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7 Best California King Mattresses of 2024

By [Lauren Allain](#)



Edited by [Marlo Jappen Porto](#)

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Sleeping on a bed that's too short or narrow is uncomfortable. If you're a taller or larger individual, a California king mattress may be your best bet. This mattress size offers sleepers a generous amount of space – 72 inches in width and 84 inches in length. Though this is 4 inches narrower than a standard king bed, you'll be getting an extra four inches in length.

The Helix Plus, which we've [tested in our lab](#), is our best overall pick for a California king mattress because it's supportive, pressure-relieving, and does a dependable job at isolating motion. Our list also includes options for those on a budget, heavy people, couples, hot sleepers, side sleepers, and eco-conscious shoppers.

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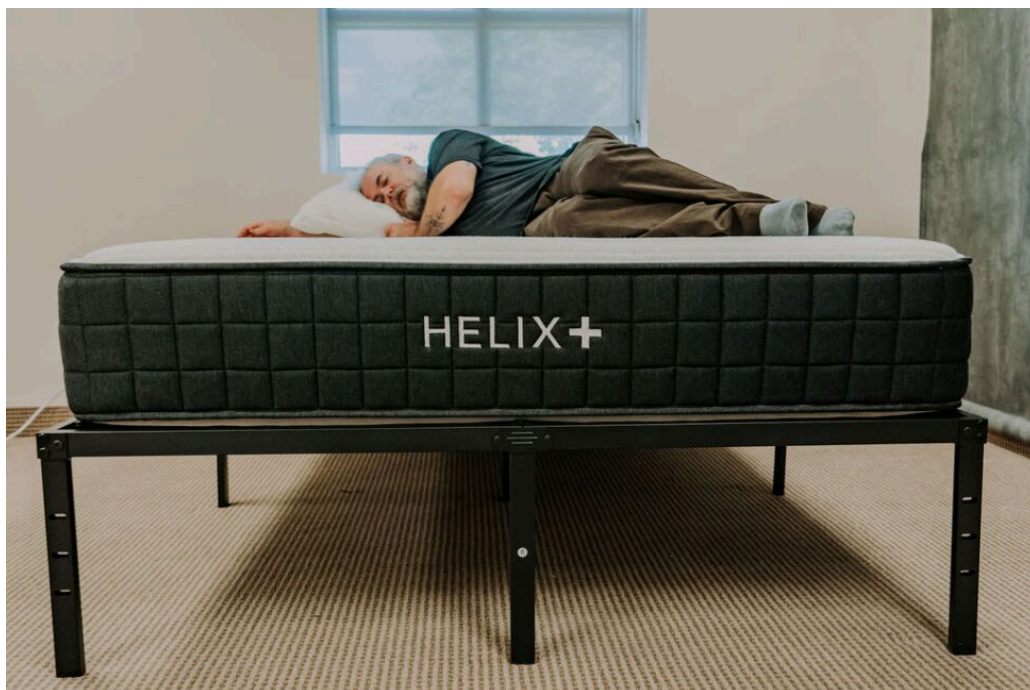
Our Top Picks

Best Overall: [Helix Plus](#) »

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Best for Heavy People: [Nolah Evolution 15-Inch »](#)[Jump to Review ↓](#)**Best for Couples:** [The Nectar Memory Foam Mattress »](#)[Jump to Review ↓](#)**Best for Hot Sleepers:** [The WinkBed »](#)[Jump to Review ↓](#)**Best for Side Sleepers:** [Helix Midnight »](#)[Jump to Review ↓](#)**Best for Eco-Conscious Shoppers:** [Avocado Green Mattress »](#)[Jump to Review ↓](#)**Best Overall****Helix Plus »****4.2** ★★★★★☆ **U.S. News Rating**

PROS:

- ✓ Medium-firm feel designed to support heavier and taller bodies
- ✓ Full perimeter edge support
- ✓ Foam provides targeted pressure relief in hips and shoulders

CONS:

- ✗ Shorter sleep trial than other brands
- ✗ Could be too firm for some

[Buy From Helix](#)

Taller or larger sleepers will find comfort on the Helix Plus mattress. The brand designed this bed with larger sleepers in mind and constructed it with more support and pressure-relieving materials. Helix markets the mattress as a medium-firm feel and, in testing, we felt it landed between medium and firm. Tester Melinda Yeaman, who is 5 feet, 7 inches tall, and 165 pounds said, "Firm but felt supportive to my hips, which is typically a big area of focus for me."

