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With the best steam mops, you can clean a variety of flooring surfaces in your home, including tile, laminate, vinyl, and sealed wood. As Karina Toner, operations manager of Spekless, a home cleaning service in Washington, D.C., explains, "Steam mops offer a highly efficient cleaning process, cutting through dirt and grime effortlessly." She adds: "Many steam mops eliminate the need for chemical cleaners, aligning with eco-friendly practices."

If you're in the market for a new steam mop, you may be having a hard time choosing among the vast array of available products. Use the recommendations and guide below to help you narrow down the options and find the best steam mop to match your cleaning needs and budget.

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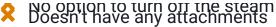
# Best Overall: Bissell PowerFresh Scrubbing & Sanitizing Steam Mop



**Buy From Bissell** 

PROS: CONS:





 Flip-down scrubber for tough messes

The Bissell PowerFresh Scrubbing & Sanitizing Steam Mop is our top pick for the best steam mop. Toner of Spekless considers this model to be one of her favorites. She shares that it's "known for customizable steam settings and integrated scrubbers." Use the SmartSet Digital Steam Control panel to choose a high, medium, or low steam output based on the specific demands of each cleaning task. The flip-down scrubber delivers extra power when needed to tackle particularly sticky or stubborn messes.

This model is designed to be easy to operate and maneuver. It has swivel steering, allowing users to navigate around obstacles that are in the way. The 23-foot power cord makes it possible to clean for longer periods without the need to switch to a closer outlet. The mop will be hot and ready to produce steam just 30 seconds after it's plugged in. Bissell includes one Microfiber Soft Pad, one Microfiber Scrubby Pad, the Carpet Glider, and two Spring Breeze Fragrance Discs with each purchase.

## Specs:

• **Price:** \$92.69

• Dimensions: 7.1 inches W x 11.6 inches D x 28.6 inches H

• Weight: 6.2 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 16 ounces

• Cord Length: 23 feet

• Adjustable Steam: Yes

• Steam Output: Continuous

## **Best Budget: Black + Decker Steam Mop**



**Buy From Amazon** 

### PROS:

- ✓ Relatively inexpensive
- ✓ Heats up in just 30 seconds
- Swivel head

### CONS:

- × Short cord
- X Comparatively heavy

With its retail price of \$59.99, the Black + Decker Steam Mop is the least expensive model on our list. Notably, this unit takes only 30 seconds to get hot and ready to use. It comes with one machine-washable microfiber mop pad. The mop's swiveling head allows it to maneuver around a space for easier cleaning.

The budget-friendly price does come with a few trade-offs, however. Compared to many of the other models on our list that have a longer cord, this model's 12-foot cord is on the short side. Unless you're just using it to steam clean a very small space, you'll likely need to unplug the cord to move it to new outlets as you clean. The mop's 12-ounce water tank is on the small side, which can also mean more interruptions as you stop to refill it and wait for the mop to get hot enough to continue working.

### Specs:

• **Price:** \$59.99

• **Dimensions:** 4.72 inches W x 7.72 inches D x 27.75 inches H

• Weight: 12.07 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 12 ounces

• Cord Length: 12 feet

• Adjustable Steam: No

• Steam Output: Continuous

## **Best Lightweight: Shark S3501 Steam Pocket Mop**



**Buy From Amazon** 

### PROS:

- ✓ Weighs less than 5 pounds
- ✓ Heats up in 30 seconds
- ✓ Soft-grip handle

### CONS:

- × Shorter cord
- No option to adjust the steam output

The Shark S3501 Steam Pocket Mop weighs 4.9 pounds, making it a lightweight and easy-to-carry option. This model delivers hot steam on demand, which allows users to customize when and where they want to use steam for cleaning their floors. After just 30 seconds, the water in the tank will be hot and ready to be used for steam cleaning. It has a 15-ounce water tank, a capacity that's larger than that of half of the other models that make our list.

The Shark S3501 Steam Pocket Mop comes with two microfiber mop pads. The pads are designed to lock in the dirt that's removed from the floor to keep it from spreading around. Once you've finished mopping, you can easily clean the pads in your washing machine. The soft-grip handle is designed to prevent users' hands from getting fatigued as they work and to make it easier to maneuver around their space. This model also has an 18-foot power cord.

