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Having one of the best air purifiers in your home can help you filter out many of the most dangerous air particles you can encounter, especially if you suffer from allergies, have pets that recruit hair and dander, live with a smoker or just want to breathe better. Air cleansers can even provide protection against the COVID-19 coronavirus, Consumer Reports recently found. This is one reason why stores often run out of stock after the coronavirus crisis continues and as winter approaches. If the model you want below isn't available, it might be worth looking back in another week. The Environmental Protection Agency says although no device can eliminate air pollution altogether or be a substitute for clean outdoors, the best air cleansers can indeed improve respiratory health. When used alongside other best practices recommended by CDC and others, the EPA says, [air] filtration may be part of a plan to protect people indoors from COVID-19. This is especially true if you suffer from pre-existing conditions such as asthma or to chronic allergies. Air purifiers with HEPA or HEPA-like filters will attract most air particles, including pet dander and pollen. Airdrops suspended from the mouth or nose from someone infected with COVID-19 can also be removed from the air, although the rate at which the air is cleared depends on the specific model. Some air purifiers have pre-filters to attract larger pet hair before joining the main filter. Others use electrostatic attraction to capture very small particles or ultraviolet lights to kill bacteria and mold. And some use charcoal or carbon filters to pinpoint petroleum-based gases. What are the best air cleansers? Based on our research, which looked at 30-plus brands and dozens of customer and expert reviews, we've come up with the top air cleaners for your home or office. Our top pick is the Coway AP-1512 HH Mighty, a quiet model with a HEPA filter, prefilter, ionizer and smell filter. With its strong performance for the price (including the cost of replacement filters), it's the best air purveyor for most people. (As of Oct. 26, 2020, this model has been sold out in many online stores, but should be back in stock soon.) The best sky purifier is the Blueair Blue Pure 211+, which comes in five colors including yellow, blue and pink. It's powerful, but a little harsh. It doesn't have a HEPA filter, but Blueair insists its filters are even better. (Consumer Reports said it's one of the best when cleaning up a room of COVID-19 drops.) For tight budgets, we recommend the Levoit LV-H132 or the Blueair Blue Pure 411. Either will do nicely in your bedroom. Parents of young children will like the PureZone 3-in-1 True HEPA Air Purifier, which is small, quiet and ideal for children's bedrooms. It can also be timer is placed to turn himself off while the little ones slumber. If you don't like changing filters, try the Austin Air HealthMate HM-400. The filters last up to 5 years. It also filters out the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that you get from fresh paint, plastics and petroleum products. Finally, if money is no object and clean air is critical to your health needs, the IQAir HealthPro Plus or the Coway Airmega 400 could fit the bill. Both are equipped to handle rooms of 1,000 square feet or more. The best air purifier you can buy today (Image credit: Coway)Room size: 361 square feet | Filters: True HEPA+ washable prefilter + smell filter + bipolar ion filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 223 cfm/246 cfm/240 cfm | Speed: Three | Warranty: Three years Inconsistently exceptional performance in actual testsQuietLow profile designQuestionable customer service The Coway AP-1512 HH Mighty is consistently ranked among the highest regarded air purifiers on the market — and with good reason. It's also one of the fastest to sell out at online and brick-and-mortar stores. It's reasonably priced for how well it works, it's one of the quieter machines of its size, and it has most of the features we want in an air purifier, including a programmable timer, multiple fan speed and a filter indicator light. As a result, it's a bit hard to find in stock right now. Replacement filters are quite cheap and energy costs relatively low, making the Coway one of the least expensive air cleansers of its caliber to maintain year on year. Finally, the Coway AP-1512 HH Mighty is easy on the eyes. It comes in sleek black or white and is relatively compact compared to many other purifiers of similar performance, so it simply fades into a corner. The Coway Mighty is one of the only purifies we've considered that has an ionizing feature. The efficiency and safety of ion filters is questionable (due to possible ozone production), but you can only turn this feature off. (Image credit: Blueair) Room size: 540 square feet | Filters: