

If you suffer from allergies, an air purifier can help. However, not all air purifiers perform equally when it comes to eliminating pollutants from the air – whether it be pollen, dust, mold, or pet dander. You'll want to look for a model that's suitable for targeting allergens.

Brad Roberson, president of Aire Serv, a Neighborly company, explains, "These purifiers utilize HEPA [high-efficiency particulate air] filters that are designed to trap particles as small as 0.3 microns, preventing them from circulating in the air."

We've compiled a list of the seven best air purifiers for allergies to help you find one that matches your needs and budget, with the Coway Airmega 230 earning the top spot.

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## **Best Overall**

# Coway Airmega 230 »



- ✓ Large coverage area
- Uses a three-stage filtration system
- Auto and sleep modes available

#### CONS:

- X Relatively large
- X Not Wi-Fi enabled

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Coway Airmega 230 uses a three-stage filtration system to effectively remove pollutants and odors from the air, making it ideal for those with allergies. The washable pre-filter serves as the first line of defense, trapping larger particles such as pet hair and dust mites. Next, air goes through the Max 2: Activated Carbon Filter, which absorbs volatile organic compounds (VOCs), along with odors from pets, food, cigarettes, and more. Finally, before the air is sent back into the room, it passes through the Max 2: Green True HEPA filter, which traps 99.97% of tiny allergens and other contaminants.

This air purifier can cover large rooms. It completes 4.8 air changes per hour in rooms up to 403 square feet, but can also complete two air changes in rooms up to 975 square feet or one air change in rooms up to 1,950 square feet. The Coway Airmega 230 displays an air quality indicator light so you can keep track of your indoor air. When set to auto mode, it'll adjust the fan speed to match the demands of the space to ensure the air is clean. Additionally, this model offers a sleep mode, a timer that you can set to one, four, or eight hours, and quiet operation (21 decibels on the lowest fan setting, which is quieter than a whisper).

## **Specs**

List Price: \$299

Filter Type: Pre-filter, Max2: Activated Carbon Filter, Max2: Green

True HEPA Filter

Coverage Up to 1,950 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air Delivery Rate (CADR):

EXPAND LIST >

Dust: 294; Pollen: 302; Smoke: 273

Buy From Amazon »

**Best Budget** 

# **Clorox Tabletop True HEPA Air Purifier »**



## 

If you only need to purify a small space and want to minimize your costs, then the Clorox Tabletop True HEPA Air Purifier might be for you. The unit completes five air changes per hour for rooms up to 80 square feet and two air changes in rooms up to 200 square feet. Compact in size, this device is easy to bring with you to different rooms in the house.

The Clorox Tabletop True HEPA Air Purifier uses a two-stage purification system. Air passes through the pre-filter, removing larger particles of dust, pet hair, and other allergens, before being sent through the True HEPA filter that removes 99.97% of allergens down to just 0.1 microns. Because it only uses a two-stage filtration system, this model does not have an activated carbon filter, so it won't be as effective at removing odors or VOCs as some other models. The purifier does feature an integrated timer if you want it to automatically power off after two, four, or eight hours. There are also three speed settings, including a quieter setting for sleeping.

## **Specs**

List Price: \$59.99

Filter Type: Pre-filter, True HEPA filter

Coverage 80 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air Dust: 59; Pollen: 55; Smoke: 53

(CADR):

**EXPAND LIST** 

**Delivery Rate** 

## Buy From Amazon »

## **Best for Homes with Pets**

# Rabbit Air A3 Ultra Quiet Air Purifier »



#### PROS:

- Six-stage filtration system
- Offers customized pet filter
- Covers up to 1,070 square feet

#### CONS:

- **X** Expensive
- X Large footprint

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Rabbit Air A3 Ultra Quiet Air Purifier is an ideal choice for those suffering from pet allergies. It uses a six-stage filtration system to remove indoor

allergens, VOCs, odors, bacteria, and more. The air purifier is equipped with odor and particle sensors to detect the air quality and automatically adjust the fan speed to match the filtration needs of the space. In addition to having a pre-filter, an activated carbon filter, and a HEPA filter, all of which you can find in many other models, the Rabbit Air A3 stands out because it also features a customized filter. Users can choose from four different options based on their filtration needs, with one of the options being the pet allergy filter, which is designed to remove pet allergens from the air.