## Specs:

• **Price:** \$89.99

• **Dimensions:** 12 inches W x 5.9 inches D x 51.2 inches H

• Weight: 4.9 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 15 ounces

• Cord Length: 18 feet

• Adjustable Steam: No

• Steam Output: On demand

## Best for Tile Floors: PurSteam 10-in-1 Steam Cleaner



**Buy From Amazon** 

#### PROS:

- Lightweight
- Detachable handheld steam
- Comes with a variety of attachments

### CONS:

- X Shorter cord
- X Smaller water tank

Keep hard surfaces in your home clean with the PurSteam 10-in-1 Steam Cleaner. This mop comes with a variety of accessories that make it particularly helpful for cleaning tile floors. For example, the Double Brush tool is ideal for cleaning both sanded and nonsanded grout lines, and the brush tools can help tackle tile backsplashes or other sections of tile where the larger mop head can't reach.

In addition to these two accessories, this model comes with a steamer jet with an angled nozzle to get into tighter spaces; squeegees for cleaning glass, shower doors, mirrors, and more; a scraping tool for removing grease and grime; and a fabric and steaming iron. The PurSteam 10-in-1 Steam Cleaner delivers continuous speed with three different settings to let users customize the output based on the demands of a particular cleaning task. It has an 11.5-ounce water tank and a 15.9-foot power cord.

## Specs:

• Price: \$70.99

• Dimensions: 9.45 inches W x 8.07 inches D x 23.94 inches H

• Weight: 4.8 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 11.5 ounces

• Cord Length: 15.9 feet

• Adjustable Steam: Yes

• Steam Output: Continuous

# Best for Multiple Floor Types: Bissell PowerFresh Slim 3-in-1 Scrubbing & Sanitizing Steam Mop



**Buy From Bissell** 

### PROS:

- Longer cord
- On-demand trigger to control when steam is released
- Can also function as a handheld steamer with various attachments

### CONS:

- × Expensive
- × No adjustable steam

If your home has a mix of different hard floor types, such as tile, laminate, vinyl, and sealed hardwood, then take a look at the Bissell PowerFresh Slim 3-in-1 Scrubbing & Sanitizing Steam Mop. This model is safe to use on any sealed hard floor, making it a versatile cleaner for your space. Thanks to its slim design it's easy to maneuver and it's also lightweight to carry between floors for cleaning different levels of the home. Additionally, the mop offers swivel steering for navigating under tables and around objects in your path.

The Bissell PowerFresh Slim 3-in-1 Scrubbing & Sanitizing Steam Mop offers steam on demand. Simply pull the trigger to dispense steam whenever it's needed. You can turn this model into a handheld steamer and pair it with one of the seven included tools to clean even more surfaces and objects in the home. A grout tool, the Flat Scraper Tool, an angle tool, a bristle scrub brush, the Flat Surface Tool, a scrub brush, and the Clothing Steamer Tool are included with each purchase.

## Specs:

• **Price:** \$164.79

• **Dimensions:** 9.5 inches W x 14 inches D x 46.5 inches H

• Weight: 6.13 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 11.8 ounces

• Cord Length: 25 feet

• Adjustable Steam: No

• Steam Output: On demand

# Best for Large Spaces: McCulloch MC1385 Deluxe Canister Steam Cleaner



**MCCULLOCH** 

**Buy From Amazon** 

#### PROS:

- Large water tank
- Adjustable, on-demand steam
- Comes with 23 accessories

### CONS:

- X Long heating time
- **×** Expensive

If you have a sizable home with mainly hard floors, you might be looking for a commercial model with a larger water tank to reduce the number of times you're interrupted when cleaning. The McCulloch MC1385 Deluxe Canister Steam Cleaner may fit the bill with its 64-ounce water tank that can deliver 120 minutes of continuous steam. Keep in mind that since there's so much more water for the machine to heat up, this model will take longer to heat up than smaller-capacity steam mops. Plan to plug it in about 12 minutes before you're ready to start cleaning.

This device offers on-demand variable steam to help you prioritize when and where the steam is dispensed when cleaning. It also comes with 23 different accessories to help you clean surfaces beyond just floors. A few of these attachments include a jet nozzle, a squeegee, a scraper, five brass brushes, a round scrub pad, and five Nylon Utility Brushes. Two traditional mop pads and two scrubbing mop pads also come with your purchase so you can accommodate the cleaning and care needs of each flooring surface.

## Specs:

• **Price:** \$199.99

• Dimensions: 13.35 inches W x 13.1 inches D x 19.05 inches H

• Weight: 13 pounds

• Water Tank Capacity: 64 ounces

• Cord Length: 18 feet

• Adjustable Steam: Yes

• Steam Output: On demand

## The Bottom Line

Steam mops allow you to clean without the use of potentially dangerous chemicals. As Andriy Neborak, CEO of cleaning service Luxury Cleaning NY in Manhattan, New York, shares: Steam mops "provide a deeper clean, removing grime and dirt that traditional mops might miss." With all of the options on the market, it can feel overwhelming to decide which steam mop is right for you. As you consider the recommendations shared above, follow Neborak's advice to "Look for a sweet spot among budget, manufacturer reputation, performance, and, of course, warranty offered."

