery. With the battery attached, the blower weighs in at a hefty 9.6 pounds. There are hooks on the blower for a shoulder strap, but no straps were included. Carrying this blower around the yard could become a chore in itself. Noise: The Ego registered 86 decibels on the lowest setting, so it is at the upper range of noise for a yard tool. This machine is perfect for larger yards where there is more room between homes. Battery: At 30 minutes, the Ego LB7654 had the best run-time of the cordless blowers we tested.

## Sun Joe SBJ597E

Power: Will the Sun Joe SBJ597E clean out a one-acre lot in 10 minutes or dislodge wet, stuck-on leaves? No. But if you’re looking for a small blower that packs a punch for clearing out small areas, the Sun Joe is a great model at a great price. At less than $20, it’s a no-brainer. The Sun Joe puts out 260 CFM of power, and its tube is narrow, so you can clear precise areas fast. Unlike the Worx, which could strip your entire flower bed of vegetation in seconds if someone bumped your elbow, the Sun Joe has only one speed setting for a moderate flow of air. You’d have to work pretty hard to destroy your garden plants. Comfort: Lightweight and compact, the Sun Joe SBJ597E weighs under 4 pounds and can fit in a large shoebox once you remove the blow tube. Noise: The Sun Joe SBJ597E is on the loud side, so wear ear protection when you use it.

# The Best School Backpacks of 2022

## L.L. Bean Deluxe Book Pack

This is a durable, flexible, weatherproof backpack that is reasonably priced. Plus, the website states that if the purchaser is not 100% satisfied with the bag, it can be returned for a full refund within one year of purchase. The extra padded straps and chest harness are adjustable for all body types and take some of the pressure off carrying bulky or heavy items. It feels secure and can be grabbed by the straps or the loop on top. The largest storage area has a secure space for a laptop, and plenty of room for books, a sweatshirt, or other bulky items. The middle section can carry notebooks and thinner items. A small, padded pocket sits inside the middle pocket and has a hole for a charging cord or other delicate items that need to be tucked away for safety. The front of the pack has a zippered pocket for pencils, highlighters, and keys which can be attached to a cord with a clip. The storage areas are well thought out. It’s not easy to lose items and there is plenty of space. Two large water bottle holders make it easy to be well hydrated all day. This is a simple looking bag that comes in nine color choices including black, camp green, navy, red and true teal. It isn’t our first choice as far as style goes, but the durability and storage options make up for what it lacks in appearance. It’s also the only pack we tested with reflective trim—a great addition if your student walks home from the subway or bus stop after dark. A few online reviews mentioned problems with the water bottle holders tearing or the zipper getting stuck, but we didn’t experience that issue during our extensive testing.

## Incase Icon Laptop Backpack

This pack is for someone who considers sturdiness a top priority. It’s the most padded of all the packs we tried and has the sleekest design, so it works for school or the office. The Icon is perfect for adults or older kids carrying a laptop and other heavy materials or items that need a lot of support and who can afford to pay more for a backpack. This backpack is so padded it can stand by itself. The laptop case is super soft and supportive so, of all the packs we tested, I would be least concerned about my student’s laptop being damaged. The straps have extra padding as well so it doesn’t dig into shoulders, although for smaller wearers, the pack might be a bit bulky. The Icon has lots of pockets. Aside from the soft, cushiony laptop section there are two large areas for books, notebooks and other items. The backpack is so deep that if you forget you put something in it, you might not remember until you clean it out. The front most section has quite a few smaller areas for pens, pencils, a phone or keys. There is also a padded, smaller zipper area up top for perhaps your phone, so it doesn’t scratch. One big downside is the lack of a water bottle holder. If you are looking for a stylish, professional looking pack, this is the one for you.

## JanSport Superbreak One

This is the simplest backpack we tested, but simple is sometimes better. The lightweight JanSport was easy to fill and, despite its light weight, it’s durable. It has the least frills and costs the least out of all the bags we tested, yet it’s one of our top picks because of its ease of use and flexibility. It comes with a limited lifetime warranty (which excludes normal wear and tear). We got a lot of positive comments on this bag, and there are many designs to choose from. The JanSport is ideal for anyone who needs a more casual—yet stylish—backpack, including school children or campers. It comes in so many designs and colors you can find a design that will appeal to almost everyone. Even though this bag is thinner and less padded than other packs, it’s more flexible and therefore comfortable, especially for those with smaller frames. It has enough room that you can include a laptop sleeve of your own, which is what we did. The JanSport had the least pockets of all the packs we tested, which contributed to its light weight and ease. You know exactly what you put in it and won’t easily lose items. There is one main pocket and one smaller pocket in the front. This particular model doesn’t come with a water bottle holder, so given how much we liked the product, we would order a different model that comes with a large water bottle holder. We love how easy it is to toss in the wash. This pack is very casual because of its canvas exterior and the multiple fun designs available such as camo, garden tea party, galaxy and a variety of solid colors.

# The Best Induction Ranges of 2022

# The Best Fire Pits of 2022

## Tiki Patio Fire Pit

* Dimensions: 24.75 x 24.75 x 18.75 inches
* Dimensions: 24.75 x 24.75 x 18.75 inches Weight: 45 pounds Fuel Type: Wood The Tiki Patio Firepit had several features that set it apart from the other wood-burning models we tested. For starters, this unit makes a gorgeous centerpiece in any patio or backyard setup. This stainless steel fire pit has a sleek, black powder-coated finish. It’s quite large, too, easily fitting eight people around its exterior and heating approximately three feet away from the unit. We tested the Tiki in two ways: first using the included wood pack filled with pellets and also using the traditional fire starter and kindling method. If you’re looking for a quick-and-easy way to start a fire, the wood pack is the way to go. It lit in five minutes and lasted a full 40 minutes, producing gorgeous flames the entire time. The traditional method took about 15 minutes to get started, but the fire pit was large enough to fit three full-sized logs at once and burned for a full hour before having to add more wood. Both methods produced less smoke than most of the products we tested, although the pellets produced the least amount of smoke. The Tiki was also the easiest wood-burning fire pit to clean. Once the unit cools down, simply remove the center cone and brush the ash into the removable ashtray. Then, pull out the ash pan and discard any ash inside. It’s worth noting that the Tiki was the second heaviest wood-burning model we tested. That doesn’t exactly make it portable (we had to use two people to carry it). The stainless steel isn’t completely rust-resistant, either, so you’ll want to use the included weather-resistant cover after every use.

## Ukiah Tailgater X

* Dimensions: 15.75 x 14.17 x 17.52 inches
* Dimensions: 15.75 x 14.17 x 17.52 inches Weight: 22.6 pounds Fuel Type: Propane The Ukiah Tailgater X immediately stood out because of its cube-shaped design, distinguishing it from the sea of short, round propane fire pits we tested for this guide. From there, its features distinguished it from most of the other models in the test group: a battery-powered ignition so you don’t have to remember a stick lighter, a lightweight construction paired with built-in handles for easy transportation, and adjustable feet to make sure it always stands level. The lava rocks that come with this unit are much smaller than most propane models, but it comes with more than enough of them to create vibrant flames with a beautiful pattern. While the unit isn’t very large, the dial ranges from low to high and produces plenty of heat when set to high. This fire pit also features several bonus features, like a magnetic lid that protects the lava rocks from the elements when not in use. The propane hook-up is also hidden around the back, so it’s not visible when you’re sitting in front of the fire pit. We also appreciated that this model uses a quick-connect propane coupling, which makes the fire pit easier to hook up and break down. Put it all together, and the Ukiah Tailgater X was a no-brainer for our pick as Best Propane Fire Pit. The only negative we could find with this fire pit is that it’s a little on the small side for a crowd. We estimate it would sit four people comfortably and, maybe six if you squeezed in.

# The Best Electric Shavers For Men of 2022

## Philips Norelco 9500 (S9985/84)

Unlike many of its predecessors, the Philips Norelco 9500’s ComfortGlide rings make circular-motion-shaving virtually friction-free. This is a major improvement for their rotary blade system. The shaver includes 72 self-sharpening blades which are guided by its Smart Hair sensor scanning system that adjusts to each hair for a consistently close and comfortable shave. The added bonus is that this shaver performs even better in the shower and with shaving cream. The 9500 comes with a Quick Clean Pod that makes post-shave cleanup a breeze. Simply place the shaver into the pod the cleaning solution inside will clean and lubricate the 9500’s blades, ensuring that it’s ready for the next time you need a shave. The Pod’s cleaning solution needs to be replaced on a regular basis. How often you replace it depends on how frequently you clean your shaver. Those who don’t want to fork over their hard-earned money in order to clean their razor will be happy to know that the 9500’s shaving heads can also be cleaned off under a running faucet. There’s no getting around the fact that this shaver comes with a lot of bells and whistles, chief among them the Philips Norelco GroomTribe app (available for iOS and Android Devices). I was skeptical of the app’s usefulness, at first. However, I was surprised to find that its tight integration with the 9500 offered a number of useful features. While in use, the shaver’s Motion Control and Pressure Guard sensor monitors the user’s shaving routine and displays what amount of pressure is being used—too little, too much, or just the right amount—through a series of colored lights built into the 9500. This information is sent to the GroomTribe app and used to suggest how I might improve my shave. As I’m familiar with how challenging it can be to achieve a consistently close, comfortable shave with a rotary head shaver like this one, the feedback is most welcome. Despite all of this shaver’s perks, the 9500 isn’t perfect. Its pop-up trimmer does not have enough cutting power to make it a useful grooming accessory. Nor can it be locked into place while in use, making it a challenge to use the trimmer for minor cleanups.

## Wahl LifeProof Shaver

The Wahl Lifeproof Lithium-Ion Foil Shaver’s eye-catching yellow and black design made it stand out from the competition. Labeled as ‘practically indestructible’, Wahl claims that the shaver can continue to work even if it falls into three feet of water. To test this, I turned the shaver on, tossed it into the shallow end of my swimming pool, and waited three minutes before retrieving it. I was pleased to find that it still worked great. While still wet from its swim, the Lifeproof’s ergonomic shape and rubber grips made it feel comfortable and secure in my hand. The Lifeproof’s performance on all hair types (straight, curly, thick, and overly-curly) ranked surprisingly above average. This is quite a feat considering most foil shavers can find it challenging to deliver a close shave on wavy and curly beards without multiple passes. The Lifeproof shaver executed this with considerable ease. Its foiled shaving heads (“Flex Foils”) offer a nicely cushioned shave that navigates the face comfortably and effectively. The precision trimmer located just behind the head, outperformed many of the shavers in this guide, making facial hair maintenance a breeze. After an hour’s worth of charing, the Lifeproof can run for 90 minutes. If you’re in need of a quick shave and forgot to charge it, a five-minute charge provides just enough runtime for a single shave. The only drawback I discovered while testing the Life Proof is that it did not perform very well in the shower or with shaving cream, making it less competitive amongst its peers.

# 9 Best Dog Harnesses for Walks and Car Rides of 2022

## Dogline Unimax Multi-Purpose Harness

Full disclosure: we’ve personally used a (now off-the-market) harness practically identical to the Dogline Unimax for years. And after using this model directly next to so many competitors, we’re reaffirming our allegiance to this particular design. A streamlined happy medium between an all-enveloping shell and scratchy tangle of straps, the vest-shaped harness is made of breathable, water-resistant neoprene (which scores extra credit for being washing machine safe) and is padded for comfort, with a removable breastplate. It’s easy to maneuver on and off with a simple click under each front leg, the Dogline harness fits snugly without being too tight. A heavy-duty D-ring on the back provides good leverage for either casual walks, giving corrections, or communicating with service dogs. Incidentally, since Velcro strips on the side allow for the attachment of signage, ID’s or tags, this harness is especially useful for working/service dogs, dogs in training, or in any instance when you need to transmit info about your dog to the outside world (such as “Do Not Pet,” or “Adopt Me.”) A built-in, generously-sized handle allows you to grab the dog if needed, help them up and around obstacles, or provide extra support in the case of injury or impaired mobility. The only downsides are the lack of a front-facing D-ring, and the fact that the thick adjustable straps take some muscle to use.

