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By Lindsay Boyers Edited by Marlo Jappen Porto and Victoria Sheridan Updated: Aug. 1, 2024

Linen clothing is popular in the summertime because it's lightweight and breathable. For the same reasons, linen bedding is beloved by hot sleepers. Aside from being naturally moisture-wicking, linen sheets are durable and get softer with every wash. Made from flax, a sustainable crop, linen sheets are also an eco-friendly option.

Given all these perks, linen sheets typically come with a higher cost. Since these sheets are an investment, we spoke with two textile and interior design experts to get their thoughts and used our firsthand experience and research to identify some of the best options available. We narrowed down the choices based on factors like material, feel, sourcing methods, price, and return policies. The Brooklinen Washed Linen Core Sheet Set is our top recommendation. But, since everyone has different preferences, you might find that another set on our list better fits your needs.

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Best Overall

Brooklinen Washed Linen Core Sheet Set »



- Stonewashed for extra softness
- Light and airy weave
- Variety of colors

CONS:

- Potentially too thin for some
- X Return fee

Buy From Brooklinen

Brooklinen does a great job marrying quality and value. In general, you can expect to pay a few hundred dollars for a good set of sheets, and this Brooklinen set is no different. But these sheets are still reasonably priced, especially for what you get.

Made with 100% European flax linen and manufactured in Portugal, each piece is washed and dyed in small batches to be unique. The sheets are stonewashed to be soft right out of the package, and the weave is light for a breathable, airy feel.

With a weight of 145 grams per square meter (GSM), this set is lighter than many others on this list, but that gives the sheets a crisp feel that's typically associated with linen sheets. These are also Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified to not contain harmful substances.

A handful of little extra touches make these sheets stand out, like long and short side tags on the fitted sheet and envelope closures on the pillowcases that give your bed a more polished look.

Like its other sheet sets, Brooklinen offers these in a variety of essential, limited edition, and "Last Call" patterns, so there's bound to be an option that fits your aesthetic.

Specs

List Price (Queen):

\$319

Sizes:

Twin, twin XL, full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 fitted sheet, 1 flat sheet, and 2 pillowcases

Included:

Pocket Depth: 16 in.

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Brooklinen »

Best Budget

Quince European Linen Sheet Set »



- Can purchase set with or without flat sheet
- ✓ Has wide range of colors
- Offers 365-day return policy

CONS:

- X No twin XL option
- Only one pillowcase with twin-size set

Buy From Quince

If paying a few hundred dollars for a sheet set isn't in your budget, you can get these sheets from Quince for about half the price of several competitors. They have a lot of the same qualities as some of our other picks. These linen sheets are made from 100% European flax and Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified with a 16-inch pocket depth that can fit thicker mattresses. However, instead of being manufactured in Europe, this Quince set is made in China and India.

Quince describes its European Linen Sheet Set as midweight, and many reviewers love the feel and thickness. And while most other options on this list come in only one type of set, Quince gives you options. The regular sheet set comes with a fitted sheet, a flat sheet, and two pillowcases (or one pillowcase if you purchase a twin-size set). Alternatively, you can opt for the cheaper set that excludes the flat sheet, which may not be a necessary piece if you use a duvet cover.

Quince also offers more color options than many other manufacturers; you can choose from 19 colors including both solid and striped designs.

Additionally, Quince is generous with its return policy. You can get a full refund for a return within 365 days of purchase, as long as you include the original packaging and tags.

Specs

ListPrice \$129.90 (with flat sheet); \$79.90 (without flat sheet) (Queen):

Sizes: Twin, full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 fitted sheet and 2 pillowcases (1 pillowcase with twin

Included: set); 1 optional flat sheet

Pocket Depth: 16 in.

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Quince »

Best Eco-Friendly

Buffy Linen Sheet Set »



PROS:

- Sustainable materials and packaging
- ✓ Nontoxic dyes
- Generous return policy

CONS:

- X No patterned options
- X No twin size

Buy From Buffy

Linen sheets are one of the most sustainable options that you can find in the bedding industry, according to Hannah L. Burcham, an interior designer and founder of Designs by HLB. That's because the entire flax plant is woven into the textile, which means less waste, she explains. Linen also requires much less water than cotton, and it's biodegradable – so, naturally, it's good for the environment.

