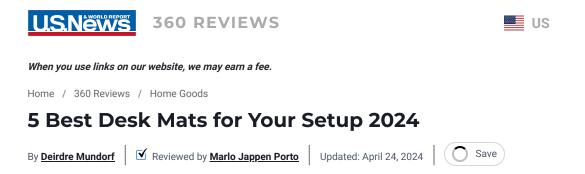
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A desk mat can increase both the functionality of your desk and its aesthetics, providing a smooth surface to glide your mouse across, protecting the finish of the desk, and helping to create a cohesive and put-together look. Eryn Donaldson, founder and CEO of a professional organization service called The Model Home, notes, "A desk mat can be a visual guide for task-specific zones." She explains, "This not only enhances organization but also streamlines your workflow by creating a structured and purposeful workspace."

Desk mats are available in a range of sizes, colors, and materials. We've curated a list of some of the best desk mats currently on the market to help you focus your search and find one that matches your design preferences, functionality needs, and budget.

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# **Our Top Picks**

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#### **Best Overall**

## Galen Leather Desk Pad »



#### PROS:

- Genuine leather construction
- Personalization options available

#### CONS:

- **X** Expensive
- Only comes in two sizes

**Buy From Galen Leather Co.** 

Works for writing and mouse use

The Galen Leather Desk Pad can add style and functionality to your workspace. The desk pad is made from genuine vegetable-tanned bridle leather – meaning it's dyed using only natural dyes and isn't treated with potentially harmful chemicals – and features beeswax-burnished edges for a clean, finished look. The pad is suitable for use with a mouse and keyboard or laptop but can also be used for writing with a pen or pencil and paper. If you purchase this model, it'll arrive rolled up and packaged in a cardboard tube. If desired, you can roll it back up and use the tube for easy storage or transport.

Galen Leather makes this desk pad in two sizes: 24 inches by 15 inches and 32 inches by 18 inches. Each mat has a 2-millimeter thickness (about 0.8 inches). There are 10 color options available including more traditional leather colors such as Tan, Black, and Dark Brown along with more vibrant options, such as Crazy Horse Forest Green and Navy Blue. If desired, you can personalize the desk mat with up to three characters for an additional \$14.

## **Specs**

List Price: Starting at \$69 (15" X 24")

Material(s): Leather

**Dimensions:** 24 in. W x 15 in. D x .08 in. H, 32 in. W x 18 in. D x 0.8 in.

Н

Buy From Galen Leather Co. »

## **Best Budget**

### K Knodel Desk Mat »





#### PROS:

- Relatively inexpensive
- Several color and size options
- ✓ Water-resistant

#### CONS:

- **X** Thin
- × Not real leather

**Buy From Amazon** 

The K Knodel Desk Mat starts at just \$13.99, making it a budget-friendly option. There are four different size options to accommodate large and small desks and the varying needs of each shopper. This model comes in 14 different color options, each with a two-sided design. This can help individuals personalize the look of their desks and coordinate it with the rest of their space.

This desk mat, which is considerably thinner than the other desk mats that make our list, is made from faux leather. This material is stain-, heat-, and spill-resistant and can help protect the surface beneath it from damage as well. The pad is nonslip to keep it in place on a desk. It can be used for writing or as a large mouse pad when working on a computer.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$13.99 (23.6" x 13.8")

Material(s): Faux leather

**Dimensions:** 23.6 in. W x 13.8 in. D x 0.01 in. H, 31.5 in. W x 15.7 in. D

x 0.01 in. H, 35.4 in. W x 17 in. D x 0.01 in. H, 47.2 in. W x

23.6 in. D x 0.01 in. H

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best Large**

### **Grovemade Matte Desk Pad »**



PROS: CONS:

✓ Five size options
X Pricey

× No special features

**Buy From Grovemade** 

- Compatible with optical mice
- ✓ 10 color choices

If you're searching for a large desk mat, you might find just what you're looking for with the Matte Desk Pad from Grovemade. There are five sizes to choose from including large (38.5 inches by 26 inches) and extra-large (49 inches by 26.5 inches) options. All of the mats have a 3.5-millimeter thickness, providing adequate cushioning and support for your wrists while still allowing your mouse to glide with ease and making it possible to write over the surface using a pen or pencil.