## Best Pet Supplies Voyager Step-In Air Dog Harness

Made of soft, flexible, breathable mesh, the Voyager should provide unparalleled comfort to your small dog. And while it looks like a fashion statement (it comes in 29 cute colors!) rather than a functional tool, this product received the highest praise possible from one of colleagues. She’s able to transmit clear corrections through the leash, and her terrier-type pup stopped pulling for the very first time in their walking history. And while there is limited opportunity for adjustment, we appreciate the addition of double D-rings on the back, which provide extra security on the leash.

# The Best Tax Software of 2022

## Intuit TurboTax

TurboTax is a standout among its competitors, especially when it comes to importing information to avoid manual entry. You can upload a PDF of previous year’s taxes to avoid re-entering your personal details. You can also take photos of forms, such as your W-2, to import each line, as well as directly connect to a number of financial institutions for some details, like IRA withdrawals. Saving time makes the process less of a hassle. Beyond that, TurboTax makes the process extremely simple and straightforward, whether it’s your first time submitting taxes on your own or you’re a seasoned pro. Cost: TurboTax’s free version covers simple returns for federal and state taxes. It includes the 1040 form and allows for some credits, including the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit. There’s a couple of changes filers may notice from 2020: The Free Edition now covers student loan interest, though it no longer supports unemployment income. One important note: This unpaid tier is different from the IRS Free File Program, which offersed free software to filers earnings $73,000 or less. TurboTax exited that program this year. There are also multiple paid versions that allow you to access more credits, deductions, and income sources. These prices range from $59 to $119, plus $49 per state return. Customer support and guarantees: The TurboTax Free edition features a searchable FAQ sidebar, but you’ll need to upgrade to a paid version if you want live, personal support. No matter the tier, the program comes with a 100% accurate calculation guarantee: If you owe the IRS or your state penalty or interest because of a TurboTax calculation, it’ll pay you back for the fees and accrued interest. There’s some important details in the fine print, including following “the in-product TurboTax interview guidance” and notifying the company as soon as you learn of the error. How did TurboTax adapt to our personas? Two out of four of our fictional personas fully maximized their taxes using TurboTax’s free edition. Devon Developer was able to deduct student loan interest from his income, which is a new feature to the Free edition this year. Additionally, Ricky Retiree could quickly import his IRA distributions directly from his financial institution. Vanessa and Shawn Dotington were prompted to upgrade to the Deluxe version to claim their child care expenses. Franny Freelancer needed to upgrade to the Self-employed version to maximize her business deductions, including advertising, legal services, and home office expenses.

# The Best Smart Pet Cameras of 2022

## Eufy Pet Dog Camera D605

If you’re looking to treat your dog—and yourself—to a smart pet camera with all the best bells and whistles, look no further than the treat-tossing Eufy Pet Dog Camera D605. Offering a 170-degree wide-angle view with 1080p video resolution, the view from Eufy’s dog camera is impressive both day and night. Unlike most pet cameras, Eufy’s comes with free local storage (up to 16GB), so you don’t have to pay a penny more after purchasing (or worry about uploading videos to the cloud). The camera also excels at sending timely alerts when your dog comes into view (and automatically begins recording), and has a wide range of motion up to 270-degrees, which did a great job of tracking my pup as she moved around the room. At the end of each day, the Eufy Pet app uniquely sends a “Doggy Diary” that recaps what your pup has been doing. While this isn’t a necessary feature, it makes it much easier to learn about your dog’s day rather than scrolling back through an entire 24-hours worth of footage. The spread of free smart alerts is robust, too. Not only can it tell you when it sees your dog, but it can also send alerts when your dog goes to the bathroom, licks its paws, or barks. The treat-tossing portion of the camera has an anti-clog design that can launch tiny dog biscuits, cookies, and other small pieces of food at three different distances. The camera makes a noise when it gears up to launch a treat, which may bother some pups, but my dog did not mind. One bummer is that the camera does not work with smart assistants like Alexa or Google Assistant. However, Eufy says that plans are in the works for voice support down the road. There is also no option to view the live stream in a web browser like you can with Eufy’s home security cameras. The only way to check in on your pup remotely is by using the Eufy Pet app on your iOS or Android mobile device or tablet, which works well and was quick to load during our testing. While the Eufy Pet Dog Camera D605 is one of the more expensive cameras in the category, it is worth the money if you want a feature-filled, treat-tossing dog camera that is reliable, accurate, and comes with free local storage.

## Petcube Cam

For an affordable pet camera that doesn’t skimp on smarts, you’ve got to go with the PetCube Cam. The Petcube Cam packs a lot of useful features into a device that squarely fits in the palm of your hand. It doesn’t come with fancy extras like treat tossing or laser games like some competitors, but it’s got everything you need to successfully check-in with your furry friend from anywhere without spending a lot of money. As the most affordable pet camera we’ve come across, it’s also the smallest, making it easy to place just about anywhere in your home. It also has a magnetic base, which you can use to hang from existing steel surfaces, or you can use the peel-and-stick tape to secure the mount in place. Many of the other cameras in our guide are large and take up a lot of space, so the small size is appealing whether you live in an apartment or mansion. Offering 1080p HD resolution, the camera delivers high-quality daytime video, great night vision up to 30 feet away, and 8x digital zoom. The 110-degree viewing angle isn’t the largest available, but it gets the job done just fine. The Petcube Cam’s audio is among the best we’ve tested, allowing us to communicate simultaneously without any static or delays. It’s a snappy little gadget that accurately and quickly sends notifications. Like other Petcube cameras, it only works with Amazon Alexa—not Google Assistant or Apple’s Siri. However, the Petcube app is the easiest way to control the camera and offers a pleasant user experience. It’s worth noting that you’ll need one of Petcube’s Care Memberships to get the best features like smart alerts, web viewing, instant vet chat, and video history. The paid plan also supports secure cloud recording using 128-bit AES encryption, according to Petcube. The live stream automatically begins playing as soon as you open the app, where you can set recording schedules. You can set the camera to record as soon as motion and sound are detected (and anytime someone interacts with the camera). It also intuitively listens for barks and meows and can differentiate between people and pets. For a simple, affordable way to keep tabs on your pet from the palm of your hand, the Petcube Cam offers value like no other.

# The Best Game Consoles of 2022

# The Best Swaddles of 2022

## Happiest Baby Sleepea 5-Second Baby Swaddle

The Happiest Baby Sleepea boasts itself as the world’s first 5-second swaddle. With its double zipper that can open from top or bottom, inner arm wrap with extra-quiet Velcro, and breathable cotton and mesh to reduce overheating, this swaddle was the number one winner for both of our summer babies. This swaddle was a game changer, especially for babies who had several dirty diapers in the night during those first few weeks home. This swaddle allowed for easy diaper checks and changes and both babies settled into the swaddle almost by the time the zipper was up. One of the babies slept so soundly in this baby swaddle that mom was reluctant to switch it up to continue testing. And the other, a veritable swaddle Houdini, failed to bust out of this swaddle even during an extra-long night of sleep. Overall, we have very few negative things to say about the Sleepea.

## SwaddleMe Natural Position 2-in-1 Swaddle with Easy Change

Like the winning swaddle, the SwaddleMe is secure and does a good job of preventing the startle reflex that will wake your baby. This wearable blanket is slightly more versatile than our top pick, in that you can swaddle your little one with their arms over their chest or by their sides. Both babies started the night with their hands by their sides, but worked them up towards their chests as the night went on. But they both stayed asleep, which is what mattered. Our swaddle Houdini did manage to bust out of the SwaddleMe once she hit the 3-month mark, but this kept her securely compressed during the early days. The material is soft and durable, the designs are cute, and with a low price point, this swaddle is a really solid, budget-savvy purchase to have in your sleep arsenal. Be warned that over time, the velcro may break down due to being washed.

# The Best Air Fryers of 2022

## Ninja Speedi Rapid Cooker & Air Fryer

* Capacity: 6 quarts
* Capacity: 6 quarts Dimensions: 13.8 x 14.1 x 12.4 inches Weight: 16 pounds The Ninja Speedi does more than air frying alone. It’s also a multicooker with steam technology that allows it to cook Speedi Meals, which combines several cooking features simultaneously to make meal time quick and easy. Plus, it has 9 additional settings for everything from baking to proofing bread. When it comes to air frying, though, this appliance provides some of the best results we’ve ever seen. During our tests, French fries and chicken nuggets came out exceptionally evenly cooked, and were as brown and crispy as if they had been fried in a pot of oil. In spite of its many functions, the Ninja is exceptionally easy to program. The lever to select air fry or rapid cooker is large and easy to flip. Once you switch it into place, the cooking functions for your selection become available and are easy to toggle through. The cooking pot and crisper tray have a nonstick coating and can be placed in the dishwasher. It also comes with a comprehensive manual, a Speedi Meals guide, and a helpful recipe booklet. You can also access the Speedi Meal Builder online, which suggests various combinations of foods and cooking times. It’s heavier and a little bulkier than most traditional air fryers, but it also offers many more functions. Neither the cooking pot nor the crisper tray have handles, so you should be extra careful when removing them—we recommend silicone grippers rather than traditional pot holders. And be aware that during air frying, the appliance makes a whooshing noise that sounds like a hair dryer on low speed.

## Cosori Air Fryer Max XL 5.8-Quart

* Capacity: 5.8 quarts
* Capacity: 5.8 quarts Dimensions: 11.8 x 14.3 x 12.7 inches Weight: 11.9 pounds The Cosori Premium 5.8-Quart rivals the Philips XXL for air frying prowess at a much lower price, making it our Best Value pick. In testing, two pounds of frozen crinkle fries came out well-browned and crispy. The appliance is big and boxy, but still looks better than most. It has digital controls with preset cooking programs that work well. While a manual preheat is required before selecting a setting, the appliance includes a helpful beep halfway through cooking to remind you to shake or rearrange your food. It takes a little bit of effort to pull out and replace the air fryer baskets, especially the inner basket. You have to slide a small safety cover and then depress a button before lifting it out. After cooking, you can chuck both pieces into the dishwasher. The Cosori comes with a paperback cookbook packed with tasty-looking recipes and color photos.

## Cuisinart TOA-65 Digital AirFryer Toaster Oven

* Capacity: 0.6 cubic feet
* Capacity: 0.6 cubic feet Dimensions: 17 x 21.73 x 15.75 inches Weight: 20.3 pounds This multipurpose appliance from Cuisinart not only air fries, but it has all the versatility that comes with a toaster oven. Everything we “fried” cooked up brown and crispy, including batter-fried chicken that came out as crunchy as those fast-food wings and tenders that come in a bucket. Bread toasted exceptionally evenly and matched the shade we selected from pale but dry to dark but not black. When baking, we got great results when we reduced the time and oven temperature to prevent over-browning. The digital Cuisinart is among the more expensive air fryer toaster ovens on the market, but it’s handsome and has digital controls with pre-programmed settings for air frying. For bake and pizza, there’s an automatic preheat; no preheating is required for air frying. This model isn’t as wide as a typical toaster oven, so it won’t take up as much countertop space. While it is taller, it will fit under a standard cabinet. Despite its relatively compact size, it’s large enough to accommodate three pounds of fries, six slices of bread, and a four-pound roast chicken. With a low setting for slow cooking and braising, as well as dehydrating and proofing modes, it gives a lot of versatility for the money. The interior has a nonstick coating and the air fryer basket and baking pan can be tossed in the dishwasher. Cuisinart provides a helpful manual complete with cooking charts and appealing recipes as well as a quick reference guide that stores in a slot in the bottom of the oven so it’s easy to find when needed.