HEPASilent filter + washable pre-filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 350 cfm | Speed: Three | Noise level: 31–56 dB | Warranty: One yearExceptional performance at the highest speedFun color optionsLoud at low speeds More expensive upfront and over time as competing modelsThe Blue Pure 211+ is highly rated for its solid performance in removing dust, smoke and pollen from room air. The Blueair's filters aren't true HEPA certified, but they're still effective. They work by giving particles an electrical charge, causing those particles to stick to filter skews. The Blue 211+ pre-filter comes in five different colors, from eye-popping yellow to low-key gray, so you can customize the look for your space. The machine also has a filter indicator light to let you know when it's time to replace your main filter. Possible disadvantages of the Blue Pure 211+ include more noise at lower speeds compared to similar machines, and high purchase and maintenance costs. For example, it draws more power than the Coway at similar speed (though it moves more air) and it's a little harder and more expensive (both upfront and over time). (Image (Image) Blueair)Room size: 161 square feet | Filters: HEPASilent filter + washable pre-filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 105 cfm/120 cfm/120 cfm | Speed: Three | Noise

level: 17 – 46 dB | Warranty: One yearEnergy efficientAffordableSmall design with limited reach The Blue Pure 411 is like the 211+'s much smaller brother. It uses similar filtering technology and features and comes in a variety of colors. Where the Blue Pure 411 stands out is in price and efficiency. The purifier is cheap to buy (just over \$100) and maintain (about \$20 annually for replacement filters), and it uses significantly less energy than most other air purifiers we researched. The machine is also small, compact and quiet, making it a great choice for your bedroom. The one thing to keep in mind is that if you plan to move your purer from room to room, the Blue Pure 411 won't be very effective in larger spaces. (Image Credit: Conway) Room size: 1,560 square feet (max) | Filters: Dual genuine HEPA/carbon filter + washable pre-filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 350 cfm | Speed: Four | Noise level: 22–52 dB | Warranty: Five yearHigh-performing dual filtersAesthetically pleasingexpensiveCoway's Airmega 400 is high-performing air purifier at a high price, but reviewers generally agree that the trade-off is worth it. The Airmega 400 has a dual carbon + genuine HEPA filter, which allows it to clean the air in great space over a short period of time more effectively than other machines. Coway claims the Airmega 400 is good for filtering rooms of up to 1,560 square feet, but you'll likely get better performance in rooms that are half that size. If you put the purer in a space up to the maximum recommended size, it will do two or fewer air changes per hour. The Airmega 400 is large but sleek, and it has convenient features like a programmable timer and a display shutdown to reduce disruption during sleep. There's also a smart version (the Airmega 400S) that you can integrate with an Alexa device or a mobile app. Like his smaller cousin the Coway AP-1512 HH Mighty, the Airemega was 400 everywhere out of stock we looked like. Hopefully it will be available again soon. (Image credit: Austin) Room size: 938 square feet | Filters: True HEPA + great pre-filter + medium pre-filter + carbon filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): N/A | Speed: Three | Noise level: 39.8–64.5 dB | Warranty: Five yearLong filter lifespanEffective for smell and chemical sensitivitiesExpensiveLoudThe Austin Air Healthmate HM-400's main selling point is its high-performing and prolonged filters, dealing with everything from mold and pet dander to gas and chemical contaminants. It's not CADR-tested, but it gets high marks from reviewers for filtering volatile organic compounds (VOCs) comes from household products such as paints, pesticides and air fresheners better than most other machines on the market. In addition to being effective, Healthmate HM-400 filters last for up to five years. You can vacuum or the pre-filter from time to time in that time as well. Criticism of the Health Partner HM-400 includes a fairly time-consuming filter replacement process as well as noisy medium and high fan speeds. The unit also doesn't have some basic features (such as a programmable timer or filter indicator light) that you'd expect even at a lower price, and it's pretty power-hungry. While the Healthmate HM-400 is expensive, it's a good option if you have particular concerns about chemicals and odors. (Image credit: Honeywell) Room size: 465 square feet | Filters: True HEPA + disposable pre-filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 300 cfm/320 cfm/300 cfm | Speed: Four | Warranty: Five year