The Grovemade Matte Desk Pad offers a layered design. The top is made from natural linoleum, which is a durable and antistatic material that'll resist showing smudges and fingerprints. The base is made from natural cork, offering more cushioning to minimize fatigue when working at your desk. Choose from 10 different color options to pull together the design in your office space. Some of the options include Black, Dark Gray, Navy, Orange, Light Green, and Light Pink.

## **Specs**

List Price: Starting at \$50 (Small)

Material(s): Natural linoleum and natural cork

**Dimensions:** 24.75 in. W x 11 in. D x 0.14 in. H (small), 98 in. W x 11.5

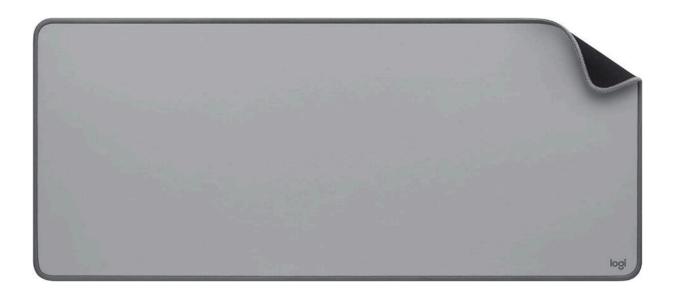
in. D x 0.14 in. H (medium), 38 in. W x 15.75 in. D x 0.14 in. H (medium plus), 38.8 in. W x 26 in. D x 0.14 in. H

(large), 49 in. W x 26.5 in. D x 0.14 in. H (extra large)

Buy From Grovemade »

**Best Small** 

# Logitech Studio Series Desk Mat »



#### PROS:

- Compact
- ✓ Anti-slip base
- ✓ Spill-resistant
- ✓ Anti-fray edges

#### CONS:

- Limited color choices
- X Only one size option

**Buy From Amazon** 

This Studio Series Desk Mat from Logitech is a good fit for those with a smaller desk. It's just 27.55 inches wide and 11.81 inches deep, making it large enough to comfortably accommodate small laptops or tablets. Alternatively, you could place the desk mat in front of a monitor and use it to hold an external keyboard and mouse.

The desk mat is made of recycled polyester with a natural leather, anti-slip base. The material offers a smooth finish, making it possible to glide a mouse across it with ease. The mat is also shrink- and wrinkle-resistant, easy to clean, and designed with anti-fray edges for longevity. Logitech

offers this desk mat in three trendy colors: Mid Grey, Lavender, and Dark Rose.

# **Specs**

**List Price:** \$19.99

Material(s): Recycled polyester and rubber

**Dimensions:** 27.55 in. W x 11.81 in. D x 0.08 in. H

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best for Ergonomics**

# Auhoahsil Desk Pad and Wrist Support Set »





PROS: CONS:

Includes ergonomic wrist rests

X Only one size available

**Buy From Amazon** 

✓ Relatively inexpensive

Lower-quality material

Several pattern options

This set from Auhoahsil includes a desk pad and two wrist supports, making it suitable for those looking for a more ergonomic option. There's a shorter wrist support to use with a mouse and a longer one to use with a keyboard. Each of the support pads features a layer of memory foam, offering cushioning support as you type or control your mouse.

The desk mat that comes in the set is generously sized, measuring 35.4 inches wide by 15.7 inches deep. It's made from natural rubber with a fine Lycra cloth covering. The material is smooth to promote precision when using a mouse. This desk mat set is available in 28 different patterns, including Beach Palm Tree Leaves, Magic Astrology, Boho Plant, Abstract Stone, and White Peony.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$18.99 (Beach Palm Tree Leaves)

Material(s): Natural rubber with Lycra cloth covering

**Dimensions:** 35.5 in. W x 15.7 in. D (height not listed)

Buy From Amazon »

### The Bottom Line

Adding a desk mat to your workspace can offer several benefits. In addition to providing a smooth surface for maneuvering your mouse, Donaldson explains, "A desk mat serves as a protective shield. It guards against spills, preventing potential

damage to your desk surface. This not only maintains the integrity of your workspace but also contributes to a clean and professional look." As you're shopping for a desk mat for your work area, consider the size of your desk; whether you plan to use the mat for writing, computer work, or both; and your budget. We've selected the Galen Leather Desk Pad as our best overall pick because of its quality construction, multiple size options, and numerous color choices, but you might find one of our other recommendations to be a better fit for your needs.