# The Best Camping Utensils of 2022

# The Best Credit Cards for Groceries of 2022

## Blue Cash Preferred Card from American Express

* Annual fee: $0 intro annual fee for the first year, then $95

The Blue Cash Preferred from American Express makes our list as the best overall choice with a whopping 6% back at U.S. supermarkets. There’s a $0 intro annual fee for the first year, then a $95 annual fee for each subsequent year. One the intro fee offer ends, the cash back you earn can easily cover the cost. You only need to spend about $1,600 per year ($133 per month or $30 per week) in the grocery category to break even. See rates and fees. Music lovers and binge-watchers may find this particularly worthwhile with 6% cash back on Apple Music, Netflix, HBO Max, and select U.S. streaming subscriptions. However, if you don’t think you’ll use the it enough to offset the cost with rewards earnings, consider the no-annual-fee Blue Cash Everyday instead. We’ll discuss that one next. Annual fee: $0 intro annual fee for the first year, then $95 Grocery points: 6% cash back at U.S. supermarkets, which does not include superstores and warehouse clubs. You’re eligible to earn rewards on the first $6,000 you spend each year—this works out to about $115 per week—and then an unlimited 1% thereafter. Additional points: 6% on U.S. streaming subscriptions, 3% on transit spending, 3% at U.S. gas stations, and 1% on other eligible purchases. You can redeem rewards for a statement credit when your rewards balance reaches $25. Perks: Spend $3,000 in purchases within the first six months and you’ll get a $250 statement credit. There’s also an intro offer with zero interest on purchases and balance transfers for 12 months before a variable APR of 17.74% to 28.74% is introduced. There is a fee of either $5 or 5% (whichever is greater) for each balance transfer. Terms apply. See rates and fees. Learn more about the Blue Cash Preferred

## Blue Cash Everyday Card from American Express

* Annual fee: None

The Blue Cash Everyday is a no-fee grocery and gas card that packs a punch. You earn 3% cash back on the first $6,000 per year you spend at U.S. supermarkets, and 3% cash back at U.S. gas stations. Although this card and the Blue Cash Preferred have a $6,000 spending cap on groceries, Americans on average spend about $4,500 annually for “food at home,” according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, so shopping for your household may fit comfortably under this limit. See rates and fees. Annual fee: None Grocery points: 3% cash back at U.S. supermarkets up to $6,000 per year—this works out to about $115 per week—and 1% thereafter. As with the Blue Cash Preferred, grocery hauls at superstores and warehouse clubs do not qualify for rewards. Additional points: 3% Cash Back at U.S. gas stations up to $6,000 per year and 1% thereafter. You can redeem rewards for a statement credit when your balance reaches $25. Perks: Spend $2,000 within the first six months and you’ll get $100 back as a statement credit. Additionally, cardholders can earn 20% back as a statement credit (up to $150) on purchases when using their new card to check out with PayPal in the first 6 months. Plus, there’s a 0% introductory APR on new purchases for the first 15 months. After that, a variable rate of 17.74% - 28.74% applies. Terms apply. See rates and fees. Learn more about the Blue Cash Everyday

## Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Signature Card

* Annual fee: None, although an Amazon Prime membership is required

The Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Signature is another no-fee card that gives 5% back to eligible Amazon Prime members who shop at Amazon.com and Whole Foods Market. To be eligible for 5% back, you must keep the card connected to your Amazon account and maintain Prime membership by paying the annual or monthly membership fee. While the card itself doesn’t have an annual fee, Prime membership costs $119 per year ($12.99 per month) and $59 per year ($6.49 per month) for students. But maintaining membership probably won’t be a dealbreaker for shoppers who’ve already joined to receive other Prime perks like two-day and same-day shipping. If someone invited you to get shipping perks through their membership, you’ll earn 3% back instead of the full 5% in the top category. You can, however, upgrade to the higher rewards rate if you join Amazon Households with an eligible Prime member. Annual fee: None, although an Amazon Prime membership is required Grocery points: 5% back at Amazon.com (including Amazon Fresh orders, digital downloads, Amazon gift cards, and Amazon Prime subscriptions) and 5% back at Whole Foods Market locations and online. Additional points: 2% at restaurants, gas stations, and drug stores, and 1% on all other eligible purchases. Perks: There’s no minimum balance to redeem cash back. The card has no foreign transaction fee and comes with benefits like travel and emergency insurance. Learn more about the Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Signature

## Bank of America Cash Rewards

* Annual fee: None

The Bank of America Cash Rewards offers 2% cash back when you shop at grocery stores and wholesale clubs—unique in the world of grocery cards since club shopping is usually excluded from the supermarket category. This may be a smart choice for BJ’s and Sam’s Club shoppers, and especially people who frequent Costco since the warehouse exclusively accepts Visa. The rewards offer is 2% cash back on groceries and 3% cash back on a category of your choice. Pay close attention to the rewards cap: The combined spending limit for the 2% and 3% categories is $2,500 per quarter. The money you spend beyond the $2,500 cap earns just 1% back until the next quarter. Bank of America customers with large account balances get an even better rewards deal. Preferred Rewards members qualify for 25% to 75% more in cash back. For the supermarket category, this equals up to a total of 3.5% cash back. Annual fee: None Grocery points: 2% cash back at grocery stores and wholesale clubs. Additional points: 3% in the category of your choice (including gas, online shopping, dining, travel, drug stores, or home improvement) and 1% on all other purchases. The combined spending cap for the 3% and 2% categories is $2,500 every three months. Let’s say you choose gas for the 3% category. You’ll earn 3% and 2% back on the first $2,500 spent on gas and groceries purchased each quarter. Spend more than the limit and you’ll earn 1% cash back in those categories until the next quarter. Perks: Spend $1,000 in purchases during the first 90 days and you’ll earn a $200 cash bonus. The card also has an introductory 0% APR on new purchases for 15 months. Learn more about the Bank of America Cash Rewards Card

## Capital One Walmart Rewards Card

* Annual fee: None

Loyal Walmart shoppers—especially those who order products and groceries online—may find a lot of value in this offer. You get 5% back when shopping at Walmart.com, and it includes grocery pickup and delivery. You typically earn 2% back at Walmart locations and Walmart gas stations. However, for the first 12 months, the card gives 5% at the store checkout if you use Walmart Pay, a virtual wallet that stores your payment information for touch-free checkout. Rewards are tracked in points and each point is worth one cent. Word of warning though: To get the most value from this card, you must be a dedicated Walmart shopper because the money you spend at other retailers that accept Mastercard will only earn 1% back. Annual fee: None Grocery points: 5% back at Walmart.com, including grocery pickup and delivery. Additional points: 2% back at Walmart, Walmart gas stations, restaurants, and travel, and 1% cash back on everything else. You can redeem rewards for statement credit, gift cards, travel, or to make purchases at Walmart.com. Perks: For the first year, you earn 5% back at brick-and-mortar Walmart locations as long as you use Walmart Pay. Afterward, you earn 2% back in the store. Learn more about the Capital One Walmart Rewards

## RedCard Mastercard

* Annual fee: None

At Target, RedCard cardholders receive 5% off in-store and online purchases. The 5% discount is automatically applied when you swipe at checkout, but there are some restrictions. Prescriptions, over-the-counter pharmacy products, and eye exams at Target don’t qualify. Cardholders get free shipping, exclusive store offers, and discount gift cards. You don’t earn rewards that can be redeemed for travel or merchandise from other retailers, so diehard Target fans will see the most value here. You could consider coupling this with a flat-rate or revolving category card to earn and redeem rewards for the spending you do outside of the big-box retailer. Annual fee: None Grocery points: You get 5% off at checkout each time you shop online or in the store. Additional points: 5% off on clearance items and in-store Starbucks locations. Perks: Free shipping and exclusive store offers, like an extra 30 days for eligible returns. Learn more about the RedCard

# The Best Shower Chairs of 2022

## Platinum Health HydroSlide

Given the emphasis that Platinum Health puts on not just safety and functionality, but also on comfort, it’s no surprise the Platinum Health HydroSlide bath chair is our top pick. The shower bench is designed to fit virtually any tub, and extensions exist for tubs that are outside standard tub dimensions. What makes it so special is that the user sits down on the chair, lifts their legs, and presses a lever to swivel the chair to face into the tub. Keep in mind that a certain amount of flexibility is required to lift one’s legs before swiveling the chair, and some finger dexterity and strength is needed to press down on the swivel lever. A caregiver or home attendant could help with these steps, if needed.

# The Best Strollers of 2022

## Uppababy Cruz V2

* Stroller weight: 25.5 pounds
* Stroller weight: 25.5 pounds Max child weight: 50 pounds Max basket weight: 30 pounds Minimum age: 3 months (from birth with sold-separately accessories) Seat style: Reversible Recline: Flat Car seat compatibility: Works with the Mesa Infant Car Seat natively; Maxi-Cosi, Nuna, Cybex, and Chicco (adapter sold separately) Handlebar: Telescoping Brake: Foot Warranty: 2 years (extended to 3 if you register) Have you heard of the bliss point? It’s the precise ratio of sugar, salt, and fat that maximizes deliciousness and makes food irresistible. I daresay the Uppababy Cruz V2 has attained the bliss point of strollers. It’s wide enough to be stable yet narrow enough to fit easily through doorways. It’s cozy enough to hold my 8-month-old, yet gamely adjusts to accommodate my 4-year-old. The large wheels are large enough to absorb bumps, yet it’s slim when folded—and stands on its own! It has a five-point harness yet has just two clips to buckle. It’s luxe enough to feel fancy but straightforward enough that it took me under 10 minutes to put together. Its folding mechanism is convenient and clever, despite requiring two hands. And the storage space? The basket holds a beefy 30 pounds. When I travel during a testing period, which product I want to bring along is telling. When we headed out of town for the weekend this time, if you had peeked between the captain’s chairs in our packed minivan, you would have seen the Uppababy Cruz V2 nestled there.

## Britax B-Lively

* Stroller weight: 18.9 pounds
* Stroller weight: 18.9 pounds Max child weight: 55 pounds Max basket weight: 10 pounds Minimum age: 3 months (from birth with car seat) Seat style: Forward-facing Recline: Flat Bassinet: None Car seat compatibility: Britax with included adaptor Handlebar: Not adjustable Brake: Foot Warranty: 2-year limited warranty The Britax B-Lively is essentially a City Mini GT2 dupe. For about two-thirds of the price, you get a lot of the same functionality. The two strollers had similar (and adequate) cushioning, reclining seats, canopies, and folding mechanisms in a side-by-side comparison. Like the City Mini GT2, the Britax B-Lively’s three-wheel design means it handles irregular terrain like sidewalks, streets, and grass well. It’s also about as lean and lightweight as it gets for a standard stroller. Of all the strollers I tested, this was the easiest to toss in my trunk and slide next to my entryway’s shoe pile. Likewise, assembly was a breeze. The Britax B-Lively took me a speedy five minutes to put together, even with my infant and preschooler on the scene. It does come with tradeoffs. The brakes are a little flimsy feeling, for one. The handle wasn’t stellar—it’s covered in foam, which I could imagine getting ripped or stinky over time. It also does not have an adjustable handlebar to accommodate different heights and grip preferences. The only real bummer of this stroller is the basket. You access it from under the leg rest, which was annoying to negotiate with my 8-month-old, and basically a no-go with my 4-year-old. Even without a kid in the stroller, the basket is lackluster. Its opening was too small to fit my lightly packed diaper bag. On the upside, there’s a clever built-in parent console with two generous pouches, and one zip pouch, which my 4-year-old used to store a very important light-up ball. Overall, the Britax B-Lively gets the job done and can’t be beat for the price.