This model can cover large rooms up to 1,070 square feet, completing two air changes per hour. For allergy sufferers, however, Rabbit Air recommends this air purifier for rooms up to 535 square feet, in which it can complete four air changes per hour. The device boasts high clean air delivery rates (CADRs) for allergens: 315 for pollen and 262 for dust. For reference, clean air delivery rates measure how effectively a unit can capture and remove specific particles from a space. The higher the CADR, the faster and more frequently the device will clean the air of that particular pollutant.

# **Specs**

**List Price:** \$749.95

Filter Type: Pre-filter, medium filter, activated carbon charcoal filter,

BioGS HEPA filter, customized filter (Pet Allergy, Odor

Remover, Germ Defense, or Toxin Absorber)

Coverage Up to 1,070 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air Dust: 262; Pollen: 315; Smoke: 257

Delivery Rate

(CADR):

EXPAND LIST ✓

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Large Spaces** 

## Winix XLC »



#### PROS:

- Includes a HEPA filter and activated carbon filter
- Completes five air changes per hour for 620-square-foot room
- Auto mode to adjust fan speed

#### CONS:

- Not very budget-friendly
- × Relatively bulky

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Winix XLC is recommended for rooms up to 620 square feet and will complete five air changes every hour in rooms of this size. It can also be used in rooms up to 3,000 square feet, in which it will complete one air change per hour. This model's four-stage filtration system uses Winix's PlasmaWave Air Cleaning Technology, which helps to decrease the presence of viruses and bacteria in the air through the release of positive and negative

ions. The ions attach themselves to these pollutants, which removes the hydrogen from the contaminant's structure to effectively take them out of your air. This means that mold growth rates can be reduced, along with odors from pets, food, and other sources.

If you're looking for a smart air purifier, it's worth noting that the Winix XLC is Wi-Fi-enabled and can connect to the Winix Smart App, allowing you to control it via your smartphone or Amazon Echo device. Once connected, you can monitor the quality of your air and receive notifications when the filters need replacing. This model features dual smart sensors to measure the air quality and adjust the fan speed, an automatic sleep mode that lowers the fan speed when the room darkens, and a hidden caster wheel for portability around a room. Moreover, it's Energy Star certified, meaning it meets the high standards for energy efficiency set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

## **Specs**

**List Price:** \$499.99

Filter Type: Washable fine mesh pre-filter, washable activated

carbon filter, True HEPA Filter

Coverage 620 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air Dust: 355; Pollen: 400; Smoke: 400

Delivery Rate (CADR):

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Small Spaces** 

## Levoit Core 300 »



- Pet Allergy Filter is available as an add-on
- Three-stage filtration system
- Features a sleep mode for quiet operation

#### CONS:

- X No auto mode
- Lacks smart features

**Buy From Amazon** 

If the room where you wish to put an air purifier is on the smaller side (219 square feet or less), take a look at the Levoit Core 300. This model uses a three-stage filtration system to trap dust, pollen, pet dander, and other tiny particles. The filtration system includes a pre-filter, an activated carbon filter to absorb odors, and a HEPA filter to capture smaller particles.

The Levoit Core 300 features easy-to-use controls. You can adjust the fan speed, set a timer for between two and eight hours, turn off the liquid-crystal display (LCD), or put the air purifier in sleep mode. The panel also features an indicator light to let you know when the filter needs to be replaced. When you need a new filter, you can consider purchasing the 3-Stage Pet Allergy Filter

from Levoit, which is specifically designed to help remove pet allergens from the air.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** \$99.99

Filter Type: Three-stage filtration system (pre-filter, active carbon

filter, HEPA particle filter)

Coverage 219 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air Dust: 141; Pollen: 145; Smoke: 135

**Delivery Rate** 

(CADR):

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

**Best Portable** 

# Pure Enrichment PureZone Mini Portable Air P...



- Integrated handle for carrying
- Lightweight and portable
- Rechargeable battery with up to 12-hour life

#### **CONS:**

- Very small coverage area
- X No pre-filter

**Buy From Amazon** 

If you want an air purifier that you can take with you on the go, the Pure Enrichment PureZone Mini Portable Air Purifier fits the bill. This model is compact and lightweight – it weighs less than 1 pound. It features an integrated handle, making it easy to carry it with you. Since the unit is only designed for spaces up to 6 square feet, it'll be most effective when kept very close to you.