Unlike some Helix models, the Plus has reinforced edge support around the entire perimeter of the bed, a perk for larger sleepers. The mattress also works well for couples, as it excels at motion isolation. Tester Craig Hanks, who is 5 feet, 11 inches tall, and 200 pounds, noted "Really solid during normal movements."

We were also impressed by how easy it was to move around on the Helix Plus, and the majority of our testers felt well supported. Yeaman said, "The mattress is quite supportive in all positions. It cradles well on the side, supports the back, and isn't too soft for a tummy sleeper."

Specs

**List Price
(California
King):**

\$1,873.80

**Mattress
Type:**

Hybrid

Sleep Trial:

100 nights

Warranty:

10 years

[Buy From Helix »](#)

Best Budget

Bear Original Mattress »

4.1 ★★★★★ ☆ U.S. News Rating



PROS:

- ✓ Affordable price of about \$1,300 for a California king

CONS:

- ✗ Not the most cooling
- ✗ Might feel too firm for some

[Buy From Bear](#)

- ✓ All-foam construction ideal for motion isolation
- ✓ Lifetime warranty

The Bear Original is mattress-in-a-box with an all-foam construction made with three layers of support. It could be ideal for budget-conscious shoppers, as it costs around \$1,300 in a California king size. The cover is made of a unique Celliant material that uses infrared yarn technology that Bear says can help with oxygen levels in body tissue, improving athletic performance and overall health. Below the cover is a layer of cooling gel memory foam, followed by two more foam layers for pressure relief and support. Bear considers the Original mattress to have a medium-firm feel, or about a 7 out of 10 on the firmness scale. Our testers considered the [Bear Original](#) to be a medium-firm to firm mattress.

They also mentioned how its all-foam construction makes it a good choice for couples looking for motion isolation. Tester Huston Evans, who is 5 feet, 11 inches tall, and 200 pounds said, “I couldn't feel anything when my partner moved around.” Tester Melinda Yeaman agreed, adding that her partner’s movements were “barely perceivable.”

Measuring 10 inches in height, it’s a low-profile mattress, so it could be good for those looking for a modern aesthetic. Despite the lower price point, the Bear Original still comes with free shipping, a 120-night sleep trial, and a lifetime warranty.