## Bugaboo Fox 3

* Stroller weight: 26.9 pounds
* Stroller weight: 26.9 pounds Max child weight: 50 pounds Max basket weight: 22 pounds Minimum age: Birth Seat style: Reversible Recline: Flat Bassinet: Included Car seat compatibility: Nuna with the included adaptor Handlebar: Telescoping Brake: Foot Warranty: 2 years (Extended to 3 if you register) This stroller and I started off on the wrong wheel. It was the second-to-last stroller I assembled, and by then, I fancied myself something of a stroller assembly expert. Even so, the Bugaboo Fox 3 took me the longest to put together. The manual, whose nearly wordless explanations left something to be desired, was not particularly helpful. I definitely gave the stroller the stinkeye as I clicked all four (why so many!?) buckles to secure my baby in the rumble seat. Then I started walking. The stroller glided like a majestic cruise ship, sturdy and smooth. The padded seat and gentle ride lulled my normally-too-curious-to-snooze baby to sleep. The large wheels were the best of any I tried at navigating rough seas that abound in my neighborhood (ok, ok, they’re sidewalks). When we docked at the neighborhood supermarket, the stroller was narrow enough not to be a nuisance in the aisles, and the hull had plenty of space for cargo. On the walk home I readily controlled the vessel with one hand, even loaded down with my 8-month-old and groceries for our family of five, and the wrist strap gave me the confidence I could do so safely, even in my hilly neighborhood. Ship metaphors aside, if you can get past the assembly, the Bugaboo Fox 3 is a magnificent stroller to use. Pretty much everything about it works well and feels high quality. The foot brake engages easily and effectively. The large canopy completely covers your baby. The bassinet—which comes with the stroller—is the kind of place you feel good setting your newborn. The seat—which you can position parent-facing or world-facing—tilts up and down. It fit my 4-year-old best of any in the testing batch. When you’re not using it, you may find the Bugaboo Fox 3 to be a bit bulky. This isn’t the kind of gear you’ll want to lug on a bus every day, but, compared to others of its type, it was somehow less awkward to shlep up my front steps. Likewise, when collapsed, while the Bugaboo Fox 3 doesn’t have a slim profile per se, it does stand up on its own, which sometimes matters more.

# The Best Espresso Machines of 2022

## Breville Barista Touch

* Dimensions: 12.7 x 15.5 x 16 inches
* Dimensions: 12.7 x 15.5 x 16 inches Water tank capacity: 67 ounces Pressure: 15 bar pump Steam wand: Yes Built-in grinder: Yes The Barista Touch is by far the most intuitive, user-friendly, and reliable espresso machine we tested. Pulling a shot of perfect espresso takes practice, patience, and a little science, but the Barista Touch greatly simplifies it. It includes an advanced digital temperature controller, also known as a PID (or Proportional Integral Derivative). This increases the boiler’s temperature in a controlled way that results in better tasting coffee. As a result, the Barista Touch consistently brewed creamy, smooth, flavorful espresso. Plus, its thermojet heating system gets the machine ready in just three seconds. This semi-automatic espresso machine’s touchscreen sets it far above the competition. It walks beginners through the steps of making the perfect latte. For advanced brewers, it can save the specifications of your desired drinks. You can pre-program the weight of the ground coffee, the grind size, the brew time, the steam wand’s temperature, and even the texture of the steamed milk. The package comes with four filter baskets, including a single-walled basket for aficionados who want to hone their espresso skills. The magnetic, stainless steel tamper’s weight made it easy to use. The razor trimmed any excess ground coffee once it was tightly packed into the portafilter. That uniformity helped ensure each shot we made was exactly the same. Overall, the Barista Touch was the easiest machine to dial in, regardless of your espresso fluency. Beginners can easily learn to adjust the ground weight and grind size. Intermediate enthusiasts can watch tutorials on the touchscreen and troubleshoot any problems that may occur. Professional drinkers’ creativity is empowered by the versatility and customization. The Barista Touch has its limits compared to commercial machines. While it’s incredibly easy to use, the espresso’s taste may disappoint connoisseurs. The tasting profile and depth of single origin beans require a more professional device to extract. The automatic frothing system also isn’t consistent for users who appreciate their milk foam with uniform quality. Still, for the price, you’d be hard-pressed to find anything better.

## De’Longhi La Specialista Arte EC9155MB

* Dimensions: 11.22 x 14.37 x 15.87 inches
* Dimensions: 11.22 x 14.37 x 15.87 inches Water tank capacity: 56 ounces Pressure: 15 bar pump Steam wand: Yes Built-in grinder: Yes If a high quality steam wand and the ability to try DIY latte art is your first priority, De’Longhi’s La Specialista Arte should be your go-to. A rendition of De’Longhi’s original La Specialista, this machine features an upgraded, MyLatteArt steam wand, which mimics the style you would find behind the bar at a traditional coffee shop. It also comes equipped with a built-in grinder, 56-ounce water tank, and almost a dozen accessories to help ensure your espresso is perfect every time (like a stainless steel milk pitcher, water hardness test, and tamping accessories). When we tested this machine, we were impressed by how well the steam wand mimicked the traditional, commercial style frothers. Both traditional and non-dairy milks came out silky, and it was easy to tweak our technique to achieve both latte and cappuccino levels of froth. This machine also produces delicious espresso, of course. The provided manual offers simple instructions to guide you through optimal dosage and coarseness of whatever bean roast you prefer, to make sure your shots taste right every time. We did notice some variation in crema levels when testing this machine, and some shots were creamier than others. But getting familiar with the correct settings for your optimal espresso, and adjusting them over time, can easily fix this problem.

## Gaggia Classic Pro

* Dimensions: 9.5 x 8 x 14.2 inches
* Dimensions: 9.5 x 8 x 14.2 inches Water tank capacity: 47 ounces Pressure: 15 bar pump Steam wand: Yes Built-in grinder: No While not the most exciting to look at, the Gaggia Classic Pro constantly pulled the best shots of espresso in our roundup. This upgrade from Gaggia’s popular Classic features more commercial-grade components. That includes a three-way solenoid, and an over-pressure valve that helps discard dry coffee pucks easily. The chrome-brass 58-millimeter wide portafilter is on par with commercial-grade portafilters. That may explain why it continuously delivered superior texture and full-bodied flavor in our taste tests. It also produced crema with little leopard-like speckles, which gave each shot a unique depth. The taste was pleasant, with notes of caramel and cocoa, indicating a high-quality coffee. The commercial-grade steam wand frothed velvety milk foam that helped us create perfect lattes. The machine comes with three filter baskets: one pressurized basket for consistency, one single-walled for creativity, and a pod basket for ESE pods. Although we’re satisfied with its overall performance, the Gaggia isn’t without flaws. It took about five minutes to brew a double shot from start to finish—four minutes longer than our top pick. With no PID system to monitor temperature digitally, it took about 30 seconds to heat up, trailing behind the Breville models. Additionally, Gaggia is less user-friendly than the Breville Barista Touch; we struggled to insert the portafilter under the brewhead. However, its ability to pull a cafe-quality shot makes this your best choice for the value.

## Breville Infuser

* Dimensions: 11.5 x 13.7 x 13.25 inches
* Dimensions: 11.5 x 13.7 x 13.25 inches Water tank capacity: 61 ounces Pressure: 15 bar pump Steam wand: Yes Built-in grinder: No The Infuser is a great balance of convenience and affordability. It provides the majority of Breville’s most advanced features, without costing you an arm and a leg. Like the Barista Touch, this model has a pre-infusion function that gives the grounds a thorough low-pressure wash before pumping pressure through them. The PID heating system accurately controls the water temperature, adjustable in 4°F increments, for the best brewing results. It’s also programmable, saving your favorite coffee presets for easy brewing. The analog pressure gauge can tell you whether the pressure has reached the required level, and whether you’re over- or under-extracting your coffee. This made dialing in much easier, taking out the guesswork when we first tested it. Ultimately, the Infuser makes a great learning tool for beginners who want to learn how to become an at-home barista.

# The Best Digital Cameras for Kids of 2022

## Kidamento Model K

This cutie little kids’ digital camera made us swoon over its diminutive size, soft and grippy body, and its intuitive and easy-to-use features. In fact, this camera was so easy to use that we never once had to break out the instruction manual. Just take it out of the box, charge it up, and watch your kids snap away. Out of all the cameras tested, the design of this one elicited the greatest squeals of delight from our testers. The soft rubber exterior not only looks adorable, it has a comfortable and grippy feel and makes the camera nearly indestructible. If you’re looking for a digital camera for kids that will encourage young shutterbugs to hone and develop a love for photography, this is the camera you absolutely should buy. What we liked best about this kid-friendly digital camera is that it puts photo-taking above all else. That may seem like a no-brainer, but the most common complaint with kids’ cameras is they can be so stuffed with games that they do nothing to develop foundational photography skills. The Kidamento Model K, however, was obviously designed by photo buffs. This camera can take photos up to an astonishing 48-megapixels, making it a formidable camera as far as photo quality is concerned. We also liked that looks and feels like a shrunk-down DSLR, yet is automated to get the best possible photos for a young child who hasn’t yet honed their photography chops. A large viewing screen allows kids to easily frame their photos, and cute little frames, icons, and emojis allow kids to put their personal stamps on picture taking. We love that it has a built-in selfie cam (because kids love a good selfie) and it also comes with a brilliant little app that allows you to easily download pictures to your phone or tablet over Wi-Fi. An F2.8 lens ensured that all photos we took were crisp and the intuitive touch screen is laid out in a way that will most easily translate to a more complex camera, once your budding paparazzo is ready for a more challenging piece.

## Prograce Kids Waterproof Camera

A kiddie-take on a GoPro, the 5-megapixel Prograce is a tiny, mountable camera housed in a waterproof and shockproof plexiglass casing, making it a solid choice for young adventure-seekers with a budding interest in photography. It comes with a full suite of mounts and has HD video functionality, making it a great, well-priced option for young adventurers. The burst shooting function makes it easy for kids to capture the dynamic movements of their friends, but we found the photo quality to be only so-so. The overall appeal of the Prograce had more to do with capturing video while playing hard. This is a fun little camera that can shoot from the back of a skateboard, a surfboard, or the handlebars of a bike and is compact enough to go anywhere your kids’ adventure takes them.

## Olympus Tough TG-6

The Olympus Tough TG-6 lived up to all its claims of durability, usability, and so much more. As good for entry-level photographers as it is for seasoned shutterbugs, we were pleasantly surprised that the Olympus Tough TG-6 turned out to be one of the easiest to use right out of the box. The zoom buttons on this 12-megapixel camera were easy to master and the video button was intuitive, even for a child as young as 6-years-old. We loved that this camera was so instantly gratifying that our testers were immediately hooked. While this was incredibly usable and kid-friendly, this is no kiddie camera. If this camera is bought for a kid that’s ready to get technical, they’ll love the bright wide-angle setting, which is at the top of its class for waterproof compact cameras, making for excellent underwater and low-light photography. We also love that this camera can really grow with kids, allowing for easy upgrades with lens adaptor packs, including a fisheye, a telephoto, and a ring flash adapter for macro photography. This feature was unique to this camera versus other compact waterproof cameras we’ve tried, increasing its longevity.