Some manufacturers go a step further by sticking to nontoxic dyes, and Buffy is one of those brands. These sheets are made with 100% long-staple hemp linen fiber, which is biodegradable, compostable, and naturally pest-resistant, eliminating the need for herbicides. According to Buffy, hemp also excels at absorbing carbon dioxide from the air.

You'll still get soft sheets that have a similar feel to flax linen but are even stronger and more durable, so you can expect your sheets to last a long time, which helps to keep discarded pieces out of landfills. Plus, the sheets are shipped in recyclable boxes made with recycled materials, and Buffy offsets carbon emissions from shipments to and from its facility.

Buffy is pretty generous with its return policy, too. You'll get a seven-day free trial that allows you to try the sheets without being charged right away. If you decide to keep the sheets past the seven days, you'll still be able to return the set up to 50 days after purchase.

Specs

List Price \$279 (Queen):

Sizes: Full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 fitted sheet, 1 flat sheet, and 2 pillowcases

Included:

Pocket Depth: 15 in.

EXPAND LIST

Best Cooling

Saatva Linen Sheet Set »



PROS:

- Offers allergen protection
- Pre-washed for softness
- ✓ Fits deep mattresses

CONS:

- X Limited colors
- × Pricey

Buy From Saatva

According to Brad Smith, interior designer and CEO of Omni Home Ideas, linen sheets have excellent thermoregulating properties that make them particularly good for hot sleepers. "They wick moisture away and allow heat to escape, thereby keeping you cool," he says.

While all true linen sheets fall into that category, the Saatva linen sheets are made with 100% Belgian linen, which is considered to be the highest-quality type of linen. Not only is it lightweight, but its breathability allows airflow and avoids trapping body heat.

These sheets don't have any special enhancements that give them active cooling properties, but the natural temperature control of linen makes them a great option for hot sleepers. Linen can be good for year-round use thanks to its ability to keep you cool in the hotter months and warm in the winter.

Saatva's sheet set is also resistant to allergens and bacteria, as well as Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified, so these sheets may appeal to health-conscious shoppers or sleepers with sensitive skin. The sheets are prewashed for softness but can be machine-washed on a gentle cycle as needed.

Color options are limited – these sheets only come in white, ivory, and gray – but if you prefer to stick with the classics, these choices should work for you.

Specs

List Price \$395

(Queen):

Sizes: Twin, twin XL, full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 flat sheet, 1 fitted sheet, 2 pillowcases (1 pillowcase

included: with twin or twin XL sets) Pocket Depth: 16 in.

Pocket Depth: 16 in.

EXPAND LIST

Buy From Saatva »

Best Luxury

Coyuchi Organic Relaxed Linen Sheets »



- Organic and sustainable
- Sets or individual pieces available
- Heavier drape

CONS:

- X Limited color range
- **X** Expensive

Buy From Coyuchi

All linen sheets are generally regarded as luxury, but the Coyuchi Organic Relaxed Linen Sheets are even more so and pricier than our other recommendations. This is mostly due to the fact that they're made with flax linen that's certified organic by the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and sourced from French farmers who employ organic farming methods.

Although the flax is grown in France, the sheets are made in Portugal with a 185 GSM that gives them a slightly heavier and more luxurious drape than similar linen sheets. The brand says this is considered a "heavyweight" linen sheet, although it's still breathable enough to remain suitable for year-round use.

The color options are pretty limited – basic neutrals and some earth tones – but Coyuchi uses only dyes that have a low impact on the environment and are suitable for sensitive skin. The sheets are also Made Safe certified, which ensures that everything used in the production process is safe for you and the environment.

Coyuchi linen sheets do require specific care: You should only wash them on a gentle cycle with like colors using a plant-based laundry detergent. But like other linen sheets, they're designed to get softer after each wash.

Because these sheets are an investment, Coyuchi backs the set with a 365-day guarantee, one of the most generous for bedding. If anything goes wrong during that time, you can return them for store credit. And if you make a return within the first 30 days, you can get a full refund.

Specs

List Price \$558

(Queen):

Sizes: Full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 fitted sheet, 1 flat sheet, 2 pillowcases

Included:

Pocket Depth: 15 in.