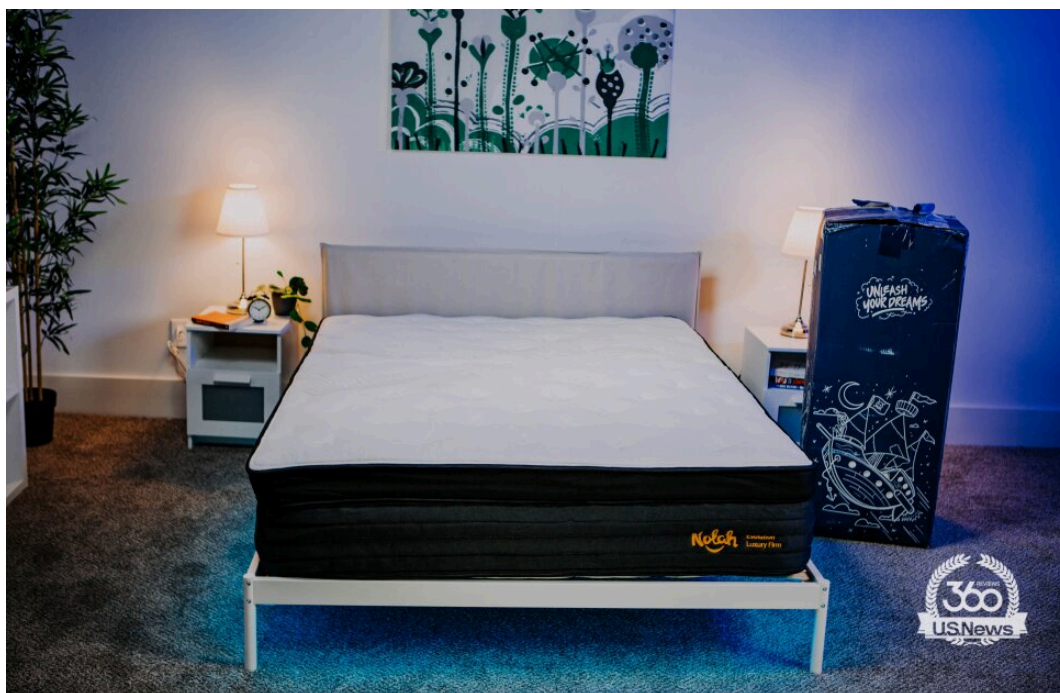
Specs

List Price (California King):	\$1,304
Mattress Type:	Foam
Sleep Trial:	120 nights

Warranty:**Lifetime**[Buy From Bear »](#)

Best for Heavy People

Nolah Evolution 15-Inch »

**PROS:**

- ✓ Three levels of firmness available and Comfort+ for sleepers over 300 pounds
- ✓ Supportive, six-layer hybrid design
- ✓ Reinforced perimeter for better edge support

CONS:

- ✗ Pricey
- ✗ May require deep-pocket sheets

[Buy From Nolah](#)

The [Evolution](#) is Nolah’s bestselling mattress and is constructed with four layers of foam and coil support with several cooling elements. The initial comfort layer features a 2-inch foam Euro topper that provides cushion while helping remove excess heat. Below this is a 2-inch layer of graphite-infused foam, also designed to help with temperature regulation. Each side of the Nolah Evolution 15-Inch is designed to support 350 pounds for a total of 700 pounds.

The extra foam layers of this fairly tall [hybrid mattress](#) coupled with pocketed coils help larger bodies feel supported.

Costing around \$2,700 for a California king, the Nolah Evolution 15-Inch is one of the most expensive mattresses on this list. The 15-inch profile makes the Nolah Evolution a fairly tall mattress – the tallest on our list – so it might require you to purchase [deep-pocket sheets](#) if the ones you currently have aren’t deep enough to accommodate this height.

Nolah ships the mattress for free and it comes with a 120-night sleep trial as well as a lifetime warranty. However, you can opt out of the sleep trial to save \$100 on the price of the bed.

Specs

List Price (California King):	\$2,699
Mattress Type:	Hybrid
Sleep Trial:	120 nights
Warranty:	Lifetime

[Buy From Nolah »](#)

Best for Couples

The Nectar Memory Foam Mattress »



PROS:

- ✓ All-foam mattress designed to keep motion at a minimum
- ✓ Cooling cover and gel-infused foam helps dissipate heat
- ✓ Year-long sleep trial

CONS:

- ✗ Only one level of firmness available
- ✗ No reinforced edge support

[Buy From Nectar](#)

The [Nectar Memory Foam mattress](#) is made with three layers of foam totaling 12 inches in height. A quilted cooling cover sits above a 2-inch layer of gel-infused memory foam to give pressure relief while sleeping cool. Below is a 4-inch layer of responsive foam, split into layers to provide rebound and bounce. The base support layer is 6 inches of conventional foam. All foams in the Nectar Memory Foam bed are CertiPUR-US-certified to be low in volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that can negatively affect

indoor air quality. Nectar rates the mattress as a 6.5 on a firmness scale of 1 to 10, or a medium-firm.

Nectar mentions the layers of foam are excellent at isolating motion, so it could be an ideal mattress for couples who are easily disrupted by each other’s movements or those who share the bed with kids or pets.

Expect to pay around \$1,800 for the Nectar mattress in a California king if it’s not on sale. It’s one of the least expensive beds on our list for this size. Nectar offers a longer-than-average sleep trial of 365 nights. It also comes with free shipping and returns and a lifetime warranty.

