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Best and Worst Cooktop Brands of 2025

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

By Allen St. John
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What makes a great cooktop? On its highest settings, it should be able to bring a pot of water to a rolling boil in a hurry. Then, on its lowest simmer setting, it should be able to melt chocolate smoothly, without scorching 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, we’ve got more than 90 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 specific 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 more affordably than their competitors.

Below, you can see the best brands in two categories: gas cooktops, 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.


Best Gas Cooktop Brands

There’s no denying that with their open flame, gas cooktops look cool, but many serious cooks also love them for the fact that they’re more responsive than smoothtop electric models. Not only do they heat up in a hurry, they also cool down in a flash, which can keep your ganache from scorching.

With three recommended models among 30-inch gas cooktops and another at the top of the 36-inch category, Samsung takes the honors as the best brand for gas cooktops. With three models near the very bottom of the ratings and no standouts, coupled with a low owner satisfaction rating, Whirlpool sits at the bottom of the list.

BRAND	OVERALL SCORE
Samsung	83
LG	73
GE	69
Café	68
Frigidaire	60
KitchenAid	51
Whirlpool	33

These highly rated gas cooktops are made by our top-rated brands in the category.



Samsung
NA30N7755TG

✓ CR RECOMMENDED


HIGH HEAT

LOW HEAT

OVERALL SCORE

89

Our top-ranked 30-inch cooktop might cost as much as some ranges, but you get a lot for your money. For starters, the Samsung NA30N7755TG packs five burners into 30 inches—most 30-inch cooktops have only four—and one is a monster 22,000-Btu power burner that heats water quickly, earning this model a top rating on our cooktop high-heat test. The model comes with built-in WiFi and Bluetooth, so you can check from bed or work to make sure you turned off the burners. It'll also sync with a compatible Samsung range hood to turn on the exhaust automatically when you activate a burner. Samsung gas cooktops receive above-average ratings for predicted reliability and owner satisfaction in CR's member surveys.



LG Studio
CBG3628S

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

HIGH HEAT

LOW HEAT

OVERALL SCORE

88

The LG Studio CBGS3628S is a solid five-burner, 36-inch cooktop with two high-powered burners that heat water quickly. (The model receives the top rating in our high-heat test.) On low heat, it also earns a stellar rating for its ability to heat gently and maintain a steady, slow simmer. This stainless steel cooktop has continuous cooking grates and metal control knobs that are backlit. If you're looking for a value pick in a 36-inch gas cooktop, consider LG's less-expensive CBGJ3623S, which gets top marks for low-heat simmering and strong scores for full heat. LG gas cooktops receive better than average ratings for reliability in CR's member surveys but get only middling owner satisfaction ratings.


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 Frigidaire, with high-performing 30- and 36-inch induction models, top owner satisfaction scores, and strong predicted reliability grades.

BRAND	OVERALL SCORE
Frigidaire	90
Samsung	86
GE	85
Whirlpool	75


The following highly rated cooktops come from the top smoothtop electric and induction brands in CR's ratings.




Frigidaire Gallery
FGIC3066TB


OVERALL SCORE
95

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

 HIGH HEAT

 LOW HEAT


The value-priced 30-inch Frigidaire Gallery FGIC3066TB cooks as well as induction models costing three times as much, earning top marks for both low-heat and high-heat performance. This model features easy-to-use touch controls. As a brand, Frigidaire induction cooktops garner near-top-level marks for reliability and owner satisfaction, according to our member surveys. (The company's one smoothtop electric in our ratings, the inexpensive FFEC3025UB, lands in the middle of the pack with above-average lab performance and predicted reliability but a low owner-satisfaction score.)




Frigidaire Professional
FPIC3677RF


OVERALL SCORE
96

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

 HIGH HEAT

 LOW HEAT


Frigidaire's top-performing 36-inch Professional FPIC3677RF is the company's nod to pro-style design, featuring chunky stainless steel knobs and more visible metal, giving it a slightly industrial look. If this model interests you, it pays to shop around, since we've seen it sell for as much as \$2,250 and as little as \$999. Like Frigidaire's other induction offerings, this cooktop earns first-rate marks on both low and high heat.




Samsung
NZ30K7570RG

OVERALL SCORE
86

✓ CR RECOMMENDED

 HIGH HEAT

 LOW HEAT

The Samsung NZ36K7570RG is a 36-inch electric smoothtop with five burners, including two high-power elements and a bridge element for rectangular pans. Our testers find it to perform great at both high and low heat, but it is middle-of-the-road in predicted reliability and receives our lowest score in owner satisfaction. The company's induction cooktops, like the Samsung NZ36K7880UG, also perform well, with strong lab performance and decent owner satisfaction scores.

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

Reliability. 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 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 and in our rundown of the most and least reliable cooktop brands.

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 be 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.

How We Test 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. For high-heat cooking, we use a standardized pot filled with four quarts of water on the largest cooktop burner. We jack up the burner to its highest setting and record how long it takes for the water to boil. For low-heat cooking, we use the smallest burner to melt chocolate. We then switch to simmering water and tomato sauce, gauging how well the cooktop holds a steady simmer temperature without dropping too low or scorching the contents of the pan.

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. 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.