

# Best Mattresses of 2021

## Take your pick of the top adjustable air, innerspring, and foam mattresses from CR's tests

By **Haniya Rae**  
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Firm or plush? Cooling gel layers? Natural or organic materials? Buying a new mattress can be a headache because it's difficult to separate the marketing fanfare from a mattress's true attributes.

"You might think you're getting a superior product with all the hyped-up mattress claims you read or hear," says Christopher Regan, who oversees CR's mattress tests. "Our testing separates the good mattresses from the subpar."

To make those distinctions, Consumer Reports gauges firmness and measures precisely how much support each mattress provides to people of different sizes, whether they sleep on their back or on their side.

Below, CR members can read ratings and reviews of top-rated picks from each of the three types of mattresses we test: adjustable air, innerspring, and foam. In our most recent tests, a Denver Mattress innerspring took one of the top spots in our ratings, performing better than the Casper Original Hybrid. (More details below.)

At CR we buy and test queen-size mattresses from well-known brands such as Beautyrest, Sealy, Serta, Stearns & Foster, and Tempur-Pedic, and from relatively new players including Avocado, Casper, Leesa, Reverie, and Tuft & Needle.

Using lab equipment and human test subjects, we evaluate how well a mattress supports the body for both back and side sleepers, how easily sleepers can shift their weight without disturbing a partner, and how well the mattress keeps its shape over time. For that last test, on durability, we pass a 308-pound roller over each mattress 30,000 times to simulate the typical life span of eight to 10 years.

And while our scientific ratings for support are a good proxy for how well you might sleep on a mattress, we also provide ratings for comfort and satisfaction that come from people who've actually lived with these mattresses—for up to 10 years in some cases. Our new comfort and owner satisfaction ratings are based on data from recent surveys on CR members' experiences with more than 74,000 mattresses purchased within the past decade. We asked them to rate the comfort of their mattress, and used the data to generate ratings by brand and type of mattress. Owner satisfaction is based on a member's overall judgment of such factors as firmness/softness, value, quality of sleep, and more.

For even more options, check out our mattress buying guide and full mattress ratings.

## Best Adjustable Air Mattresses

You can inflate each side of these mattresses—meaning each partner can select his or her desired firmness—using a remote control.

### 1 **RECOMMENDED** Sleep Number 360 p6 Smart Bed

80

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** This recommended mattress has a firmness rating of 4 on our scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the firmest, though it can be adjusted to an even softer firmness of 3. It earns a rating of Very Good for support for side sleepers and back sleepers of all sizes but doesn't stand out for any size in particular. It earns an Excellent rating in our stabilization test, meaning you should be able to shift positions with ease. Members give Sleep Number mattresses high ratings; the brand earns Very Good scores for comfort and owner satisfaction.

### 2 **RECOMMENDED** Personal Comfort H10 Bed

78

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** Relatively new to CR's ratings, the Personal Comfort H10 Bed earns an Excellent rating for back sleeper support for all body sizes and a Very Good rating for side sleepers of all sizes. It earns a Very Good rating in our stabilization test, meaning you should be able to shift positions with ease, though you might feel your partner's movements slightly. It's a firm mattress, earning a 6 out of 10 on our firmness scale (10 being the firmest).

### 3 **RECOMMENDED** Saatva Solaire

78

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** The Solaire mattress by Saatva is only slightly less supportive than the Sleep Number c2, but the manufacturer boasts that this mattress is made with certified organic materials, a plus for those who prefer that their bedding be organic and don't mind the cost. It earns a Very Good rating for all sleep styles and body sizes and a Very Good score for stabilization. Saatva air mattresses rate high among CR's members for comfort and owner satisfaction; the brand earns Very Good scores for both.

## Best Innerspring Mattresses

These traditional mattresses are composed of steel coils in various configurations. The most widely sold, they also tend to be the least expensive.

**1** RECOMMENDED

### Avocado Green

**85**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** The Avocado Green performs superbly in our side-support tests for average and large/tall sleepers and in back-support tests for petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, earning a rating of Excellent. The Avocado is made of recycled steel pocket innersprings, and has latex foam padding and a certified organic cotton cover. It's not as stable as some other mattresses in our tests, though. If you sleep with a restless partner or don't like a lot of bounce, this mattress might not be the one for you. Members who bought an Avocado mattress gave it an Excellent rating for comfort and a Very Good score for owner satisfaction.