Specs

List Price (California King):	\$1,799
Mattress Type:	Foam
Sleep Trial:	365 nights
Warranty:	Lifetime

[Buy From Nectar »](#)

Best for Hot Sleepers

The WinkBed »

4.0 ★★★★★ U.S. News Rating

**PROS:**

- ✓ Designed with a cooling construction and materials
- ✓ Comes in three levels of firmness and a Plus version for heavier people
- ✓ Reinforced edge support

CONS:

- ✗ Plus version costs \$200 extra
- ✗ Heavy at almost 150 pounds

[Buy From WinkBeds](#)

The [WinkBed's](#) hybrid design allows for airflow throughout the mattress to help you sleep cool. The cover is made of Tencel, which helps absorb moisture while feeling cool to the touch. Below the cover is a quilted Euro pillow top with gel-infused foam to further help the mattress regulate temperature.

Hybrid mattresses like The WinkBed tend to sleep cool due to the layer of coils that allows hot air to disperse. Combined with gel memory foam and

the Tencel cover, The WinkBed’s design is exceptionally good at keeping sleepers from overheating. Tester Catalina Arndt, who is 5 feet, 8 inches tall, and 146 pounds said, “The Wink proves to be a great mattress as far as cooling is concerned. It maintains itself at room temperature.” In our consumer survey, about 75% of people said The WinkBed either slept temperature neutral or helped them to sleep cool.

In a California king size, The WinkBed costs about \$2,000, no matter which of the three standard firmness levels you choose.

Specs

List Price (California King):	\$2,049
Mattress Type:	Innerspring
Sleep Trial:	120 nights
Warranty:	Lifetime

[Buy From WinkBeds »](#)

Best for Side Sleepers

Helix Midnight »

3.8 ★★★★★ U.S. News Rating



The Helix Midnight Mattress

PROS:

- ✓ Hybrid mattress designed for side sleepers
- ✓ Three layers of pressure-relieving foam
- ✓ Supportive coil base helps with cooling

CONS:

- ✗ May be too soft for some
- ✗ Edge support at head and foot of bed could be better

[Buy From Helix](#)

Side sleepers often feel best on a mattress that helps relieve pressure in the shoulders and hips, and could find the medium firmness feel of the hybrid [Helix Midnight](#) to fit the bill. When we tried it out in our lab, our panel agreed it felt close to medium. Tester Yeaman said the Helix Midnight felt, “squishy but sufficiently supportive.” Tester Arndt rated the mattress as medium-soft, saying, “It’s great for a side sleeper and does a little bit of hugging of your body.”

The upper comfort layer of the Helix Midnight mattress is made with Helix’s Memory Plus Foam. Below this is a layer of high-grade foam for cushioning and ergonomic support. The coil support core is made of individually wrapped coils that move independently of each other for support while limiting motion transfer. The construction also includes reinforced edge support on both sides of the mattress but not at the head and foot of the bed. Our testers all mentioned they felt unsupported while sitting on the foot of the bed, but found the reinforced sides to feel adequate. Tester Hanks said, “Edge support on the sides is perfectly fine, but if you sit on the ends you’ll slide right to the floor.”

Helix ships the Midnight mattress for free using FedEx Ground. It comes with a 100-night sleep trial, but Helix requires a 30-day break-in period during this trial before the mattress is eligible for a return.

Specs

List Price (California King):	\$1,748.80
Mattress Type:	Hybrid
Sleep Trial:	100 nights
Warranty:	10 years

[Buy From Helix »](#)

Best for Eco-Conscious Shoppers

Avocado Green Mattress »

**PROS:**

- ✓ Made with certified organic materials
- ✓ Zoned coils for better support to the back and hips
- ✓ Year-long sleep trial

CONS:

- ✗ Returns cost \$99
- ✗ Not great with motion isolation

[Buy From Avocado](#)

While many mattresses claim to use natural materials, the [Avocado Green](#) carries certifications to verify the organic materials used in its construction. It's a hybrid mattress that uses organic cotton, wool, and latex in the comfort layers and covers while offering a support core of pocketed coils arranged in five zones. Avocado ranks the Green mattress as a 7 on the 1-to-10 mattress firmness scale, or a medium-firm. For an extra cost, sleepers who want a softer mattress can upgrade with a sewn-in pillow top that adds a 2-inch layer of latex foam for additional pressure relief. Our lab testers felt the mattress landed between a medium and medium-firm.