Portable and easy to useQuiet at low speed; relatively quiet on high environment More expensive than some similar unitsSignificant maintenance requirementsHoneywell air purifiers get decent reviews across the board, and the HPA300 is a good unit for a fairly reasonable price. It has one of the highest CADR ratings for smoking, dust and pollen from the units we recommend, and it can effectively filter slightly larger rooms. It also has four speeds (compared to three on most units), a programmable timer and adjustable control panel lights. The HPA300 is also portable, so you can easily move it between rooms. The HPA300 is also quieter at higher speeds than some other units. Where the Honeywell HPA300 could fall short is in its filter replacement and maintenance requirements. Both the true HEPA filter and pre-filter are diserable and need to be replaced every six to 12 months. The HEPA filter is actually three filters that reviewers said can be difficult to get in the exact right place. (Image credit: Levoit) Room size: 129 square feet | Filters: True HEPA + disposable pre-filter + carbon filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 110 cfm | Speed: Three | Noise level: 50 dB max | Warranty: Two years Improper performance for the priceSmall and portableLoudMinimal featuresThe Levoit LV-H132 is an Amazon bestseller and the most budget-friendly purifier on our list. Reviewers said it does a decent job for the price, especially with pet odors. It's also a sleek machine that's lightweight, compact and portable, so you can easily move it around your house. At this price, you can't expect bells and whistles — and the Levoit LV-H132 has none. There's no programmable timer, and the device's filter indicator light reminds you to check your filters, but doesn't tell you when it's time to actually replace it. You'll need to train all three filters every six months to a year, since the pre-filter isn't washable. But two replacement kits cost you just \$30. Reviewers report that the Levoit LV-H132 is pretty hard at higher institutions, so sensitive sleepers may struggle to use this unit in their bedrooms. The buttons are also reportedly finicky - they can stick, freeze, completely stop working. If you're looking for a cheap air purifier - or want multiple machines to cover multiple bedrooms in your home - the Levoit Levoit is a decent unit to begin with. Honestly, though, it's probably worth spending a little more for a better device (like the Blue Pure 411) than having a compromise with the Levoit. (Image Credit: PureZone) Room size: 200 square feet | Filters: True HEPA + disposable pre-filter + carbon filter + UV-C light | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): 80 | Speed: Three | Noise level: 30–50 dB | Warranty: Five yearsRelatively quietAttractive designLess effective as similarly priced models The PureZone 3-in-1 True HEPA Air Purifier is another popular (and budget-friendly) model among customers. It's small, sleek and unobtrusive, making it a good choice for those who care about aesthetics and decent performance. What sets the PureZone 3-in-1 apart is its quiet operation. It is soft on lower settings and has an automatic timer that can turn off the device while you sleep. This makes it a great option for bedrooms and babies' rooms where noise and light disruption matter. The device comes with a five-year warranty, longer than other machines at similar prices. The PureZone 3-in-1 has one of the lowest CADR ratings of the devices on this list (80 cfm) and reportedly has a weak fan limiting it to small spaces, but reviewers say that it's effective at filtering the most common air particles. (Image credit: IQAir) Room size: 1,125 square feet | Filters: HyperHEPA + disposable pre-filter + V5-cell gas & smell filter | CADR (smoke/dust/pollen): N/A | Speed: Six | Warranty: 10 yearsIndividually tested unitsTop-notch warrantyMedical-grade filtersExpensive for sale and maintainloud at higher speedLet's state the obvious: the IQAir HealthPro Plus is expensive. At around \$900, it's more than twice the price of many other picks on our list. But if you're serious about air purification, this machine is worth your consideration. It uses HyperHEPA filters, which reportedly retain particles at a rate 100 times higher than standard HEPA filters, as well as a secondary filter for odors and gases. The IQAir HealthPro Plus also covers a large area (1,125 square feet) at two air changes per hour, and can do six per hour in a smaller room. Plus, it has six speeds, programming options, filter indicators, and a remote controller. This purifier is a bestseller and highly rated by experts at Allergy Buyers Club, especially for those who have allergies or other special health concerns affected by air quality. Although not CADR-rated, IQAir tests each unit individually and provides a 10-year warranty, double the time of any other