# The Best Balance Transfer Credit Cards of 2022

## U.S. Bank Visa Platinum Card

The no-annual-fee U.S. Bank Visa Platinum Card offers the longest 0% APR balance transfer period around. If you have a high balance that you want to pay off over an extended period of time, this card gives you an interest-free vacation that lasts for almost two years before a variable rate kicks in. Balance transfer offer: 0% APR on purchases and balance transfers for 18 billing cycles. After that, a variable APR of 18.24% - 28.24% kicks in. The card has a 3% balance transfer fee. Other important features: U.S. Bank lets you choose your payment due date. The card comes with TransUnion VantageScore® updates and provides cell phone protection coverage. Learn more about the U.S. Bank Visa Platinum Card

# The Best Front-load Washers of 2022

## Electrolux ELFW7637AT

The Electrolux ELFW7637AT checks all the right boxes. First and foremost, it’s a great washing machine. During testing, we found that it can deal with various stains, from protein to oil. The internal water heater also adds a lot of versatility, allowing you to sanitize clothing of common diseases, like E. coli, get rid of allergens, and help keep your whites as bright as can be. Secondly, the ELFW7637AT comes equipped with plenty of features that just make life better. For example, instead of tossing Tide pods in the drum where soap won’t get evenly distributed, this washer has a special spot for them in the detergent drawer. There are also options like Extended Refresh that will tumble laundry after a cycle is finished to keep it from getting musty. Finally, this Electrolux just has a great fit and finish. You can tell that the manufacturing is well done by the clean text on the control panel and the satisfying click on the dial. After all our testing, we also think the Electrolux ELFW7637AT is perfect for most families. It has the drum capacity, cleaning performance, and features to cover all the major laundry bases. That’s why it takes the top spot in our washing machine rankings.

# The Best Paint by Number Kits of 2022

# The Best No Annual Fee Credit Cards of 2022

## Chase Freedom Flex

The Chase Freedom Flex tops our list of the best no-annual-fee credit cards. It has a unique rewards program that offers revolving categories and flat rewards rates for travel, dining, and drugstore shopping. Points: Cardholders earn 5% cash back on up to $1,500 spent in revolving categories—so long as you activate the offer, each quarter. In 2022, the 5% category in Q1 includes eBay and grocery stores (excluding Walmart and Target). Previous bonus categories have included spending on streaming platforms, gym memberships, and cable and phone services, plus retailers such as Amazon, Whole Foods, and wholesale clubs like Costco and BJ’s. You also get an unlimited 5% back on travel booked through Chase Ultimate Rewards, 3% back at restaurants (including takeout), and 3% back at drugstores. All other purchases earn an unlimited 1% cash back. Perks: The Chase Freedom Flex is our favorite overall pick because there’s even more perks at no additional cost. For instance, you’ll get a $200 bonus after you spend $500 on purchases within the first three months, or you can take advantage of cell phone insurance by using the card to pay your monthly bill. Additionally, Chase offers an introductory 0% APR for 15 months on new purchases before the variable rate based on your creditworthiness (17.24% - 25.99%) kicks in. Learn more about the Chase Freedom Flex

## Blue Cash Everyday Card from American Express

The Blue Cash Everyday includes a great welcome offer as well as the opportunity to earn points on everyday purchases (hence, the name). If you want a solid, no-annual-fee card with an easy-to-manage rewards program, then this may be the card for you. See rates and fees. Points: On the first $6,000 you spend at U.S. supermarkets every year, you’ll earn 3% cash back (and then you’ll earn 1% afterward). For someone who spends around $115 per week stocking their pantry, this is one of the best credit cards for groceries you’ll find. Cardholders also earn 3% at U.S. gas stations on up to $6,000 per year, then 1%. All other purchases earn 1%. Cash back is received in the form of Reward Dollars, which can be redeemed for statement credits once the balance reaches $25. Perks: With the Blue Cash Everyday, you can earn a $100 welcome offer after spending $2,000 in purchases within six months from account opening. Additionally, cardholders can earn 20% back as a statement credit (up to $150) on purchases when using their new card to check out with PayPal in the first 6 months. There’s also a 0% introductory APR on purchases for 15 months, though the variable rate will increase to 17.74% - 28.74% after the promotional period. See rates and fees as terms apply. Learn more about the Blue Cash Everyday

## Citi Double Cash

Who can argue about cold hard cash that can be used for anything you want? This is one of the simplest cash rewards credit cards out there—and it offers a great rate. Similar to the other cards on this list, it doesn’t have an annual fee. Points: The Citi Double Cash is simple and straightforward yet very rewarding. It offers 1% cash back on every purchase when you swipe your card and another 1% when you pay off your balance. Assuming you do both, the Citi Double Cash ends up being a 2% cash-back card. That rate is higher than other unlimited cash-back cards that don’t have an annual fee. The Capital One Quicksilver Cash Rewards Credit Card, for example, maxes out at 1.5%. Your rewards can be redeemed as a statement credit and used for whatever your heart desires. Perks: As you’d expect, cards that don’t have annual fees lack much in the way of additional perks, and the Citi Double Cash doesn’t really stand out here. It does, however, offer one of the best 0% APR periods for balance transfers available. You’ll get an introductory 0% APR period for 18 months on balance transfers completed within four months of opening the account. During those four months, you’ll only have to pay a 3% balance transfer fee (after the introductory period, that raises to 5% of each transfer), so do the math. And keep in mind that after the introductory period, the variable APR will increase to 17.74% - 27.74%, based on your creditworthiness. In addition to the balance transfer offer, the Citi Double Cash card has a welcome offer as well. For a limited time only, you’ll earn $200 cash back after spending $1,500 on purchases in the first six months of your account opening. Learn more about the Citi Double Cash

## Discover it Secured

If you’ve made some mistakes with credit in the past, you might be dealing with a bad credit score. That often means having a hard time getting approved for an unsecured card and missing out on rewards programs and other perks. We’ve rounded up some of the best secured credit cards out there, and this one, which comes with rare benefits, happens to top our list. The Discover it Secured is a great option if you need to build your credit history with the major credit bureaus but still want to earn rewards. Upon approval, you’ll have to put down a security deposit of at least $200. That amount will equal your credit line, and it is fully refundable when you close the account in good standing or convert it to an unsecured card. Points: As far as earning points goes, you’ll get 2% cash back at gas stations and restaurants on up to $1,000 in combined purchases each quarter. You’ll also earn 1% on all other purchases. Perks: Not unlike the Discover it, the issuer will match the cash back earned during the first year. Rack up $100 in rewards, and that’s $200 total in your pocket. This secured card also has two other great perks to help you rebuild credit. First, you’ll get free access to your credit score on monthly statements, through Discover’s mobile app, and online so that you can monitor any changes to your FICO score. You’ll also have the ability to activate free alerts should Discover come across your Social Security number on any of thousands of Dark Web sites. Learn more about the Discover it Secured

## Capital One VentureOne Credit Card

Looking to add a miles card to your wallet? The VentureOne has an uncomplicated program that rewards you with miles for every purchase, and there’s even an introductory bonus that can offer a windfall for your next trip. Points: Cardholders earn 1.25 miles per dollar on every purchase. You can book excursions through the issuer’s online portal (where hotel stays and rental cars earn 5 miles per dollar) and then redeem rewards for a statement credit to pay yourself back. You can also use miles to make purchases through PayPal or Amazon. Perks: There’s 0% introductory APR for 15 months on new purchases and balance transfers—after which a variable rate (17.99% - 27.99%) applies there’s also a 3% fee on the amounts transferred within the first 15 months—and you can also rack up 20,000 miles if you spend $500 on purchases within the first three months. Learn more about the Capital One VentureOne

## Amazon Prime Rewards card

If you’re a Prime member and you’ve noticed an uptick in your Amazon spending, you may benefit from using the Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Signature for your online shopping hauls. With this card in your arsenal, you’ll get cash back when you shop at Amazon and Whole Foods Market, the supermarket chain purchased by the retail giant in 2017. Points: Cardholders earn 5% cash back—yes, 5%—at Amazon and Whole Foods Market, and that includes grocery orders through Amazon Fresh as well as Whole Foods’ website. Beyond that, you’ll score 2% at gas stations, restaurants, and drugstores, and 1% on everything else. Perks: You get an instant Amazon gift card upon approval—we’ve seen this range from $50 to $100. Plus, the card has travel benefits that may come in handy, such as no foreign transaction fees, lost luggage reimbursement, and travel accident insurance. Learn more about the Amazon Prime Rewards card

## Discover it

* Q1: Grocery stores and gym memberships

The Discover it is a 5% revolving quarterly rewards card that packs a punch. That’s because Discover matches the rewards you earn the first year, and there’s an intro 0% APR offer for balance transfers and new purchases. Points: You earn 5% cash back on the first $1,500 spent in revolving categories—just be sure to activate the offer each quarter. Beyond that, you get 1% on everything else. The 5% rewards categories for 2022 include the following: Q1: Grocery stores and gym memberships Q2: Gas stations and Target Q3: Restaurants and PayPal Q4: Amazon.com and digital wallets such as Apple Pay Perks: Cardholders get a dollar-for-dollar cash-back match for the first year. Say you earn $200 in cash back. Discover will give you another $200. Plus, there’s 0% APR for 14 months on purchases and balance transfers. But watch out for the fee—there’s an introductory balance transfer fee of 3%, and then a standard fee of 5% after the intro deal expires. Before you transfer your balance, ask yourself these questions to see if the move makes sense for your financial situation. Learn more about the Discover it

# The Best Travel Credit Cards of 2022

## Chase Sapphire Preferred Card

The Chase Sapphire Preferred has been a favorite travel credit card for its top-notch benefits and flexible points since it was introduced more than a decade ago. And today it’s still the No. 1 credit card for many types of travelers and it is the best card for travel points. Cardholders earn Chase Ultimate Rewards points that can be redeemed for nearly any type of excursion: flights, hotel stays, car rentals, cruises, and more. It can meet your travel whims for a reasonable $95 annual fee. Plus, Chase currently offers a welcome offer that’s worth up to $900 in its travel portal. Points: The Sapphire Preferred Card earns 2 points per dollar spent on travel, and that category has a broad definition. Think airfare, hotels, motels, car rentals, cruises, camping excursions, and help from travel agents. It also covers transportation such as trains, buses, taxis, and even tolls and parking. And if you book your getaway in the Chase portal, these purchases earn 5 points per dollar. Dining racks up 3 points per dollar, and extends to fast food joints, fine restaurants, coffee shops, takeout, and eligible delivery services. Chase also introduced perks for groceries: Online orders earn 3 points per dollar (except at Target, Walmart, and wholesale clubs, which is typical among the best credit cards for groceries). For everything between, purchases earn 1 point per dollar. If you just want cash back, Ultimate Rewards points can be redeemed at a rate of 1 point for $0.01. But take note: You’ll get your most bang for your buck using Ultimate Rewards through Chase’s travel portal where you can book hotels, cruises, car rentals, vacation rentals, and more with a value of 1.25 cents per point ($0.0125). So, 10,000 points could put a cool $100 back in your bank account or cover a $125 night in an eligible hotel. If you want to transfer points to another loyalty program, you have that option, too. And the good news is that points have the same value at a wide range of Ultimate Rewards partners such as JetBlue, Southwest, and United, and hotels include popular chains like Hyatt, IHG, and Marriott. Perks: At the moment, Chase offers a sweet welcome offer for new cardholders: Spend $4,000 on purchases within the first three months of account opening, and you’ll earn 60,000 bonus points. That’s $900 if you book travel through the issuer’s portal. Year-round, there’s a laundry list of perks, including travel accident insurance and trip cancellation/interruption insurance. You can be reimbursed for toiletries, clothing, and other essentials if your baggage is delayed more than six hours. And if your suitcase arrives damaged or is lost, there’s coverage for that, too. The Sapphire Preferred also offers primary car rental insurance coverage, so you can avoid paying extra for insurance with the rental company. If something happens to your rental car, you won’t have to first make a claim with your own insurance policy. Last but not least, it does not have foreign transaction fees, which is key to saving up to 3% when traveling internationally. Learn more about the Chase Sapphire Preferred

## Capital One VentureOne Credit Card

* You can arrange for flights, hotels, and car rentals through Capital One’s Rewards Center.

