

French presses make it possible to brew rich and flavorful coffee in your own home. Unlike traditional coffee makers that require a filter, with these models, the ground coffee comes into direct contact with the hot water. This means that more of the oils are infused into the flavor of the resulting beverage. Users also have greater control over the brewing time and coffee strength than with traditional drip coffee makers.

While these are general benefits associated with using a French press, it's important to note that the various models available on the market aren't identical. Each offers different features that may make it a better fit for different brewing needs. We've put together a list of some of the best French presses that will address different budgetary and brewing needs.

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### **Best Overall**

# **Espro P7 French Press Coffee Maker »**



PROS: CONS:

for grit-free coffee

- Dishwasher-safe on the top rack for easy cleaning
- Double-wall stainless steel design to keep coffee warm

Scratches easily according to some

**Buy From Amazon** 

According to Joshua Moellering, a shift lead at Curiosity Coffee Bar in Columbia, South Carolina, the Espro P7 French Press Coffee Maker is "the cream of the crop as far as quality goes." This elegant French press features a stainless steel design with double walls to keep coffee warmer for longer. In addition to its modern appearance, the stainless steel material is also highly durable and free of harmful chemicals like Bisphenol S (BPS), Bisphenol A (BPA), and phthalates.

Instead of a single mesh filter, Espro designed it with two mesh filters to better strain coffee grounds and ensure that the finished cup of coffee is smooth and delicious. The filter is also lined with a silicone lip to ensure a tight seal for a slower extraction process and less bitter-tasting coffee. This French press is available in both 18- and 32-fluid-ounce sizes. The smaller 18-fluid-ounce size is recommended for one to two people, and the 32-fluid-ounce size is better for three to four people. There are six different finish options available, including brushed stainless, polished stainless, matte black, white, cranberry, and Aegean blue.

## **Specs**

Price: Starting at \$119.95

Material(s): Stainless steel, polypropylene

Capacity: 18 fluid ounces; 32 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 5.6 inches L x 3.8 inches W x 9.1 inches H (18-fluid-

ounce); 6.6 inches L x 4.6 inches W x 10.1 inches H (32-

### fluid-ounce)

**EXPAND LIST** 

### Buy From Amazon »

## **Best Budget**

## **Bodum Brazil French Press Coffee Maker** »



### PROS:

- ✓ Inexpensive
- Lightweight
- ✓ Dishwasher-safe

### CONS:

- Reviewers say the glass carafe can be hard to remove.
- The plastic body and handles may not be as durable as other materials.

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Bodum Brazil French Press Coffee Maker enables you to enjoy the benefits of using a French press without spending a lot of money. With its price of \$27.49, it's much more affordable than many other options, which can easily cost \$100 or more. This model has a 34-fluid-ounce capacity. The carafe is made from heat-resistant borosilicate glass that, unlike some other materials, won't alter the taste of the coffee. The glass material is also heat-resistant and nonstaining. Lightweight and easy to hold, this press features a BPA-free plastic handle and lid.

The filter is made from stainless steel and designed to ensure that none of the coffee grounds seep into the liquid or move when users pour a cup of coffee. Once you've finished enjoying your coffee, the press is easy to clean in the dishwasher.

## **Specs**

**Price:** \$27.49

Material(s): Stainless steel, plastic, borosilicate glass

Capacity: 34 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 4.2 inches D x 6.3 inches W x 8.6 inches H

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Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Travel** 

Stanley Adventure All-in-One Boil + Brew Fren...



#### PROS:

- ✓ Inexpensive
- Boils and brews for coffee-making when on the go
- Features folding handle for easy packing

#### CONS:

- The handles may get too hot.
- The spout may dribble when pouring.

**Buy From Amazon** 

If you're looking for a French press that you can bring with you when traveling, take a look at the Stanley Adventure All-in-One Boil + Brew French Press. This model is made from sturdy, BPA-free stainless steel material, so users won't need to worry about it accidentally breaking when they're on the go. At just 0.9 pounds, it's light enough to pack in your suitcase, carry-on, or even hiking backpack. The press features a compact nesting design with a locking handle.

The Stanley Adventure All-in-One Boil + Brew French Press offers a 32-fluidounce capacity – enough to serve up to four people – and is dishwashersafe for easy cleanup. Plus, this model does more than just work as a French press. It can also be used to boil water, heat a can of soup, and more.

## **Specs**

Price: \$26

Material(s): Stainless steel

Capacity: 32 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 4 1/4 inches L x 4 1/4 inches W x 7.64 inches H

**EXPAND LIST ~** 

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best Insulated**

## Fellow Clara French Press »



PROS: CONS:

to keep coffee hot

- Mesh filtration to remove grounds
- No need to align spout when pouring with the 360-degree lid

The carafe body isn't dishwasher-safe.

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Fellow Clara French Press can make a functional and stylish addition to any kitchen. It features vacuum-insulated walls for maximum heat retention. Its interior is coated with polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), which creates a nonstick and easy-to-clean surface.