## **Things To Consider When Buying Steam Mops**

**Size and Weight:** When shopping for a steam mop, take note of the unit's weight and dimensions. The weight will directly impact how simple or difficult it will be to push it

around your floors as you clean. Similarly, if you'll be storing the mop on a different level or will need to carry it up and down the stairs to clean the different rooms in your home, you might want to look for a lighter-weight model.

The dimensions should also be considered as you shop for a new steam mop. While most will be comparably sized, some may be slightly shorter or longer than others. This can affect which model will be the most comfortable for you to hold.

If you're on the taller side, for example, finding a mop with a longer handle may be a priority during your search. The width of the cleaning head will also affect how long it takes to clean your floor and how many passes you make. While wider cleaning heads will make it possible to clean a room in fewer passes, they may not fit as easily around or behind furniture or other obstacles in a room.

**Water Tank Capacity:** Don't overlook the water tank capacity of each model as you shop. The capacity of residential steam mops generally falls somewhere around 12 to 15 ounces, while commercial models will have an even greater capacity. Toner of Spekless recommends looking for a steam mop with a larger water tank. She explains that these models work to reduce "interruptions for refilling during cleaning sessions."

Generating hot steam requires water. And, every time the tank becomes empty, you'll need to pause to refill the water and wait for it to heat back up so the mop is ready to use again. In addition to considering the overall capacity of the water tank, Neborak of Luxury Cleaning NY recommends paying attention to the time it takes to heat up. He says, "A quick heat-up time ensures the mop is ready to use in seconds." This way, you won't have to wait too long for it to be ready to use each time you refill the water tank.

Cord Length: The longer the cord on a steam mop, the less frequently you'll need to move it to a different outlet as you clean your home. Just as you'll need to pause your cleaning every time the water tank is emptied, you'll also need to pause cleaning when the mop cannot reach other portions of a room because the cord is stretched out all the way. Each time you unplug a steam mop and move to a different outlet, you may need to wait a few additional seconds or minutes for it to heat back up. This can slow the overall cleaning process even more.

The length of the cord will affect the overall maneuverability of the steam mop. If it's too short or gets caught around corners or under doors, you might not be able to steer the mop into corners quite as easily.

**Steaming Options:** All steam mops don't offer the same steaming options. When plugged in and heated up, some models continuously release steam. A benefit of this is that you don't have to do anything extra to get the steam to come out. There is no need to press a button or hold down a trigger, as the steam just comes out until the mop is unplugged or the water tank is emptied. However, on the flip side, you don't have any control over the steam. You can't turn it off if there are areas you don't want to expose to the heat or expel additional steam when deemed necessary to tackle a particularly messy spot.

Other models offer on-demand steam. This means that users press a button or a lever to dispel steam when it's needed. Pushing the button or pulling a level makes a little more work for you, but no steam is released when it isn't desired.

Neborak of Luxury Cleaning NY notes that "Modern adjustable steam settings allow you to cater the mop's performance to your cleaning needs, such as temperature control and steam pressure." With these models, you can choose from low-, medium-, and high-pressure options, making it possible to, as Toner of Spekless explains, "Tailor the steam intensity based on different floor surfaces."

**Accessories:** Depending on your specific cleaning needs and how you'd like to be able to use your steam mop, you might want to look for a model that comes with different accessories. For example, some products come with scrub brushes, grout cleaners, squeegees, and other nozzles designed for an array of cleaning tasks. Such attachments can make your steam mop a more versatile cleaning tool.

## **How We Chose the Best Steam Mops**

To choose the best steam mops, we reached out to experts in the industry, including Karina Toner, operations manager of a cleaning service in Washington, D.C., called Spekless, and Andriy Neborak, CEO of cleaning service Luxury Cleaning NY in Manhattan, New York. In addition to the input and recommendations shared by these individuals, we also consulted feedback and testing information from professional

reviewers and considered overall customer ratings. Finally, we made sure to include a variety of steam mops to suit different cleaning needs, preferences, and budgets.

### WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

The 360 Reviews team is composed of experienced writers and editors. Before any articles are published on the website, they go through several stages of research, reviewing, and fact-checking to make sure that only accurate and up-to-date information is shared with readers. The author of this piece, Deirdre Mundorf, has nearly five years of experience writing about home-related topics. Her work has also been featured on sites such as House Digest, Bob Vila, and Discover Magazine, among others.

## **FAQ**

How do you use a steam mop? +

What type of floors should steam mops be used on? +

Are steam mops worth it? +

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