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Coyuchi »

Best for Durability

Cultiver Linen Sheet Set »



- Easy care instructions
- Ability to mix and match colors
- Swatch samples available

CONS:

- Certain colors not available in every size
- Only returns for unused sheets

Buy From Cultiver

According to Burcham, all linen sheets are quite durable and can last longer than other bedding materials when properly cared for. That being said, the material and production process can make a difference in the finished product.

The linen sheets from Cultiver are made from 100% European flax, which is stronger than other types of fibers and therefore may be less likely to break. These also have a weight of 165 GSM, which is a medium density and not as thin as some other linen options.

The set stands up well to washing and can handle warm water in the washing machine and a warm setting in the dryer. Beyond durability, these

sheets are eco-friendly, too. Not only is flax a sustainable crop, but Cultiver linen is also Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified to be made without substances that are harmful to human health.

These sheets come in 13 solid colors and three neutral, striped options. If you're not sure which one will look best with your decor, you can request a free swatch sample from the company (though you will be charged a \$10 shipping fee for this sample if you are not purchasing any other products). You can also mix and match individual pieces if you want to create your own set or just have an extra single sheet handy.

Specs

List Price \$410

(Queen):

Sizes: Twin, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 flat sheet, 1 fitted sheet, 2 pillowcases (1 pillowcase

Included: with twin set)

Pocket Depth: 16 in.

EXPAND LIST

Buy From Cultiver »

Best Colors and Patterns

The Citizenry Stonewashed Linen Sheet Set »



- Many color options
- Easy to care for
- Pre-washed for softness

CONS:

- X No twin-size option
- Lots of shedding according to some customers

Buy From The Citizenry

Most linen sheets don't come in too many colors and patterns, but if you're looking for a set with more options than a couple of neutrals, consider the Stonewashed Linen Sheet Set from The Citizenry.

There are more than a dozen solid colors from basic white to earth tones like Sienna and Olive, plus three understated patterns like thin stripes and gingham. Of course, the color options aren't the only draw.

These linen sheets are made in Portugal from 100% French flax and stonewashed so they're already softened right out of the package. This set is also Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified and manufactured using practices that are backed by the World Fair Trade Organization.

Each set includes one fitted sheet, one flat sheet, and two pillowcases. Though it's available in full, queen, king, and California king sizes, there isn't an option for twin beds.

Care is easy, too: Just machine-wash and tumble-dry on low. You can iron if you want to, but these have the traditional wrinkled look that's characteristic of linen sheets.

Specs

Price (Queen): \$299

Sizes: Full, queen, king, California king

Pieces 1 fitted sheet, 1 flat sheet, and 2 pillowcases

Included:

Pocket Depth: 15 in.

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From The Citizenry »

The Bottom Line

Linen sheets are an investment, but if you choose the right set, you'll enjoy them for years to come. They not only get softer over time but are suitable for year-round use since they can help regulate your temperature in all seasons. Linen is also more sustainable than other types of textiles, so you can feel good about your purchase all around. When choosing linen sheets, make sure your set is made from 100% flax or hemp linen and backed by at least a 30-day return policy. We chose the Brooklinen Washed Linen Core Sheet Set as the best overall option because it's extra soft and made with high-quality European flax.

Things To Consider When Buying Linen Sheets

Price: Typically, linen sheets range between \$200 and \$500 for a queen-size set, which is on the pricier side for sheets. "While linen sheets can be more expensive due to the labor-intensive process of producing linen fiber, their durability and comfort make them a long-term investment," says interior designer Brad Smith, adding that material quality, thread count, and the manufacturing process all contribute to the cost.

If you're on a tighter budget, you can still get a set of great linen sheets, though you might just have to do a little more research to find a set that's still high quality. In general, choosing a manufacturer that cuts down on product advertising costs can translate to a lower-priced end product for you. Because of this, you may have to go with a brand that's a little less well-known. But make sure you're still paying attention to sourcing and sustainability – you don't want to completely sacrifice quality for price.

Feel: Burcham says that linen sheets have a very distinct feel. "At first, they can feel slightly coarse or scratchy, which can be off-putting for some," she says. "But with use and washing, they become extremely soft and more comfortable than other options."

