

A king-size pillow (20 inches by 36 inches) differs from a standard pillow (20 inches by 26 inches) in length so that it'll look more proportional on a king- or California king-size bed, and it may better support individuals with larger frames.

Some king-size pillows may be a few inches shorter than those measurements, so be sure to double-check when you shop. Depending on your preferred sleeping position, you may need a flatter pillow (for instance, if you're a stomach sleeper) or a taller pillow (say, if you sleep on your side). Our list of the best king-size pillows tackles a range of sleep needs and price points.

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Best Overall

Coop Sleep Goods Original Pillow »



PROS: CONS:

Adjustable filling

× Pricey

✓ Washable cover

X Filling can be messy

Buy from Coop Sleep Goods

✓ 100-night sleep trial

Sleepers of any type – back, side, or stomach – should find that the Coop Sleep Goods Original Pillow allows them to adjust the pillow based on their body size and support needs. You can wash both the outer cover and the inner pillow with the filling, which can help get rid of accumulated body oils, mold, and dust mites.

The foam inside the pillow is both GreenGuard Gold and CertiPUR-US certified, which means you won't find harmful toxins within the foam or the other materials. Coop gives a slight discount if you buy two king-size pillows instead of one: \$165.60 for a set compared to \$92.00 for a single pillow. For those who aren't sure if the Original Pillow is the right match for them, it comes with a 100-night sleep trial and a prepaid return label for an easy, free return if it doesn't work out.

Specs

Price: \$92.00

Fill Material: Memory foam and microfiber

Cover Polyester and bamboo viscose

Material:

Sleep Trial: 100 nights

Buy From Coop Sleep Goods »

Best Budget

Beckham Hotel Collection Bed Pillows »



PROS:

- ✓ Two-pack
- Machine-washable
- ✓ Affordable

CONS:

- X No sleep trial
- × Not adjustable

Buy from Amazon

If you're looking for a quick and cost-effective way to dress a bed, consider the Beckham Hotel Collection Bed Pillows set. Though sold in a pair, these still cost less than many of the single pillows on this list. These pillows have a cotton cover and a down-alternative filling and can be tossed into your washer whenever you need to clean them. Unfortunately, these pillows don't have a sleep trial, so if you try them and don't like them, you may be stuck with them.

Specs

Price: \$79.58 (two-pack)

Fill Material: Polyester down alternative

Cover

Material:

Sleep Trial: None

Buy From Amazon »

Best for Neck Pain

Saatva Latex Pillow »



PROS:

- ✓ Washable cover
- ✓ Washable outer pillow
- √ 45-night sleep trial

CONS:

- × Pricey
- × Not fully adjustable

Buy from Saatva

Saatva's Latex Pillow in a king size is one of the pricier pillows on this list at \$185.00, but it can help those with neck pain. The pillow's shredded latex filling, which is removable, allows sleepers to adjust the loft and find the right height for proper spinal alignment. The pillow comes with a 45-night sleep trial during which you can return the pillow, even if you've slept on it, for a full refund. Saatva just asks that you wash it before sending it back. The pillow comes in two height options (a standard loft and a high loft) but with the same price tag so you can choose the proper height for your body size and sleep style.S

Specs

Price: \$185.00

Fill Material: Talalay latex

Cover

Material:

Sleep Trial: 45 nights

Buy From Saatva »

Best for Side Sleepers

Purple Harmony Pillow »



PROS:

- ✓ Three heights
- ✓ 100-night sleep trial
- ✓ Washable cover

CONS:

- × Pricey
- X Not adjustable
- X Core is spot-clean only

Buy from Amazon

The Purple Harmony Pillow has a layer of Purple's proprietary hyper-elastic polymer grid, which is a material that adapts to your body. Its core is made of ventilated latex that Purple says should help you sleep cooler in combination with the grid. For side sleepers, the option to choose between heights of 6 1/2 and 7 1/2 inches is a boon, as petite sleepers may need less height to keep their neck and spine aligned while larger sleepers may need the taller height to allow for enough space between their head and the bed. The pillow comes with a 100-night sleep trial and a one-year warranty.

