

Best Cooktop Brands of 2026

Who makes the best gas and electric cooktops? CR's testing, survey, and pricing data point to a few clear winners, plus some brands you might want to avoid.

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Our ratings of electric cooktop brands incorporate test and survey results for both smoothtop electrics and induction models. We also rate gas cooktop brands.
Photo: LG

What makes a great cooktop? On its highest settings, it should be able to bring a pot of water for pasta to a rolling boil in a hurry. Then, on its lowest simmer setting, it should be able to melt chocolate smoothly, without scorching the Ghirardelli or the bottom of the pot. And it should be reliable because repairs can be both difficult and expensive.

"The right cooktop makes cooking smooth and satisfying," says Kenneth Sutton Jr., the engineer who heads CR's cooktop testing program. "The wrong one just gets in the way at every single meal."

The question of which brand makes the best cooktops is tougher to answer. CR's engineers test hundreds of cooking appliances in our labs each year, and currently, there are more than 70 cooktops in our ratings. If you're shopping for a new cooktop, it's smart to start with our ratings and look up the specific models you're considering. But what if we haven't tested the cooktop you're considering? In that case, our overall cooktop brand scores can be a big help.

To determine which brands make the best cooktops, CR created a statistical model that incorporates the Overall Scores for every gas, electric smoothtop, and induction cooktop in our ratings. Our calculations reflect lab performance, available features, predicted reliability, and owner satisfaction

scores. We also look at prices: Brands get credit for delivering high performance and reliability at a lower cost than their competitors.

Below, we list the best brands in two categories: gas cooktop and the combination of induction and conventional smoothtop electric cooktops. For each of those categories, we only included brands with at least three cooktops in our current ratings.



A Best Brand receives the highest Overall Score in its product category based on the brand's aggregate performance, reliability, and satisfaction data across the model lineup tested by CR. Look for the CR Best Brand mark in stores and online to help in your shopping journey.

Best Electric and Induction Cooktop Brands

Electric smoothtops and induction cooktops are sleek and easy to clean, and they perform well, too. The top-performing smoothtop electrics outperform gas models when it comes to boiling water in a hurry. Induction models, which use an electromagnetic field to heat up a pot or a skillet, perform even better on both high and low settings.

The top brand for electric smoothtop and induction cooktops is LG, with high-performing 30- and 36-inch induction models, top predicted reliability scores, and strong marks for owner satisfaction. The other four electric cooktop brands in CR's analysis—Frigidaire, Samsung, KitchenAid, and Whirlpool—also earned strong scores.

BRAND	BRAND SCORE
LG	91
Frigidaire	80
Samsung	79
KitchenAid	78
Whirlpool	77

The following high-scoring cooktops come from the top smoothtop electric and induction brands in CR's ratings. For more options, see our roundups of the best electric radiant and induction cooktops.



LG Studio
CBIS3618BE

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

HIGH HEAT

LOW HEAT

OVERALL SCORE

99

The 36-inch LG Studio CBIS3618B induction cooktop offers truly stellar performance in both high-heat and low-heat cooking. It comes with touch controls and can be WiFi-enabled to connect with a smartphone. The flexible cooking zone on the left allows you to combine the two elements to accommodate cookware of different sizes or shapes. LG's owner satisfaction and brand reliability scores are very strong.



KitchenAid
KCES550HBL

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

HIGH HEAT

LOW HEAT

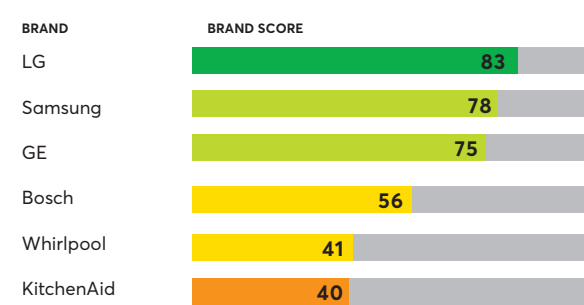
OVERALL SCORE

82

This 30-inch model from Kitchen Aid is our top-rated electric smoothtop cooktop. It excels at both high and low heat cooking and features five elements: two high-power, two low-power, and one medium power, all controlled by a series of large knobs, which many home cooks may prefer over a potentially finicky touch-sensitive panel. The KCES550HBL also earns our Green Choice distinction for energy efficiency and sustainability, and at around \$1,100, it's a relative bargain. KitchenAid's predicted reliability is strong; the brand's owner satisfaction isn't.

Best Gas Cooktop Brands

There's no denying that with their open flame, gas cooktops look and feel cool, but many serious cooks also love them because they're more responsive than smoothtop electric models. They heat up in a hurry and cool down in a flash, which can keep your ganache from scorching.



This highly rated gas cooktop is made by our top-rated brand in the category. For more options, see our roundup of the best gas cooktops in our ratings.



LG CBGJ3623S

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

HIGH HEAT

LOW HEAT

OVERALL SCORE

78

The LG CBGJ3623S is a solid five-burner, 36-inch cooktop with two high-powered burners that heat water quickly. The model turns in a strong performance in our high-heat test and a top score in our low-heat test, demonstrating its ability to heat gently and maintain a steady, slow simmer. This stainless steel cooktop has continuous cooking grates and metal knobs to control the burners. LG gas cooktops receive above-average ratings for reliability in CR's member surveys but earn only middling owner satisfaction ratings.

How to Use Consumer Reports to Find the Perfect Cooktop

At Consumer Reports, we provide three crucial pieces of information that can help you find the best cooktop for your kitchen.

Model performance: We capture the performance of individual models in our cooktop ratings. You're able to search by model to see how well a particular cooktop performs at both low and high heat, and what features it has. Model ratings are the best indicator of how a particular product will work in your kitchen. (You can also check out our analysis of the best electric radiant cooktops, best induction cooktops, and best gas cooktops.)

Reliability and owner satisfaction: Each year, we survey hundreds of thousands of CR members about the products they buy and, in particular, how well those products hold up over time and prolonged usage. We use the information to generate a brand-level predicted reliability score for every type of major appliance we test. We also ask if people would recommend their appliance to a friend or relative, and use those responses to tabulate a brand-level owner satisfaction score. The results can be found in our ratings charts.

Brand-level performance: These scores, shown above, reflect how well the cooktops from a particular brand perform in our testing and surveys, and whether they provide a good value. The scores are not model-specific, but they can provide a good backup if you're interested in a particular model we haven't tested. Just remember that a high brand score isn't a guarantee that every model in that manufacturer's line is a winner. It's possible for a company to earn an overall high score for its cooktops even if it has a few duds in its lineup. And the opposite may be true, as well: A relatively low-scoring brand may produce some high-quality cooktops.

How CR Tests Cooktops

In our labs, we test 30- and 36-inch gas cooktops from brands such as Bosch, GE, Ikea, KitchenAid, LG, Samsung, Viking, and Wolf, along with 30- and 36-inch electric and induction cooktops from brands such as Bosch, Frigidaire, KitchenAid, LG, Samsung, and Whirlpool.

We test every cooktop at low and high heat. That covers its ability to sustain temperatures low enough to melt chocolate or tomato sauce without scorching it, and the cooktop's ability to quickly bring water to a boil.

We also survey CR members, asking them whether their cooktops broke or stopped working as they should during the first five years of ownership. We also ask whether they would

recommend their cooktop to a friend or family member. We use the data from their responses to generate our scores for predicted reliability and owner satisfaction.

CR members can browse our full cooktop ratings. And check out our free cooktop buying guide for shopping tips and help in deciding whether to buy a gas cooktop, an electric cooktop, or an induction cooktop for your kitchen.