If you want them to be softer right out of the package, look for options that have been stonewashed or pre-washed. This will start the softening process so the sheets won't feel as crisp initially. If the set you get isn't pre-washed, you can wash your sheets a few times before putting them on your bed for the first time. Just make sure you're following the care instructions closely to ensure the longevity of your sheets.

Durability: According to both design experts we consulted, linen sheets can last up to a decade (or even longer!) with proper care and usage. This is good news since they're typically a bigger investment than other types of sheets.

When assessing durability, think about how easy the sheets are to care for. If care instructions are really high-maintenance – for example, they can only be dry-cleaned or washed on very delicate cycles – they may be likely to break down faster, especially if you don't follow these instructions very closely.

Before deciding on a set of linen sheets, read through the care instructions and make sure you'll have the time and resources to follow them exactly. Doing so will potentially increase the sheets' lifespan to maintain their feel and appearance for many years.

Durability and quality also go hand in hand. You want high-quality linen that is tightly woven and has a good weight, according to Burcham. "The weave pattern, such as plain weave, twill, or herringbone, will each lend to a different texture and can [also] affect the durability," she says.

Temperature Control: Linen has excellent moisture-wicking properties, and it's breathable, which helps people who tend to sweat at night, according to Burcham. But because linen is so good at temperature regulation, it's suitable for colder times of year, too.

"Many think of linen as a summer textile, but due to its thermoregulating abilities, linen can keep you cool in the summer and warm in the winter. It's truly the best of both worlds," she says.

If you sleep really cool, you might want to consider a heavier fabric, like thick cotton or flannel in the winter. However, many people enjoy the comfort of linen sheets all year long.

Return Policy: Return policies are pretty standard for sheets. Most manufacturers will give you 30 days to return your – often unopened and unused – sheets for a full refund. But some companies offer peace of mind beyond that.

For example, Coyuchi backs its sheets with a 365-day guarantee: If they break down prematurely or you decide you don't like them any time in the first year, you can return them for store credit.

Because linen sheets are on the expensive side, a generous sleep trial and flexible return policy ensure that your investment is protected. Online shoppers in particular should steer toward a company offering no-hassle returns since they may not have a prior chance to see and feel the product in person. At the very least, make sure the company you purchase from allows some sort of return or exchange, especially if you're new to linen sheets. If you're buying through a third-party retailer, be sure to check the return policy there as it may differ from that of the manufacturer.

How We Chose the Best Linen Sheets

To create this list of the best linen sheets, we relied on our own extensive research along with insights that we gathered from interviews with two textile and interior design experts, Hannah L. Burcham of Designs by HLB and Brad Smith of Omni Home Ideas. We used their professional guidance to scrutinize brands and narrow down our search to the options on this list. When choosing our final selection, we considered price, sourcing, sustainability, feel, material, and customer policies, as well as general customer satisfaction. We looked through marketing claims and eliminated any brands that have notable complaints or negative reviews about their sheets. Overall, we found that while linen sheets are typically more expensive than other types, experts think the investment is worth it.

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At U.S. News 360 Reviews, our editors and contributing writers have years of firsthand experience researching, testing, and reviewing sleep products. Lindsay Boyers, the author of this piece, has written about sleep products and sleep health for almost five years. She's currently taking a sleep science certification course and has personally tested more than two dozen mattresses and many different kinds of sheets. She understands that a good night's sleep is one of the key pillars to your health, and how much the right bedding can contribute to your sleep quality. Both home goods editors at 360 Reviews, Marlo Jappen Porto and Victoria Sheridan edited this piece.

FAQ

Are linen sheets worth the price?

+

How do I wash linen sheets?

T

How do I make linen sheets softer? +

Do linen sheets wrinkle? +

How often do linen sheets need to be replaced? +

About Our Team



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Lindsay Boyers is a certified nutritionist and freelance writer and editor with extensive experience in sleep and other areas of health and wellness. She has personally tested over four dozen mattresses and many other sleep products, like pillows, sheets, and weighted blankets. Her work has been featured in Forbes, CNET, CNN Underscored, The Spruce, and Healthline, among others. She has four years of experience writing reviews

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