Specs

Price: \$239.00

Fill Material: Hyper-elastic polymer and latex

Cover Nylon and spandex

Material:

Sleep Trial: 100 nights

Buy From Amazon »

Best for Back Sleepers

Tempur-Pedic Tempur-Cloud Pillow »



PROS:

CONS:

- ✓ Adjustable filling
- × No sleep trial
- ✓ Washable cover
- × No returns
- Five-year warranty

Buy from Tempur-Pedic

Fans of softer foam pillows that allow your head and neck to sink in slightly may like the feel of the Tempur-Pedic Tempur-Cloud Pillow. Like the Coop Sleep Goods Original, the Tempur-Cloud allows you to remove or add filling to customize the pillow's height. For instance, back sleepers can remove a little foam so that their necks and spines remain in a neutral position. Unfortunately, this pillow doesn't come with a sleep trial, and if you change your mind about it, Tempur-Pedic won't allow you to return it.

Specs

Price: \$89.00

Fill Material: Proprietary memory foam blend

Cover Polyester

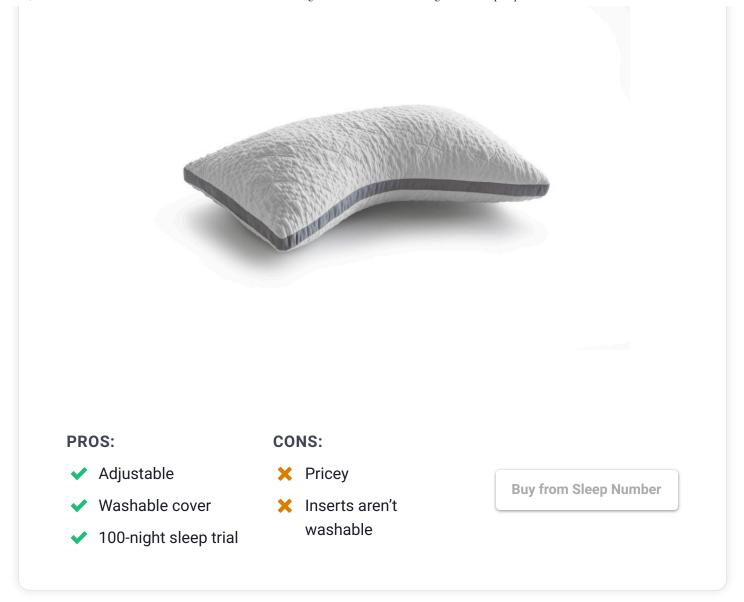
Material:

Sleep Trial: None

Buy From Tempur-Pedic »

Best for Combination Sleepers

Sleep Number ComfortFit Ultimate Pillow »



For combination sleepers, the Sleep Number ComfortFit Ultimate Pillow is worth considering. This model comes with three removable inserts, and Sleep Number recommends using one to two inserts for stomach sleeping and two to three inserts for back and side sleeping. You simply unzip the pillow and remove or add an insert to suit your preferences, and these inserts won't leave a mess behind like memory foam stuffing. Additionally, Sleep Number gives customers a one-year warranty and a 100-night sleep trial during which you can exchange the pillow or return it for a refund.

Specs

Price: \$159.99

Fill Material: Memory foam

Cover Lyocell blend

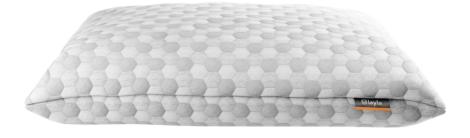
Material:

Sleep Trial: 100 nights

Buy From Sleep Number »

Best Cooling

Layla Kapok Pillow »



PROS:

- ✓ Washable cover
- ✓ Five-year warranty
- Free returns

CONS:

- × Pricey
- × Not adjustable

Buy from Layla

When you first lie on the Layla Kapok Pillow, you'll notice that the surface feels fairly cool and doesn't get warmer over time. Layla says both the pillow's kapok fiber and memory foam filling allow air to pass through so that heat from your head and body won't get trapped when you lie down.