The press offers a modern look with a matte black finish. For a little more money, you can also add a contemporary walnut handle. To help users craft a perfect cup of coffee every time, this model has ratio lines for measuring grounds and water. Once your coffee is brewed, simply put the lid on and pour. The 360-degree design eliminates the need to align the spout and makes it possible for liquid to pour out from any direction.

The mesh filter on the Fellow Clara French Press offers an enhanced design to ensure no grounds make it into your cup. The filter is dishwasher-safe for easy cleaning. While the carafe body itself must be hand-washed, with the nonstick interior, cleanup shouldn't be too difficult.

## Specs

Price: Starting at \$99

Material(s): Stainless steel body and filter, BPA-free plastic lid and

handle, nonstick PTFE-coated interior, walnut wooden

press and handle (optional upgrade)

Capacity: 24 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 6.69 inches L x 4.53 inches W x 7.87 inches H

**EXPAND LIST** 

### Buy From Amazon »

### **Best High-Capacity**

### Secura French Press Coffee Maker »



### PROS:

- Relatively inexpensive price tag
- Double-walled stainless steel design to keep coffee hot
- Cool-to-the-touch handle and knob

### CONS:

- Only one color/finish option is available from the Secura site.
- Some customers note that it doesn't keep their coffee as hot as other models do.

**Buy From Amazon** 

With its 50-fluid-ounce capacity, the Secura French Press Coffee Maker is ideal for those looking to brew coffee for multiple people at the same time.

This model also offers a double-walled, stainless steel design, allowing it to keep beverages hot for up to one hour longer than glass carafes and others with just a single wall, according to the company. The cool-to-the-touch handle and knob help protect your hands when brewing or pouring.

This model comes with a set of three stainless steel filters. The layered design works effectively to prevent fine grounds from escaping into your cup of coffee for a smoother finish. The Secura French Press Coffee Maker retails for \$49.99, which is considerably less than some of the other models on our list. It may be a more affordable solution for some individuals or a good starting point for those beginning their journey with French presses.

## **Specs**

**Price:** \$49.99

Material(s): Stainless steel

Capacity: 50 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 7.6 inches L x 4.61 inches W x 9.49 inches H

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

**Best High-End** 

# Frieling French Press - Mirror Finish »



#### PROS:

- Four capacity options available
- ✓ 18/10 stainless steel body
- ✓ No-drip spout

#### CONS:

- Not super budgetfriendly
- Only holds 44 fluid ounces at the largest capacity option

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Frieling French Press is a high-end model that combines style with performance. The French press – which is available in 17-, 23-, 36-, and 44-fluid-ounce options – features a modern mirrored finish. The 18/10 double-walled stainless steel carafe also works to ensure that coffee stays hot enough to allow you to enjoy the second or third cup just as much as the first.

When you're ready to pour a cup of coffee, the no-drip spout will help ensure that you're able to do so without making a mess or wasting the brewed beverage. A two-stage filter is incorporated into the design of the Frieling French Press to ensure that the loose coffee grounds stay below the press –

not in your cup of coffee. All components of this press are dishwasher-safe, which makes for an easy cleanup.

## **Specs**

Price: Starting at \$99.95

Material(s): Stainless steel

Capacity: 17 fluid ounces; 23 fluid ounces; 36 fluid ounces; 44 fluid

ounces

**Dimensions:** 5 1/4 inches L x 3 1/4 inches W x 7 3/4 inches H (17-

fluid-ounce); 6.00 inches L x 3 3/4 inches W x 8.00 inches H (23-fluid-ounce); 6 1/4 inches L x 4 1/2 inches W x 9 1/4 inches H (36-fluid-ounce); 7.00 inches L x 4

1/2 inches W x 10 1/4 inches H (44-fluid-ounce)

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Style** 

## Le Creuset French Press »



#### PROS:

- Several different color options
- Stoneware body to keep coffee warm
- Dishwasher-safe cleaning

#### CONS:

- Is fragile with no protective frame
- May spew coffee when you press the plunger down

**Buy From Amazon** 

With more than 10 attractive colors to choose from, the Le Creuset French Press can add style to your kitchen or home coffee bar. Choose from more subtle colors such as White, Meringue, Oyster, or Sea Salt, or opt for something more vibrant such as Cerise, Deep Teal, or Flame.

The French press is made from a glazed, premium stoneware material that offers excellent heat retention. The glaze is nonporous and designed to resist scratches, stains, and chips. With a nonstick finish, this French press is also easy to clean by hand or in the dishwasher. It is even microwave-, oven-, broiler-, and freezer-safe. Le Creuset's Stoneware French Press has a 34-

fluid-ounce capacity and uses a mesh sieve to deliver a grit-free cup of coffee.