The purifier uses a two-stage filtration system, with an activated carbon prefilter to absorb odors and a True HEPA filter to trap pollen, mold, pet dander, and other pollutants. It offers a cordless design with a rechargeable battery that lasts for about 12 hours. Available in five different color options, including white, black, blue, blush, and starlight blue, you're bound to find an option that fits your preferences.

# **Specs**

**List Price:** \$44.99

Filter Type: True HEPA filter, activated carbon filter Carbon Filter

Coverage 6 sq. ft.

Area:

Clean Air 4 CFM (cubic feet per minute)

**Delivery Rate** 

(CADR):

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

**Best Air Purifier and Humidifier Combo** 

**Dyson Purifier Humidify + Cool Formaldehyde »** 



- Relatively large coverage area
- Features integrated fan and humidifier
- Fully-sealed to prevent pollutants from escaping

#### CONS:

- × Pricey
- Manufacturer doesn't provide CADR rating

**Buy From Amazon** 

Functioning as an air purifier and a humidifier, this model also works as an oscillating fan, allowing it to deliver cooling air. But, if you don't want to use the fan feature, you can set it to a backward airflow mode – the air will still be purified and humidified, without cooling the room. The air purifier is designed for use in rooms up to 872 square feet and uses a two-stage filtration system. The 360 Combi Glass HEPA + Carbon 2-in-1 filter filters out 99.97% of allergens down to 0.3 microns along with odors and VOCs. This model also features a catalytic filter for breaking down molecules of

formaldehyde into water and carbon dioxide, removing them from your home's air.

This is a smart model that can connect with the MyDyson app, making it possible to monitor the room's air quality and adjust the settings from a smartphone or voice assistant. The Dyson Purifier Humidify + Cool Formaldehyde offers an auto mode, where it'll adjust the fan speed and airflow to optimize the humidity and air quality in the room. You can also set it to night mode, where the unit will dim the display and switch to a quieter, lower fan speed.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** \$999.99

Filter Type: 360 Combi Glass HEPA + Carbon Air Purifier 2-in-1 Filter

Coverage 872 sq. ft.

Area:

**Dimensions:** 12.28 in. W x 11.02 in. D x 36.33 in. H

Buy From Amazon »

## The Bottom Line

Our picks for the best air purifiers for allergies represent a range of available options to suit different purification needs, room sizes, budgets, and more, providing a framework to help you select the ideal air purifier for your specific situation. We selected the Coway Airmega 230 as the best overall option because of its relatively large coverage area, high CADR ratings, and various operating modes. This model features a HEPA filter that traps 99.97% of dust mites, pollen, mold, and other allergens, helping to alleviate allergy symptoms. However, while there is a lot to like

about the Coway Airmega 230, you might decide that one of the other products in our list better fits what you're looking for in an air purifier.

# Things To Consider When Buying Air Purifiers for Allergies

**Filter Type:** The type of filter matters. Those suffering from allergies should prioritize choosing an air purifier with a HEPA filter, a type of filter that is proven to remove a minimum of 99.97% of contaminants down to 0.3 microns in size from the air in a room. These contaminants include common allergens, such as pollen, dust, and pet hair.

Some air purifiers utilize a multi-stage filtration system, pairing other filter types with a HEPA filter. For example, most models start with a pre-filter to trap larger particles before the air is passed through the HEPA filter. Some may also offer custom filters, such as those for pet allergies, odors, or toxins. Others may feature activated carbon filters, which can help remove odors and VOCs from the air.