The VentureOne has an uncomplicated program that rewards you with miles for every purchase, and there’s even an introductory bonus that can offer a windfall for your next trip. Best of all, it’s one of the few no-annual-fee cards that doesn’t charge foreign transaction fees. Points: Cardholders earn 1.25 miles per dollar spent across the board and 5 miles per dollar on hotels and car rentals through Capital One’s portal. There’s a few ways to redeem rewards: You can arrange for flights, hotels, and car rentals through Capital One’s Rewards Center. Transfer your miles to more than a dozen loyalty programs such as Air Canada and British Airways. Capital One recently introduced new 1:1 partners, including Wyndham Rewards. Perks: There’s 0% introductory APR for 15 months on new purchases and balance transfers. Any balance transfer includes a 3% fee on the amounts transferred within the first 15 months. After the introductory period ends a variable rate (17.99% - 27.99%) applies. Cardholders can also rack up 20,000 miles if they spend $500 on purchases within the first three months. If you like what you’re reading, you may also want to consider the Capital One Venture Rewards Credit Card. It does carry a $95 annual fee, but it comes with a higher rewards rate and credit for Global Entry or TSA PreCheck applications. Learn more about the Capital One VentureOne Rewards Credit Card

## American Express Gold Card

Are you willing to pay a little more than the $95 per year but don’t want to go all in on a card with a $500 annual fee? Enter the AmEx Gold. It comes with a $250 price tag, but you can virtually knock out the annual fee if you take advantage of various credits. Plus, you’ll have access to sweet travel perks, including professionals who can help square away hotel reservations and transportation. See rates and fees. Points: The AmEx Gold earns 4X points on restaurants anywhere in the world, and 4X points at U.S. supermarkets—a great rate any day of the year, whether you’re at home or stocking a vacation rental’s fridge. (There’s a spending cap, but it’s fairly high at $25,000 per year. You can spend nearly $500 on the weekly errand and fit under it.) You’ll also earn 3X points on travel booked directly with an airline as well as airfare purchased through the issuer’s rewards portal. For everything between, you’re looking at 1X points. When it comes to redemption options, travelers can transfer to airline or hotel partners such as Aer Lingus, Etihad Guest, and Hawaiian Airlines or as a statement credit or gift card. There’s always the option to book through AmEx Travel, too. Perks: If you run into any trouble, there’s coverage for lost or damaged baggage, credits for meals and lodging if your trip is delayed more than 12 hours, and car rental damage insurance. Plus, when you’re more than 100 miles away from home, the Global Assist hotline is a phone call away to help with replacing passports and medical or legal emergencies. There are no foreign transaction fees, though of course, American Express cards are not accepted everywhere overseas. As always, terms apply. See rates and fees. Learn more about the American Express Gold Card

## Chase Sapphire Reserve

The Chase Sapphire Reserve is a premium travel credit card with incredibly valuable benefits. No surprise: It has a high annual fee of $550, but its excellent returns quickly make it worthwhile for those who like to travel in style. Points: The Sapphire Reserve offers 3 Chase Ultimate Rewards points per $1 spent on travel after you spend $300 in the category (which is reimbursed with an annual credit). It also earns 3 Ultimate Rewards points on dining (restaurants, casual eateries, and coffee shops) and 1 point per $1 spent on all other purchases. Ultimate Rewards points can be used to book hotels, cruises, car rentals, vacation rentals, and tourist activities directly through Chase’s travel portal where they’re worth 1.5 cents each ($0.015). So, a cross country flight that would cost $500 on an airline’s website could equal 37,500 points (worth $375 if redeemed for cash) if you bought it through Chase’s travel portal. For additional flexibility, you can combine points with frequent flyer miles at certain programs, including Emirates, Singapore Airlines, and JetBlue. There’s three hotel partners: Hyatt, IHG, and Marriott. For a rewards boost, cardholders can book excursions through the Chase travel portal to rack up 10 points per dollar on dining, hotel stays, and car rentals, and 5 points per dollar on flights. It’s also possible to earn 80,000 bonus points if you spend $4,000 on purchases in the first 3 months of opening an account. That translates to $1,200 that can be used towards travel costs when redeemed through the Chase Ultimate Rewards program. Perks: The Sapphire Reserve offers a $300 travel credit each year, where the first $300 in travel purchases (from taxi fares to hotels and flights) made on your card will be refunded via a statement credit, effectively reducing the annual fee to $250. You’ll benefit from trip delay coverage, trip cancellation coverage, and lost and damaged baggage coverage. In other words, you may be able to get away without purchasing additional travel insurance, including when renting a car. Primary car rental insurance covers up to $75,000 in physical damages or theft, meaning you don’t have to make a claim to your own insurance policy first. You’ll also receive credit for a Global Entry or TSA PreCheck application every four years, and a Priority Pass Select Membership that gives you access to more than 1,200 airport lounges across the world. These travel benefits can save you time and hassle, and maybe keep you a little saner, when you’re dealing with the madness of an airport. Finally, the Chase Sapphire Reserve doesn’t charge foreign transaction fees for purchases made abroad, an absolute must if you plan to travel internationally. Learn more about the Chase Sapphire Reserve

## Capital One Venture Rewards Credit Card

The Capital One Venture Rewards Credit Card is a straightforward travel rewards credit card, and it should serve you well whether you’re on the go or at home. We’re especially encouraged by recent developments, as the issuer has announced new hotel and airline partners, introduced a 1:1 transfer tier, and it’s slated to open its own airport lounges in Dallas Fort Worth and Dulles. Points: You’ll earn an unlimited 2X miles for every purchase you make—or 5X miles on hotels and rental cars booked through Capital One’s portal. Those miles can be redeemed on airfare, hotel stays, or transferred to more than a dozen loyalty programs. Some partners are at a lower rate, but others carry the same value. Perks: Enjoy two complimentary visits per year to Capital One Lounges or to 100+ Plaza Premium Lounges through our Partner Lounge Network. Plus, every four years you can be reimbursed for up to $100 on Global Entry or TSA PreCheck fees to breeze through the airport. Renting a car? There’s an auto damage waiver that covers collision and theft. Learn more about the Capital One Venture Rewards Credit Card

## The Platinum Card from American Express

The Platinum Card plugs you into AmEx’s excellent travel concierge service, which is like having a personal travel agent a phone call away, no matter where you are in the world. Likewise, this card is a good option for frequent flyers who’d like to make use of American Express’s best-in-class Centurion Lounges, with a dozen U.S. locations and more opening across the globe. The high-end perks unsurprisingly come with a high price tag: a $695 annual fee. You’ll definitely want to use it often to make it worthwhile. Thankfully, there are plenty of credits that can help soften the blow. American Express cards aren’t widely accepted outside of the U.S.—typically only at international locations of U.S.-based hotel and restaurant chains and sometimes high-end stores. That said, wherever you can use it, the Platinum avoids foreign transaction fees. See rates and fees as terms apply. Points: The Platinum Card offers 5 Membership Rewards points per dollar on airfare purchased directly from airlines or through AmEx Travel. (There’s a $500,000 spending cap for this category.) Cardholders also earn 5 points per dollar when booking prepaid hotel stays through amextravel.com. These points can be redeemed through AmEx Travel with a value of 1 cent each ($0.01) or they can be transferred to American Express partners like British Airways, Virgin Atlantic, and Marriott Bonvoy. Perks: As you’d expect, a Global Entry or TSA PreCheck application fee is covered when it’s paid for with the card, and you can enroll in a Priority Pass Select membership to gain entry to more than 1,300 airport lounges worldwide. You’ll also have access to American Express’ Centurion Lounges (currently 12 within the U.S., plus several international lounges, with more opening every year) and Delta’s lounges when you fly with the airline. Travel concierges can assist Platinum cardholders with restaurant reservations, concert tickets, and more anywhere in the world. And with the Fine Hotels + Resorts programs, cardholders receive an average of $550 worth of complimentary perks such as late check-out and room upgrades. Learn more about the Platinum Card from American Express

## IHG Rewards Premier

If you hop from hotel to hotel, there are plenty of cards that will accommodate your needs. IHG loyalists have their pick of more than 5,000 properties at a range of price points. The brand includes chains like the luxe Kimpton and InterContinental hotels and more budget-friendly options like Holiday Inns. If these are your go-to hotels, the IHG Rewards Premier credit card stands out for its perks. It has an $99 annual fee, though one benefit alone—the free annual reward night certificate—can easily cover the cost. Not to mention, it includes a Global Entry, TSA PreCheck or NEXUS Statement reimbursement. Points: You’ll get up to 26 points per dollar spent at IHG hotels and 5 points at gas stations, travel, and restaurants. All other purchases earn 3 points per dollar. When you redeem your IHG points for a stay that’s three consecutive nights or longer, you’ll get your fourth night free (in effect, a 25% discount). This can be applied to an unlimited number of trips in one year. Perks: This Chase card automatically gives you high-level Platinum Elite status with InterContinental Hotels Group. That means you get benefits like late checkout, 50% more points when you stay at IHG hotels, and room upgrades. While this isn’t the chain’s highest tier, we’re not ones to complain about a few more hours to lounge in a hotel bed. The IHG Premier Card also offers a TSA PreCheck, Global Entry or NEXUS Statement credit of up to $100 every four years. Simply charge your application fee to your card, and you’ll be reimbursed with a statement credit. And you don’t need to worry about foreign transaction fees either. Finally, every year you’ll be given an anniversary credit for a free night. It can be used for rooms that cost up to 40,000 points, which can easily be worth $200 per night. Just by using this certificate each year, this card could pay for itself. Learn more about the IHG Rewards Premier

## Citi Premier

Experts and consumers regularly mention the Citi Premier as a worthy travel credit card, but it also is valuable when you’re filling up at the pump. Plus, it earns flexible rewards that can be redeemed for cash back, used to book travel directly through Citi, or transferred to Citi’s airline partners, including JetBlue and Virgin Atlantic. All this is yours for a $95 annual fee. Points: The Citi Premier earns 3 ThankYou points per dollar spent on airline travel, hotel stays, and at gas stations. You’ll get that top rate at restaurants and supermarkets, too, and 1 ThankYou point per dollar spent on all other purchases. If you redeem your ThankYou points for cash back, they are worth one cent each ($0.01). Transfer your points to Citi’s partners and the value can be significantly more or less, depending on the current dollar cost of the flight. The mile cost for flights booked with travel partners is generally static, so if the dollar cost is up, you could save with transferred miles. Perks: For one, you’ll never be charged foreign transaction fees when you travel abroad. And once a year, you can receive $100 off an eligible hotel stay that’s booked through Citi. Cardholders can also earn 80,000 bonus points after spending $4,000 within three months of opening their account. Learn more about the Citi Premier