device we recommend. While the IQAir HealthPro Plus is bigger, louder and more expensive than most air cleansers, reviewers say it can provide the relief those with asthma, allergies and respiratory challenges seek. How to choose the best air purifier for youThere are dozens of purers on the market, and it can be hard to sort out which ones are the best air purifier for your home size, health concerns and price. Here are some factors to consider. The best air Comparison List Priceroom sizeFilterCADR (cfm)Noise levelCoway AP-1512 HH Mighty \$230361 sq. ft. ftTrue HEPA233/246/24024.4-53.8 dBBlueair Blue Pure 211+\$300540 sq. ft. HEPASilent35031-56 dBBlueair Blue Pure 411 \$120161 sq. ft. HEPASilent105/120/12017-46 dBCCoway Airmega 400\$6501,560 sq. ft. Genuine HEPA35022-52 dBAustin Air HealthMate HM-400 \$595938 sq. ft. True HEPAUnavailable39.8 dB - 64.5 dBHoneywell HPA300 \$250465 sq. ft. Foot. Genuine HEPA300/320/300 UnavailableLevoit LV-H132 \$90129 sq. ft. Genuine HEPA110Up to 50 dBPureZone 3-in-1 True HEPA Air Purifier \$100200 sq. ft. Genuine HEPA8030-50 dB IQAir HealthPro Plus \$9001,125 sq. ft. HyperHEPAUnavailable35-69 dB Air purifier CADR ratingsMost air purifiers have a clean air delivery rate (CADR) number that helps consumers understand how effective the device is in a certain room size. The higher the number, the more particles the purifier can remove, and the larger the space it can clean. The numbers represent how much cubic feet per minute an air purified can clear. The goal is to clear all the air in a room in about 15 minutes, so a 300-square-foot room would need an air purifier with a CADR of about 200, assuming the ceilings were 10 feet tall and the doors were kept closed. Some devices have different CADR ratings for smoking (the smallest particle), dust and pollen (the bulk). Here are the minimum CADR ratings the Environmental Protection Agency recommends by room size: Area (sq. ft. foot.) 100200300400500600Minimum CADR (cfm)65130195260325390 Not every purifier is tested using the CADR rating system, but actual reviews can give you a sense of a device's effectiveness if a rating is not available. Air purer filter typesIn common, you want to look for a purifier that uses a real high-efficiency particles air (HEPA) filter. Government agencies and professional groups, including the EPA and the American Lung Association, recommend True HEPA filters as the standard for air purification. These filters trap 99.97% of particles containing at least 0.3 microns in size. Some devices have HEPA-type filters, which work similarly but are not kept to the same performance standards. The IQAir HealthPro Plus uses a HyperHEPA filter, which is thought to capture even smaller particles than a True HEPA filter. Your purer will likely also come with a pre-filter (some you can clean, some you have to throw after a few months) that capture the big things like pet fur and human hair before it reaches the main filter. Some devices have additional filters, such as carbon or charcoal filters, that capture the petroleum-based gases known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Air purer noise levelsAir-purifier noise levels range from almost quiet to steady humming, such as an AC unit. Depending on the fan speed you use and you place your purer, you may prefer a quieter device. Air purified costThe purchase price of your air purified is one thing. Continuous filter replacement and energy costs are another. For example, some some have filters that last years but are expensive to replace, while others work with filters that are cheap to buy but need to be changed regularly. You also want to consider the cost of electricity. Some of the best air purifiers we recommend are ENERGY STAR certified, but each draws varying amounts of power at different fan speeds. Devices for larger rooms and with higher speeds tend to use more electricity, although not a hard-and-fast rule. Some devices also have eco-modes. The Blue Pure 411 requires the least energy, but it only covers a small room. Some features are more nice-to-have extras than absolute requirements. In general, pricier purifiers come with more features, such as filter indicator lights, obscurable lights and programmable timers. Only one of the devices we recommend (the IQAir HealthPro Plus) comes with a remote control, but we're not convinced that it adds a lot of value to the machine. How we chose the best air purifier To make our short list of air purifiers for consideration, we looked at top picks from Wirecutter, Consumer Reports, Allergy Buyers Club and others, and also noticed the best-selling and most highly reviewed models on Amazon, Home Depot and Best Buy. We narrow down our list to nine models based on features, price and other factors, including clean air delivery rate (CADR) ratings and noise levels. Levels.

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