**2** BEST BUY

### Denver Mattress Doctor's Choice Plush

**82**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** For less than \$600, you can own the second best innerspring mattress in our ratings and the least expensive option among top-scoring mattresses. The Denver Mattress Doctor's Choice Plush earns a Very Good support rating for side sleepers of all sizes and an Excellent rating for all back sleepers. It's a soft mattress, earning a 3 on our firmness scale. It's also a little bouncy, and earns a Good for stabilization. According to data from our member survey, Denver Mattress innersprings earn a middling Good rating for both comfort and owner satisfaction.

**3** RECOMMENDED

### Casper Original Hybrid (2020)

**81**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** The Casper Hybrid innerspring mattress earns an Excellent rating for all of our side sleeper support tests, making it a versatile bed. Large/tall back sleeper support earns a Very Good rating; petite and average back sleeper support ratings earn a Good. The mattress showed little wear after eight to 10 years of simulated use, and it's top-notch at muting vibrations, meaning there's little bouncing from across the bed. The Casper Hybrid isn't a very firm mattress, earning a 3 out of 10 (with 10 being the firmest). Overall, CR members thought their Casper innersprings were a nice choice; in our member survey, the product earns Very Good ratings for comfort and owner satisfaction.

**4** RECOMMENDED

### SleepFresh Hybrid

**81**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** The Sleep Fresh Hybrid makes its debut on our charts as one of the top mattresses at a lower price than the Avocado or the Casper. It's fairly soft, earning a 3 on our firmness scale, and it earns Very Good ratings for support for all sizes and sleep styles. In terms of stability, it earns a slightly lower rating than the Casper above, a Good score in our tests, because it was somewhat bouncy.

## Best Foam Mattresses

The most innovation is in the foam mattress category, with a flurry of beds-in-a-box coming on the market.

**1** RECOMMENDED

### Essentia Stratami

**82**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** Petite and average back sleepers will appreciate that the Essentia Stratami earns an Excellent rating for support, and petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers will enjoy support that earns a Very Good rating in our tests. The Stratami is quite stable, meaning you'll barely feel vibration and movement across the bed, and it earns an Excellent score for durability, with no changes in performance after eight to 10 years of simulated use. This mattress weighs a hefty 122 pounds and has no grips, so if you're moving it, you may need help. CR members gave their Essentia an Excellent rating for comfort and a Very Good score for owner satisfaction.

**2** RECOMMENDED

### Casper Original (2020)

**82**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** Casper's flagship The Casper foam mattress is a great option for back sleepers, earning Excellent ratings in our back-sleeper support tests for every body size. For side sleepers, this mattress is still a great buy, though it's not quite as strong for side sleeping support, with ratings of Very Good for each body size. In our stability tests, this mattress earns a Very Good rating. The Casper is slightly firmer than average, earning a 6 on our firmness scale. Casper foam mattresses earn Very Good ratings for comfort and owner satisfaction among CR members.

**3** BEST BUY

### Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm

**81**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** At a much lower price than the Essentia Stratami and the Dream Supreme, the Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm is made of two layers of 100 percent natural latex foam. It gets a 7 in firmness on our scale of 1 to 10, making it one of the firmer options in our ratings. (Only two models are firmer.) In our tests, it earns an Excellent rating for petite, average, and large/tall back sleeper support. For petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, the Pure Green Firm earns a Very Good rating because the mattress kept test sleepers' spines in reasonably horizontal alignment. Sleep on Latex mattresses earn Very Good ratings among CR members for comfort and owner satisfaction.

**4** RECOMMENDED

### Reverie Dream Supreme II Hybrid Sleep System Firm

**80**

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

**CR's take:** The Reverie Dream Supreme II Hybrid comes with more than 204 interchangeable foam "springs" so that you can adjust the firmness to your liking. It earns an Excellent rating for petite back sleepers and a Very Good rating for all other sleeper sizes and sleep styles. In our durability test, this mattress performed excellently, showing no noticeable change in performance. It proved to be very stable, limiting the amount of vibrations felt. Members who purchased a Reverie foam mattress rated it to be Very Good for both comfort and owner satisfaction.