## Chase Freedom Unlimited

Perhaps now that you’ve dug deeper into the world of travel credit cards, you’ve realized you don’t spend enough on airfare or hotel nights to rack up rewards. In that case, we think the Freedom Flex is a worthy option. It pays to use for everyday shopping and adds a boost when booking travel through Chase. And because there’s no annual fee, you won’t have to pay for adding it to your wallet—as long as you pay your bill on time and in full, that is. Points: When cardholders book travel through Chase Ultimate Rewards, they typically earn 5% on those flights, hotel stays, car rentals and more. To up the ante, the issuer currently has an intro offer that adds 1.5% to that rate on everything (including travel) on up to $20,000 spent in the first year. That means the usual 3% at restaurants is bumped to 4.5%, whether you’re trying a hot spot around the corner from your hotel or headed to your local haunt. The rate also applies to takeout and eligible delivery services as well as drugstore purchases. That’s money in your pocket when you’re stocking up on TSA-compliant toiletries on the eve of a flight, buying SPF once you’ve touched down at a resort or even a weeknight run for toilet paper. During the intro offer, any other purchases will earn 3%, which returns to a respectable 1.5% after the first year, or if you meet the spending cap beforehand. Perks: Despite not being a travel card, the Freedom Flex does come with a few benefits for when you’re on the road. Take advantage of an auto rental collision damage waiver, trip cancellation/interruption insurance, and travel emergency services for legal and medical assistance. This is the only card on the list with a foreign transaction fee, but the Freedom Unlimited is a low maintenance, straightforward option that may work for infrequent travelers who stick to exploring the U.S. Learn more about the Chase Freedom Unlimited

# The Best High End Dishwashers of 2022

# The Best Pressure Cookers of 2022

## Ninja Foodi OL701

* Dimensions: 15.39 x 14.21 x 14.25 inches
* Dimensions: 15.39 x 14.21 x 14.25 inches Capacity: 8 quarts Weight: 25 pounds Cooking Presets: 14 Dishwasher safe: Yes The latest model of the Foodi takes all the fantastic functionality of the previous two-lid model and makes it better (all under one lid). It features 14 different cooking functions—from commonplace pressure cooking and air frying to more advanced bread proofing and sous vide. We especially love the Steam & Crisp function, which can be used to whip up grains, veggies, and protein all at the same time and with excellent results (read: tender on the inside, crispy on the outside). This model also features a Smart Thermometer, which can be used to automatically cook protein according to desired doneness. Just insert the probe, decide how well you’d like your meat cooked, and the Foodi does the rest. The provided booklet does fall short, though. The instructions are lacking, leading to initial confusion upon set-up. And some of the provided recipes were underwhelming: the risotto was overcooked and lacking flavor, while the crusty bread was underbaked. But with a little trial and error, getting the hang of this Ninja Foodi is worth the wait. It may be a littler pricier than other models, but it delivers: It’s easy to navigate, a breeze to wash, and a workhorse at delivering tasty, well-cooked meals. Read the full review here.

## Chef IQ Smart Cooker

* Dimensions: 13 x 13 x 13 inches
* Dimensions: 13 x 13 x 13 inches Capacity: 6 quarts Weight: 10.4 pounds Cooking Presets: 10 Dishwasher safe: Yes We loved the Chef iQ smart cooker for its gorgeous build—minimalist black both inside and out with a simple screen and black knob—and customizable cook functions. You can dictate almost all aspects of each setting. For example, its Ferment function allows you to adjust the fermentation temperature, making it more versatile than the preset Yogurt function on the Instant Pot. Designed for chefs by chefs, this pressure cooker offers some small but impactful details. It has a built-in tare function, so you can weigh ingredients directly into the pot and minimize dishes from building up in the sink. It also removes the guesswork during the initial pressurizing phase by displaying exactly how much pressure has built up in the cooker, so anxious cooks can more accurately estimate how long it’ll take until dinner is ready. Plus, you can choose when and how pressure is released after cooking, so if you opt for immediate quick release, the cooker will automatically beep to let you know it’s about to release pressure and then do it for you in a totally hands-free experience. This pressure cooker also connects easily to the Chef iQ app, which is beautifully designed and full of recipes and tips. It’s not required for you to sync the two before use, so you can add on the app at any point.

# The Best Thanksgiving Tools of 2022

## Viking 3-Ply Roasting Pan w/ Non-Stick Rack

Most people think of a roasting pan as a Thanksgiving essential, and it definitely is: Talk about a fuss-free way to cook up a turkey! But you can also use a well-built one year-round for sheet pan meals or cooking a roast for a crowd, making it worth it to invest in a good one. The tri-ply stainless steel construction definitely gives the Viking Roasting Pan some heft, but the handles are super wide and comfortable, distributing the pan’s weight nicely. It had excellent heat distribution as well. It’s big and sturdy enough to handle a 20-pound turkey and it’s capable of cooking anything you throw at it. Read More: The Best Roasting Pans

## ThermoWorks ChefAlarm

Don’t undercook your turkey! Confidently toss it into the oven and forget about it until it beeps by probing it with this top-performing probe thermometer. In addition to being the most accurate probe we tested, the ThermoWorks ChefAlarm also has a nice backlight display. You can use it as a timer, adjust the alarm’s volume, or use it to keep track of the minimum and maximum readings. We especially love its hinged tilting screen for easy viewing on the countertop, but it also has a magnet and a clip if that works better for your kitchen. Spending $60 on a thermometer might not be for everyone, but this model is well worth the price tag, not only for your Thanksgiving Day meal but also if you’re serious about barbecue, making cheese, or boiling sugar for candy. Read More: The Best Probe Thermometers

## ThermoWorks ThermoPop

If monitoring your turkey’s temperature from inside the oven isn’t important to you, pick up a ThermoPop instead. It immediately impressed us with its super quick, accurate readings and its beautiful appearance. The probe is long enough to keep your hands safely away from any hot steam. It also features a super thin tip that didn’t allow for many poultry juices to escape after probing. With a click of a button, the display rotates 360 degrees for ease of viewing. Another click and the backlight illuminates the large numbers. Read More: The Best Digital Meat Thermometers

## OXO Good Grips Good Gravy Fat Separator – 4 Cup

Fat separators might not be the sexiest gadget in the kitchen, but you’ll need one if you’re hoping to make a killer gravy this year. By design, bottom-draining separators make it almost impossible to pass a lot of fatty-liquid through their valves because the fat floats on the top. Some of them have temperamental levers, but the trigger on this model is easy to control and, by design, will minimize splashing, creating less mess than some of the other models we tested. There’s also a pour spout on the top, which makes it much easier to remove the fat left behind. And, since the lever mechanism is located on the outside of the separator, we had no problems when it came time to clean everything up. Read More: The Best Fat Separators

## OXO Good Grips Spring-Loaded Poultry Shears

If you prefer preparing spatchcocked turkeys, you’ll need a good pair of poultry shears. It’s easy to do, but you’ll need to cut out the backbone (which, as the name implies, is lined with a bunch of bones that’ll destroy your expensive knives). The OXO Good Grips Spring-Loaded Poultry Shears are the best set we’ve tested. The micro-serrated blade grips the bones and it doesn’t struggle to slice through poultry skin. The tension in these spring-loaded scissors was perfect, and they bounced open happily after every cut. They were light and maneuverable, and they were an overall joy to use. Read More: The Best Poultry Shears

## Mercer Culinary Renaissance 11” Granton Edge Slicing Knife

This carving knife came in my culinary school knife kit, and it’s so sharp I’ve never had reason to replace it! After you’ve spent all that time and money to prepare your turkey, you definitely want to present it just right. You could use your chef’s knife, but there’s something ceremonious about pulling out a good carving knife. Plus, since you don’t use it as frequently, chances are good it’s razor-sharp when you need it. You’ll be able to carve up your turkey quickly and easily and present perfect slices. It doesn’t come as a set, but you can also pick up the matching carving fork (available at Amazon). I usually use a set of kitchen tongs, but the fork certainly looks nicer and gives you better control.

## Black & Decker EK500B

There are two stand-out factors that make the Black and Decker EK500B 9-Inch Electric Carving Knife our favorite. First, it aced all of our performance tests, but that’s not what impressed us the most. The Black and Decker also has the most comfortable handle and was the quietest knife we tested. The round handle fit perfectly in our hands and stayed put, even when our hands were covered in chicken grease. The knife created little to no vibrations, making it easy to keep our finger locked onto the trigger without slipping. Since the Black and Decker is regularly priced at under $20, it also happens to be the best value, too. I would happily use this knife regularly to slice homemade bread or quickly break down a roast, but that price makes it attractive even if you only pull it out on the holidays. Read More: The Best Electric Knives

## Teakhaus Rectangle Carving Board With Hand Grips

When we tested cutting boards, we split the winners into three categories. Our favorite bamboo cutting board was great for any task in the kitchen, but the Teakhaus’ size and heft made it more of a specialty board than a catch-all winner. It happens to be perfect for resting and carving a Thanksgiving turkey, though, because it can easily hold a 25-pound bird. It also happens to be a gorgeous piece that makes a stylish addition to your kitchen counter. The use of teak (a high-oil wood) fought off moisture better than the other wooden boards and it held the largest amount of liquid (2/3 cup) in its groves before spilling over. Read More: The Best Cutting Boards

## Chef’n FreshForce Potato Ricer

I don’t know about you, but I’m serious about my mashed potatoes. It’s my favorite side on the Thanksgiving table. That’s why I use a potato ricer to make fluffy, airy mashed potatoes. We loved the way this potato ricer effortlessly pushed the potatoes through the hopper, thanks to a gear-powered mechanism that requires less arm strength to use. It was the only ricer we tested that we could use one-handed with a whole potato (with the others we tested, we had to chop the potatoes up into small pieces to achieve one-handed pressing). The comfortable handle is made from a heavy-duty plastic, but the hopper itself is stainless steel, which is easier to clean and should last a long time. The simple two-piece design allows you to take the stainless steel basket out, making it both easy to fill and a breeze to clean. Read More: The Best Potato Ricers

## Cuisinart Stainless Steel Mixing Bowls with Lids, Set of 3

Given the choice between glass or stainless steel bowls, I’ll go stainless every time. There’s nothing to shatter or chip, making them both durable and long-lasting, and their lightweight profile makes them easy to use. While they shouldn’t go into the microwave, they can be used on the stovetop as a double boiler. The small- and medium-sized bowls in the Cuisinart Stainless Steel Mixing Bowls with Lids set worked perfectly for melting butter and chocolate over a 2-quart saucepan. As a bonus, the bowls come with air-tight plastic lids, so each bowl doubles as storage and transportation container (always helpful when you’re planning a large meal). Read More: The Best Mixing Bowls

## Great Jones Hot Dish

The best part of making casseroles for Thanksgiving? You can make them ahead of time and reheat them when it’s time to serve a big meal. That means less scrambling on Thanksgiving Day (which, hopefully, gives you more time to mingle with your guests). The Great Jones Hot Dish will get the job done and look great while doing it. This dish is convenient, can hold up to 5 quarts, and has the space to serve up enough green bean casserole for all of your guests. If you’re looking for something on the cheaper side that is also functional, look no further than the Pyrex Easy Grab 3-Quart Glass Baking Dish with Red Lid (available at Amazon). This dish is certainly easy to grip and even comes with a red plastic lid to keep your holiday side fresh until it’s served. Read More: The Best Casserole Dishes

## Cuisinart 14-Cup Food Processor

If you don’t feel like cutting anything this year, hook up your food processor instead. You can chop onions, celery, and garlic for stuffing and use the included attachment to slice potatoes or shred cheese. In fact, you can even make your pie crust in it. In our testing, the Cuisinart “Custom 14” food processor (model DFP‑14BCNY) is the best on the market. It excels at almost every task, from chopping onions and slicing tomatoes as well as a razor-sharp chef’s knife, to kneading pizza dough into a smooth elastic ball. As an added bonus, the Cuisinart is so quiet while it’s running that it won’t shut down conversation in the kitchen. Cleanup is a cinch, as Cuisinart is the only manufacturer that actually encourages you to wash the parts in the dishwasher. Read More: The Best Food Processors