## **Things To Consider When Buying Desk Mats**

**Size:** As Donaldson explains, "Size matters – choose a desk mat that aligns with the dimensions of your workspace." Before you start shopping, measure the length and width of your desk. You want to verify that the mat you purchase isn't larger than the desk itself, but you also want to make sure that it's large enough to suit your needs and hold the items you desire, such as a keyboard, mouse, chargers, writing utensils, or journals and notebooks.

Donaldson notes, "A larger mat not only accommodates your computer but also provides a lot of space for multitasking, note taking and maintaining an organized layout."

Beyond the length and width, you'll want to consider the mat's thickness. An ideal thickness is somewhere between 1 and 5 millimeters. A mat in this range will provide some cushioning for your wrists as you type or move your mouse around but shouldn't be too thick or squish down too much if you want to write over the mat on a piece of paper.

Material: As you compare various desk mats, you'll likely notice that there are many material options. Betsy Fein, president of professional organization service Clutterbusters, recommends choosing "a material that suits your comfort preferences, provides a smooth surface for mouse movement, and is easy to clean." Some of the various materials you may find include leather, faux leather, PVC, rubber, linoleum, vinyl, cork, and rubber.

Donaldson highlights leather and high-quality PVC as some of the most durable materials for a desk mat. She explains, "Leather gives a touch of sophistication. PVC stands strong against wear and tear. Opting for these materials ensures that your desk mat remains a reliable and polished asset in your office workspace!" Fein recommends considering other features including "durability, [a] non-slip base, water resistance, design, and aesthetics" when comparing different desk mat materials.

**Features:** While some desk mats offer a rather basic design, others include various features that may enhance their functionality or aesthetic appeal, potentially making them a better fit for your needs. For example, some models may feature integrated cord management systems or USB ports that allow you to charge your smart devices. Others light up for an enhanced gaming experience. Another feature to consider is a nonslip base. A textured finish on the underside of the desk mat can help prevent it from sliding around as you work.

**Design and Aesthetics:** Don't forget to pay attention to the overall design and aesthetic appeal of each desk mat as you shop. The mat you choose will take a prominent place on your desk so you want to make sure you like the way it looks. Niki Tashe, a senior interior designer at Kitchen Renovation Singapore, notes, "Desk mats come in fun colors and artistic designs so you can showcase a bit of personality."

You may also want to think about whether or not the product you choose can help keep your desk more organized and functional. Fein shares, "Many desk mats come with predefined sections or zones for different purposes. This can include areas for your keyboard, mouse, notepads, and other items. Having designated spaces can encourage you to keep items organized within those zones. Using a desk mat is a practical and versatile way to enhance the organization and functionality of your desk space."

## **How We Chose the Best Desk Mats**

Several criteria were evaluated to help us curate our recommendations for the best desk mats. We consulted Eryn Donaldson, founder and CEO of The Model Home, a home organizing company; Niki Tashe, a senior interior designer at Kitchen

Renovation Singapore, a home remodeling company; and Betsy Fein, president of Clutterbusters, a company that provides home and business organization services. We also looked at data shared by professional reviewers and considered the product ratings left by everyday customers. Additionally, when finalizing our list, we aimed to include a range of options to accommodate users with different desk sizes, material preferences, 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**

What are the benefits of using a desk mat?	+
How thick should a desk mat be?	+
What's the most durable material for a desk mat?	+

#### **About Our Team**



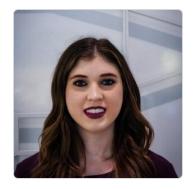
Deirdre Mundorf
Contributor



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

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**Former Editor** 



Marlo Jappen Porto is a former editor for U.S. News 360 Reviews, focusing on home goods. Prior to joining the team, she was a researcher at NBCUniversal, where she gathered compelling and relevant archival content for live broadcasts. In addition, she has spent years working as an editor and community journalist.

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