**Coverage Area:** Choosing an air purifier that's properly sized for your space is essential. If you place a model that is only designed for use in rooms up to 200 square feet in a 700-square-foot living room, it isn't going to be able to effectively filter allergens from the air. Start by determining the square footage of the room where you want to place the air purifier. You can calculate this value by multiplying the room's length by its width.

Manufacturers list the coverage areas of their products. However, you may notice that some list different coverage areas based on the number of air changes per hour. This is a key piece of information that you shouldn't overlook when shopping. While some units may be able to change the air in a large room one time per hour, this rate isn't necessarily high enough to remove a sufficient number of contaminants to alleviate your symptoms.

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) independently tests some models to confirm their coverage area. AHAM Verifide air purifiers complete a minimum of 4.8 air changes each hour for the square footage provided. Those

suffering from allergies should prioritize looking for an air purifier that will complete multiple air changes each hour in their space for the best symptom relief.

CADR: Short for clean air delivery rate, CADR is an important value to pay attention to during your search for an air purifier for allergies. Remmington Belford, an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) spokesperson, explains that a unit's CADR "is important because it helps consumers select an air cleaner based on the size of the area where it will be used. The higher the CADR, the more particles the air cleaner will remove and the larger the area it can serve." It's important to note that the CADR is usually reported based on the highest speed of the air purifier, which is also going to be the loudest option. It won't be as high if you operate the model on a lower setting.

Belford shares a tip for choosing a purifier with an appropriate CADR for the room you will be putting it in. He says, "A general rule to consider is the '2/3 rule' – find an air cleaner with a CADR that is at least 2/3 the square footage of the room where it will operate." He adds that "CADRs are calculated based on an 8-foot ceiling; if you have higher ceilings, you may want to select an air cleaner with a higher CADR than the '2/3 rule' recommends as a minimum."

**Additional Features:** There are a few additional features that you might want to look for when choosing an air purifier. Some of these include:

- **Energy-efficiency:** "An Energy Star certification can help consumers save energy," explains Belford. Energy Star-certified models can save up to 25% in energy costs compared to non-certified options.
- Noise Level: Belford explains, "The noise level of the air cleaner is another important consideration, as it may prevent users from operating the air cleaner at the higher speeds (on which the CADR is usually based), or from using it altogether."
- Wi-Fi Connectivity and Smart Features: If you want to be able to control your air purifier from your phone or monitor the room's air quality when you're not home, consider choosing one with Wi-Fi connectivity and an app.
- **Air Detection Sensors:** Some models also feature air detection sensors, allowing them to automatically adjust the fan speed. Roberson highlights this as a beneficial feature: "Advanced features such as air quality sensors and

programmable settings can also enhance the purifier's ability to maintain clean and allergen-free air."

• **Sleep Mode:** A sleep mode, which lowers the fan speed and turns off or dims the lights, might be something to prioritize if you will be using the air purifier you purchase in a bedroom.

# How We Chose the Best Air Purifiers for Allergies

We consulted EPA spokesperson Remmington Belford and Brad Roberson, president of Aire Serv, a Neighborly Company, for their insights and recommendations as we curated our list of the best air purifiers for allergies. Our selection process also involved considering feedback from professional reviewers, looking at the reviews left by everyday users, and ensuring that our list included a range of options for different coverage areas, filtration needs, and budgets.

#### WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. Deirdre Mundorf, the author of this piece, has been writing about home-related topics for five years. Her work has been featured in several online publications, including USA Today, House Digest, and Bob Vila.

## **FAQ**

How do air purifiers help alleviate allergy symptoms?

+

Can air purifiers effectively remove allergens like pollen and pet dander?

+

Are there air purifiers specifically designed for people with allergies?

+

# What is the average price range for air purifiers that target allergies?

## +

### **About Our Team**



**Deirdre Mundorf** 

Contributor



Mundorf is a freelance writer who specializes in home goods, family, and pet content. She has more than three years of experience as a professional writer and her work has been featured in Bob Vila, Discover Magazine, and House Digest. Prior to her freelancing career, Mundorf was an elementary school teacher for more than a decade.

Read more



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