## Lodge Chef Collection 12-Inch Cast-Iron Skillet

I love my cast-iron skillet! Some years, I skip the casserole dishes entirely and make my mac and cheese, stuffing, or cornbread straight in the cast-iron. Lodge has been making its cast-iron cookware since 1896, but its durability is one reason why Lodge has become a household name—and why they make our favorite cast-iron pan. The Lodge Chef Collection 12-inch skillet will also likely last for generations. Our only complaint? It comes with no written warranty, though Lodge claims it will always stand behind its products. Read More: The Best Cast-Iron Pans

## HexClad Hybrid Cookware 13-Piece Chef’s Package

You’ll need pots and pans to prepare all your favorite sauces and side dishes, so consider it a great excuse to upgrade your cookware set. HexClad Hybrid Cookware 13-Piece Chef’s Package combines everything you love about stainless steel and nonstick pans to help whip up a delicious holiday meal. This kit includes 8-, 10-, and 12-inch frying pans; 2- and 3-quart sauce pots; an 8-quart stockpot; and a 12-inch wok. The HexClad’s unique hybrid construction allows the pans to heat up quickly and evenly, while using only a minimal amount of cooking oil. This is a great choice if you’re looking to upgrade your cookware set just in time for the holidays. If you’re looking for a more budget-friendly option, we recommend the Cuisinart MCP-12N Stainless Steel 12-Piece Cookware Set (available at Amazon). It’s regularly on sale for just above $200 and contains everything you’ll need for a holiday meal. These pans are easy to use and never get too hot to handle, which is useful when you’re busy in the kitchen. Read More: The Best Cookware Sets

## Wüsthof 8845 Grand Prix II 7-Piece Block Set

You don’t need every knife in the block to prepare Thanksgiving dinner, but this set gives you everything you’ll need, including a set of kitchen shears. The chef’s knife (the one you’ll probably use most often) was not only super sharp, but it was also very maneuverable making it easy to slice up small herbs, too. The paring blade was perfectly lengthed for on- and off-the-cutting board tasks, like peeling apples, and the serrated bread knife made quick work at slicing crusty baguettes. Read More: The Best Knife Sets

## Nordic Ware Natural Aluminum Commercial Baker’s Half Sheet

Planning on making cookies for Thanksgiving? Roasted vegetables? Tossing out your roasting pan in lieu of a spatchcocked turkey? You’ll need a good baking sheet, and there’s a reason this American-made baking sheet tops charts around the internet. This Nordic Ware Half Sheet is lightweight, large enough to fit more than a dozen cookies, and distributes heat like a dream. Measuring 12-by-17-inches, it’s large enough to cook enough vegetables for a small crowd. Like all baking sheets, the biggest concern is always cleaning. We’d recommend using parchment paper or a Silpat mat under cookies to ensure that nothing sticks. For meats and vegetables, you could also line the sheet with aluminum foil. Read More: The Best Cookie and Baking Sheets

## Checkered Chef Half-Sheet Stainless Steel Cooling Rack

Wire racks aren’t just for cooling your cookies and cakes: Use one to line a baking sheet and you’ll create the perfect convection cooking space. You see, the air will be able to circulate underneath your food, creating the crispiest bacon or Brussels sprouts on the block. You can also use it to cook a spatchcocked turkey. How could you say no to a method that creates perfectly crispy skin on 100% of your turkey?

## Emile Henry Modern Classics Pie Dish

It’s almost a Thanksgiving requirement to serve pie, so why not do it in style? You can’t beat the Emile Henry Pie Dish for looks or turning out a pie with a crispy, flaky crust. It’s made of ceramic and comes in lots of pretty colors. This 9-by-2-inch dish is deep enough to hold almost 2 quarts of filling. Its large capacity and attractive appearance make it a good choice for baking and serving other items like scalloped potatoes or candied sweets. As it can withstand high temperatures, you can run the Emile under the broiler if you want to brown off a lemon meringue pie or a mac and cheese casserole. Plus, it’s microwave- and dishwasher-safe. Read More: The Best Pie Dishes

## Rachael Ray Yum-o! Nonstick Oven Lovin’ Loaf Pan

If you’re more into pumpkin bread than pumpkin pie, a good loaf pan will be essential on Thanksgiving. This pan has a silly name and it doesn’t look like a professional tool, but when it came to results and ease of use, we liked everything about it. The Rachael Ray Yum-o! Oven Lovin’ Loaf Pan has large handles and silicone inserts in Rachael’s signature orange color that make it super easy to get a firm grip on the pan. The nonstick finish never faltered, even when we didn’t grease the pan. Plus it’s roomier than some of the others we tested, so meatloaf juices never bubbled over onto the oven floor. As it’s safe up to 500°F, you can quickly brown off a crumb topping on an apple loaf, if need be. Read More: The Best Loaf Pans

## J.K. Adams Plain Maple Rolling Dowel

When they say there’s beauty in simplicity, they’re talking about this rolling pin. It’s really just a sturdy wooden cylinder of a medium-heavy weight, nothing more, nothing less. But during testing, it rolled out perfect dough every time. The simple design of this rolling pin, combined with its weight, makes it easy to control the amount of pressure you use based on what you need for your dough. Its long body and lack of handles also mean that you’ll never cut an edge through your dough the way you sometimes might with smaller, handled rolling pins. This translates to an even, non-lumpy dough that’s easy to shape however you want. Flour sticks to the pin just fine, which keeps dough from sticking while in use. The pin also cleans up easily. The only downside is that, depending on the size of your kitchen, it might be tough to put this beauty away. Its 19-inch length simply makes it harder to tuck into a drawer. Read More: The Best Rolling Pins

## Pyrex Ultimate 10-pc Storage Set

A really nice set of reusable containers should be ready during dinner cleanup. We love that these containers nest within each other for easy storage, they don’t impart off-flavors into our food, and they’re marked as dishwasher-, microwave-, and oven-safe. It also doesn’t hurt that they aced every test we could think of. They didn’t leak water when we sloshed them around and didn’t burst open or shatter when we dropped them from a countertop. When we froze them, expanding food didn’t break through the seal and they resisted stains. Read More: The Best Storage Containers

## Williams Sonoma All-Purpose Pantry Towels

Washing the Thanksgiving dishes can be a daunting task, but the classic pantry towels from Williams Sonoma can help you get the job done without any fuss. Not only do these towels look good in any kitchen (choose from six colors), but they’re a pro at drying irregular objects like wine glasses and vases while still feeling soft to the touch. Made from ribbon cotton terry, the towels retain more water than its competitors, which means it should be able to wipe water from plenty of dishes before you need to grab another one. Read More: The Best Dish Towels

## PremiumRacks Professional Dish Rack

If you don’t want to run your good china, crystal, and silver through the dishwasher (or you simply don’t have a dishwasher), a good dish rack is essential for an organized post-Thanksgiving dinner cleanup. Our favorite is this PremiumRacks Professional, a smartly designed double-decker that holds more dishes than others we tested, without leaving a very large countertop footprint. The bottom portion is your standard featureless rack, but the top holds plates more securely than most of the racks we tested. A cutlery basket hooks onto the side, as does a second basket that can be topped with a lid specifically designed for sharp knives. There’s even a special attachment to dry your cutting boards. The rack also comes with two drain board options—one meant to let water pool, and the other designed to tip any water into the sink—plus a microfiber cloth to set underneath. Read More: The Best Dish Racks For more kitchen cleanup favorites, including paper towels, sponges, and trash cans, check out our guide for The Best Kitchen Essentials.

# The Best Sound Machines of 2022

## Adaptive Sound Sound + Sleep

Number of sounds: 30 Battery: No Cord length: 57 inches Weight: 2 pounds The Sound & Sleep from Adaptive Sound Technologies offers a top-notch sound machine experience. From the sleek tear-drop design to the excellent sound, it exudes quality across the board. This sound machine offers 10 distinct sound categories, each with three different “richness” settings, which give you a total of 30 sounds to choose from. The richness setting allows you to tweak the variables that get layered into the sound. For example, on the ocean setting, the standard sound is crashing waves; one tap of the richness button adds the sounds of seagulls and seals. A second adds bells and faraway foghorns to create a more soothing, layered sound. It is also the only sound machine to feature an adaptive mode, where the internal microphone monitors your room’s ambient noise level and adjusts the volume accordingly. The Sound & Sleep easily got loud enough to drown out competing sounds in our noise masking tests; it completely blocked out the sounds it was put up against. Both testers also noted that at every volume level, the speaker produced high quality sounds from clear highs to soothing bass without distortions. It is one of the biggest of the units we tested, both in weight and size, which makes it difficult to recommend traveling with. It has a headphone jack but doesn’t offer a nightlight, clock, or app— and it’s on the higher side, price-wise. If that’s not an issue for you, you’d be hard-pressed to find a better sound machine than this one.

## Dreamegg D1

Number of sounds: 24 Battery: No Cord length: 60 inches Weight: 1.19 pounds The Dreamegg D1 presented a pleasant surprise across the board. This sound machine is compact, with well-designed buttons, and 24 sounds that don’t diminish in quality as the volume rises. The D1 can get plenty loud; it features over 32 volume levels, and in testing we successfully blocked almost every bit of intrusive noise by level 20. Among the 24 sounds are seven white-noise and seven fan sounds alongside nature tracks like brook, ocean waves, and thunderstorm. It also includes three lullaby tunes in case you’d like to place it in a baby’s room and has a gentle nightlight in a warm hue. There’s no battery, but at 60 inches, the cord length is generous enough to be able to position it where you need to. At a little over a pound, it’s compact and heavy enough so that it should survive traveling well.

## Loftie Alarm Clock

Number of sounds: Dozens Battery: No Cord length: 72 inches Weight: 0.84 pounds The Loftie Clock is one of a few smart sound machines currently available, and it first gained our attention when we reviewed alarm clocks. It is a striking machine, sleek and lightweight with a warm nightlight along the bottom, and an easy-to-read display. In addition to the standard white noise sounds, Loftie can play you meditations or bedtime stories (the company updates these regularly). The sound quality is high across volume ranges, and the Loftie got impressively loud through its 10 or so volume steps. It was able to block unwanted sounds with some success, though noise blocking isn’t really what Loftie’s aim is. The goal of this device is to provide support to both ease you into, and out of, healthy sleep routines. From the extra content and the soothing light to the nighttime routines and the two-stage morning alarm, Loftie wants to be your sleep guru. The white noise and background tones are just one brick in that building. Loftie can be controlled either via the five buttons on the top, or from its minimalist smart phone app. The app was straightforward and offered good troubleshooting support when we had to adjust time zones, but we fumbled through learning the menus a bit with the physical buttons. Loftie can also double as a Bluetooth speaker, which may help ease the sting of its price tag some.

## Adaptive Sound LectroFan

Number of sounds: 20 Battery: No Cord length: 58 inches Weight: 1.2 pounds The LectroFan is humble, practical and—if you’re looking for a straightforward white noise machine—undoubtedly the best bang for your buck. It does exactly what it promises without any compromises in quality. A streamlined noise maker for those who simply want to plug in and sleep, the LectroFan offers two sound settings, fan and white noise, with 10 selectable options for each setting. Both testers noted that the machine’s high-fidelity upward-facing speaker replicated each sound beautifully, producing a warm, bass-heavy profile. The “fan setting” did sound exactly like an actual box fan, albeit one with more tonal and volume control. In terms of decibels, this machine held its own against our top pick, successfully drowning out all three levels of conversation without having to turn the volume up to unsafe levels. Most importantly, the LectroFan’s output retained its smooth, soothing qualities even when we pushed it to the limits. There aren’t a lot of extra bells and whistles here, aside from a timer, but its simple effectiveness is its best feature.