Specs

**Price:** \$85.50

Material(s): Stoneware

Capacity: 34 fluid ounces

**Dimensions:** 6.97 inches L x 6 1/2 inches W x 8 1/2 inches H

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

### The Bottom Line

When shopping for a new French press, you don't need to feel overwhelmed by all the different options. There are several excellent products that will help you craft smooth, hot, and delicious coffee shop-quality coffee in your own home. You'll just want to think about what's most important for you. Do you need a higher-capacity French press to make coffee for multiple people? Want one that is available for a more budget-friendly price? Need to be able to bring the model you purchase with you when you go camping or tailgating? Once you've answered these questions, you can decide which of the models we reviewed above offers precisely what you're looking for.

## **Things To Consider When Buying French Presses**

**Capacity:** Unlike some other coffee makers, French presses generally aren't designed to brew a lot of coffee at once. However, there are still several different capacity

options that you'll want to consider to help you choose the right one for your needs. Most of the models on the market range from 12 to just more than 50 fluid ounces with the standard size being around 32 to 34 fluid ounces. The size of your coffee cup and how many individuals you'll be brewing coffee for can help guide you in choosing a press that is properly sized.

When you read the product descriptions for many French presses, the number of cups of coffee that it will brew is often listed. However, keep in mind that a "cup" of coffee is often considered to be between 4 and 6 fluid ounces, even though there are 8 fluid ounces in 1 cup. For a higher-capacity model, take a look at the Secura French Press Coffee Maker. It has a 50-fluid-ounce capacity. If you only want to brew a cup or two at a time, the Espro P7 French Press Coffee Maker and the Frieling French Press both offer smaller options with capacities of 18 fluid ounces and 17 fluid ounces respectively.

Materials: Sam Fonseca, a shift supervisor of a Starbucks in Gaithersburg, Maryland, highlights durability as one of the most important things to look for when choosing a French press. As you browse through the various options on the market, you'll notice that there are a few main materials used to construct French presses. These include stainless steel, glass, and stoneware. Joshua Moellering, a shift lead at Curiosity Coffee Bar, prefers glass presses: "It helps with the brewing process to be able to see through the sides to make sure you're getting all the grounds wet and make sure that there aren't any clumps you didn't get stirred in." However, a glass French press is also going to be more fragile than those made from other materials. It also won't retain heat as well as stainless steel or stoneware, so it may not be the ideal material choice if you're looking to enjoy a second or third cup of hot coffee after finishing your first.

The material can also have a small impact on the flavor of the coffee. Moellering shares that "ceramic is best flavor-wise; glass and stainless can add a little tinny flavor."

Materials are also something to keep in mind if you're concerned about style. All three materials can be aesthetically pleasing, but one may better match your personal preferences or the decor in your kitchen.

**Filter:** The filter design is one of the most important components of a French press. Moellering of Curiosity Coffee Bar shares the importance of choosing a high-quality

and well-designed filter. He says that the "finer [the filter] is, the less grounds you'll get through to the coffee. Also how far up the sides the filter goes. You want it to fit snugly with a good fine mesh that appropriately covers the sides to prevent grounds from seeping up." If the grounds end up seeping through the mesh or up the sides of the vessel, it will result in a gritty cup of coffee (which no one wants).

Filter designs can vary by manufacturer, with some adding special features like a silicone gasket around the mesh to keep coffee grounds from seeping upward into the liquid. Espro integrated two micromesh filters into the design of the P7 French Press Coffee Maker – our top pick – to help ensure smoother cups of coffee.

Care and Maintenance: Considering the care and maintenance needs of each French press you're thinking about purchasing is also important. Some models are dishwasher-safe, allowing for easier cleanup. Others may offer a few dishwasher-safe components but require you to hand-wash the rest of the parts. Hand-wash-only models may be more difficult to clean, as the fine grounds get trapped in the filter. If you're looking at getting a glass French press, it may also be necessary to descale it periodically to keep it clear. Descaling is a deep cleaning process that can be done with specialized tablets or a solution of baking soda and vinegar to remove the foggy appearance.

### **How We Chose the Best French Presses**

With so many different brands and models on the market, we started by looking at feedback and recommendations from professional reviewers and everyday users alike. Then, we further narrowed down the list by looking for the top-performing French presses in a variety of categories. We wanted to make sure we included a high-quality option for those shopping on a budget, individuals looking to use their French press when traveling, households that required a larger-capacity model to brew coffee for multiple people, and more. Additionally, we sought feedback and recommendations from experts in the coffee industry, including Joshua Moellering, a shift lead at Curiosity Coffee Bar in Columbia, South Carolina, and Sam Fonesca, a shift supervisor at the Kentlands Square Starbucks in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

### WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

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### **FAQ**

How do you use a French press?	+
What grind size should I use with a French press?	+
How long should I let the coffee steep in a French press?	+
How do I clean a French press?	+
Can I use a French press to make other types of beverages beside coffee?	s <b>+</b>

### **About Our Team**



Deirdre Mundorf
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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.

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**Former Editor** 



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