This pillow is on the softer side and isn't adjustable, so it's likely not suitable for those who need a higher loft, like side sleepers. Layla is one of the few pillow companies that offers a five-year warranty that covers defects including the seams coming apart and the zipper breaking.

Price: \$129.00

Fill Material: Shredded memory foam and kapok fibers

Cover Polyester and viscose

Material:

Sleep Trial: 100 nights

Buy From Layla »

The Bottom Line

The most important things to keep in mind when selecting a king-size pillow is your body size and sleep position. According to Dr. George Cyril, a physiatrist at the Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), back sleepers should look for softer and thinner pillows, side sleepers should look for thicker and firmer pillows, and stomach sleepers should look for flat pillows. Once you know the type of pillow that might feel best for your sleep position, shop by your budget.

Things To Consider When Buying King-Size Pillows

Sleeping Position: Your sleeping position determines the firmness and loft you should look for when shopping for a pillow. Generally speaking, back sleepers should look for softer and thinner pillows, side sleepers should look for thicker and firmer pillows, and stomach sleepers should look for flat pillows, according to Cyril.

Fill Material and Adjustability: There are several different types of pillow fill, and each feels fairly different. Some pillows combine fills like memory foam and kapok, which will likely feel softer and conform more than buckwheat fill, for example. Many pillows on the market are adjustable, meaning you can add or remove fill until the pillow feels comfortable for you. If you're not sure which filling will feel best, consider going to a local bedding or home goods store and feeling the different materials in person.

Care and Maintenance Requirements: Not every pillow or pillow cover can be cleaned in a washing machine and tossed in the dryer. Some foam pillows may break down inside a hot dryer, and some can only be spot-cleaned or have other special care instructions. For example, a buckwheat pillow may need you to leave the hulls in the sun for a few hours.

If you have pets or small children, look for a machine-washable pillow for easy cleaning. And if you're sensitive to allergens, you'll likely also want a machine-washable pillow to kill off dust mites and mold. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America suggests pillows be washed at 130 degrees Fahrenheit or higher to kill any stowaways.

Price Range: With pillows, you tend to get what you pay for. Pillows that cost less are typically not as durable and don't come with warranties or higher-quality materials. However, you don't need to spend several hundred dollars on a pillow to feel supported.

How We Chose The Best King-Size Pillows

Our editor consulted with experts, including a medical doctor and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, to create our roundup of the best king-size pillows and also used her knowledge from testing and sleeping with a few pillows on this list. We considered price, sleep trial, filling, return policy, and even care instructions when making our selection. The best advice we can give? When in doubt, look for an adjustable pillow that will allow you to customize it to your body.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. Haniya Rae, the author of this piece and a features editor for 360 Reviews, has a decade of product reviewing experience with a concentration on sleep products and sleep health. Haniya has worked at Consumer Reports and has written for Architectural Digest, Elle Decor, and This Old House. Haniya says that when buying a king-size pillow, especially a pricier model, getting one with a sleep trial might be your best bet.

FAQs

What is the price range for high-quality king-size pillows? +

What's the difference between a queen-size and a king-size pillow?

How often should I clean a king-size pillow? +

When should I replace a king-size pillow? +

About Our Team

Haniya Rae

Contributor







Haniya Rae is a journalist, editor, and Certified Sleep Science Coach. She has nearly a decade of product reviewing experience, and more than five years of experience writing about sleep products and sleep health. She has previously reported on test results for mattresses, pillows, and sheets at Consumer Reports.

Read more



Marlo Jappen Porto 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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