Our testers noted the Green’s strong edge support, which could be ideal for larger bodies on a California king mattress. Tester Yeaman said, “The edges of this mattress are well-structured and hold their shape and support when I sit on all sides, even the corners.”

The majority of our testers also noticed the Avocado Green resisted warming up, so it could also be a solid bet for sleepers who tend to overheat. Tester Evans described the bed as “a good summer mattress.”

However, our testers felt the bed didn’t do a great job at isolating motion, so it’s not the best option for couples. Tester Arndt said she could feel pronounced movement when her partner changed sleeping positions and got in or out of the bed.

Given its organic materials and certifications, the Avocado Green is the most expensive mattress to make our rating of California king-size beds, costing around \$2,700, so it might not be the best option for budget-conscious shoppers. But with a 25-year warranty and organic materials, it’s a smart investment in sound sleep.

Specs

List Price (California King):	\$2,699
Mattress Type:	Hybrid
Sleep Trial:	365 nights
Warranty:	25 years

[Buy From Avocado »](#)

The Bottom Line

A California king mattress works for those who need more length than what a traditional king bed provides. Although California king mattresses are 4 inches narrower than king beds, they're 4 inches longer. This size could be ideal for anyone who wants a larger mattress but has a bedroom that's not wide enough to accommodate a standard king bed.

After research and extensive testing, we found the Helix Plus is the best overall option for those shopping for a California king bed. In testing, we were impressed with the bed's supportive yet pressure-relieving feel. It also excelled at isolating motion, a perk for couples.

Who Is a California King Mattress Best For?

A California king mattress is best for:

- ✓ Those who prefer more space
- ✓ Couples
- ✓ Big and tall sleepers
- ✓ Large bedrooms

A California king mattress is not recommended for:

- Small bedrooms
- Those on a strict budget

In addition to the type and firmness of your mattress, the size plays a large role in how comfortable you feel while sleeping. Whether you sleep alone or share a mattress, a bed that's too small can disrupt your sleep. A California king could be a great match for couples or those who prefer to spread out on the mattress. It's

longer than both a standard queen- and king-size mattress, so it could also be a good fit for big and tall sleepers.

If you're upgrading to a California king from a queen- or king-size bed, you may also need to invest in new bedding like [sheets](#) and a comforter. A California king is 4 inches longer than both a queen and king mattress. Also, before investing in a California king mattress, be sure your bedroom is large enough to accommodate the bed with enough room on both sides for sleepers to easily get in and out of it.

While a California king mattress is one of the larger beds on the market, it's still possible your choice will come shipped in a box to your doorstep. A California king mattress often costs the same amount as a king-size bed.

What Are the Dimensions of a California King Mattress?

California king mattresses measure 72 inches wide by 84 inches long. Though many people think California king mattresses are larger than standard king mattresses, this is only true for length. It's four inches longer, but [king mattresses](#) (76 inches by 80 inches) offer 4 more inches in terms of width. California king beds are a good pick for taller individuals because of their extra height.

A [queen mattress](#) – the most common [mattress size](#) for adults – measures 60 inches by 80 inches (the same length as a standard king), meaning California king beds are 4 inches longer than this mattress size, too.

If you like the legroom of a California king but want a bed with more width, an Alaskan king mattress offers the same length as a California king (84 inches) with twice the width (144 inches)

How We Chose the Best California King Mattresses

To compile our list of top California king mattresses, we researched and identified [mattresses](#) with materials that are ideal for both comfort and support. In our lab, we tested dozens of mattresses with a panel of sleepers to get a better feel for how each mattress felt and performed. We also conducted a detailed consumer survey to get a real-life snapshot of how people feel about their mattresses. We then compared materials, construction, and company policies.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. The author of this piece, [Lauren Allain](#), has more than six years of experience with testing and reviewing sleep products with an emphasis on mattresses and sheets. [Marlo Jappen Porto](#), U.S. News 360 Reviews editor, is an experienced commerce editor, focusing on sleep and fitness.

FAQ

What is a California king mattress?	+
How much does a California king mattress cost?	+
What is the best California king mattress?	+
How long does a California king mattress last?	+

About Our Team

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Lauren Allain is a contributing writer for U.S. News 360 Reviews where she covers sleep products and other home goods. She’s



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