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The best standing desk converters can help you create the right workspace to be more comfortable and productive. These devices, which you can simply place on top of your existing desk, can have health benefits. "Ergonomists recommend avoiding static postures while working as this can often lead to fatigue," explains Lisa Orr, senior human factors consultant at Sedgwick, and "having a standing desk converter can help you to avoid static postures by encouraging more movement throughout the day." In addition, she says that those with back discomfort or those who tend to have a poor seated posture may benefit from the change to a standing posture.

However, there are hundreds of standing desk converter options on the market, making it difficult to choose the right one. So, we've put together a list of options with various sizes, features, and prices.

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Buy From Amazon

Best Overall: VariDesk Pro Plus 30 Standing Desk Converter

Pros:

- ✓ 11 height options
- ✓ Two tiers with laptop cutout
- ✓ Inward curve keyboard

Cons:

- Heavy
- Only available in black

The VariDesk Pro Plus 30 Standing Desk Converter is our choice for the best overall standing desk converter. It has the features that we think would be most important to the average consumer. For starters, it has a weighted base that helps to provide stability, unlike some standing desk converters that can wobble when you apply pressure to them. Additionally, it has two tiers, providing plenty of room for desktop accessories (keyboard, mouse, coffee cup, smartphone, etc.).

Notably, the device's lower tier has a laptop cutout to allow space to place both the laptop and keyboard. Plus, the lower tier has a posture curve, which is a cutout on the bottom that allows users to stand closer – and this reduces the slumping posture that occurs from being too far away. It's not an electric desk converter, but the spring-assisted lift along with dual handles makes it easy to raise and lower the unit (which can increase in height from 4 1/2 to 17 1/2 inches). It has 11 height settings, making it easy for users to find the perfect height.

Specs:

• **Price:** \$375

• Max Height: 17 1/2 inches

• Weight Capacity: 35 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 29 3/4 inches L x 30 inches W



Buy From Amazon

Best Budget: RIWUCT Adjustable Foldable Laptop Stand

Pros:

- Excellent price
- Several color options
- ✓ Lightweight and foldable design

Cons:

- Has a low weight limit
- Can't hold a monitor

If you only need to hold a laptop up to 16 inches, the RIWUCT Adjustable Foldable Laptop Stand can get the job done without costing you a lot of money. It works with all types of laptops including MacBooks and MacBook Pros that are 13 to 16 inches, Chromebooks, and models from Asus, Sony, Dell, HP, Acer, and Lenovo. This device can increase in height by 7.48 inches. (While that doesn't sound like a lot of height compared to other options on the list, it's worth keeping in mind that this is a one-tier standing desk converter.) The bottom has anti-slip silicone cushions and protective hooks with an anti-scratch pad to keep the laptop safe and secure.

This stand has two holder hands for support instead of one flat component, giving the laptop open space to vent so it doesn't overheat. Another plus: When not in use, it's easy to fold the stand and transport it. It comes in a variety of color options, including black, gray, pink, and silver.

Specs:

• Price: \$26.99

• Max Height: 7.48 inches

Weight Capacity: 8.8 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 9 inches L x 9 1/4 inches W



Buy From Amazon

Best for Dual Monitors: VariDesk Pro Plus 48 Two-Tier Standing Desk Converter

Pros:

- ✓ Weighted base
- ✓ Spring-assist lift

✓ 11 height settings

Cons:

- Takes up a lot of space
- Expensive

If you're working with two monitors, the VariDesk Pro Plus 48 Standing Two-Tier Standing Desk Converter can support both of your devices. It's strong enough that you can either place both monitors directly on the desk converter (up to 45 pounds) or you can purchase the brand's Dual-Monitor Arm and attach this device on the desk converter. The weighted base keeps the desk converter stable so it doesn't move when pressure is applied. Using a spring-assisted lift feature and dual handles, it's easy to raise or lower the height-adjustable converter by using a rowing lift motion.

It's also safer to use the foam-wrapped steel mechanism because it doesn't feature any bolts, clamps, or clips that can pinch your fingers. The two-tier design provides plenty of space for not only two monitors but also desk accessories. The laptop cutout on the top tier leaves room for using your laptop while keeping it out of the way. Also, the bottom tier has a posture curve design that lets you stand closer than you could without the curve, eliminating the need to engage in poor posture by hunching over.

Specs:

• **Price:** \$525

• Max Height: 17 1/2 inches

• Weight Capacity: 45 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 48 inches L x 29 3/4 inches W



Best for Laptops: Huanuo Adjustable Laptop Stand

Pros:

✓ Is relatively inexpensive

- ✓ Has nine adjustable angles
- ✓ Features a wide range of height options (3 1/2 to 16 1/2 inches)

- Requires assembly
- Has a small surface

We think the Huanuo Adjustable Laptop Stand is the best choice for when you're trying to save space – or need something portable – and only want a standing desk converter that's big enough to hold your laptop. It features heavy-duty steel and a medium-density fiberboard (MDF) riser platform, both of which make it sturdy enough to keep the laptop stable and secure. Additionally, there's also a nonslip bar pad to provide additional support for the laptop. The design can accommodate a variety of laptops that are up to 15.6 inches.

Also, the viewing height on the standing desk converter can be adjusted from 3 1/2 to 16 1/2 inches, and the angle can also be adjusted. In fact, there are nine tilt angles ranging from 0 to 90 degrees to help you find the right height and angle for maximum comfort and ergonomic support. When not in use, the adjustable laptop stand can be folded and tossed into a backpack, suitcase, or tote so you can take it anywhere you need to use your laptop.

Specs:

• **Price:** \$59.99

• Max Height: 16 1/2 inches

• Weight Capacity: 44 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 17.32 inches L x 13 1/2 inches W



Best With Removable Keyboard Tray: Flexispot 31-Inch Standing Desk Converter

Pros:

- ✓ Has a removable keyboard tray
- ✓ Portable
- ✓ Not bulky

Cons:

No lanton cutout on the hottom shelf

Not as much space on the top shelf

The Flexispot 31-Inch Standing Desk Converter gives users the option to use it with or without the keyboard tray. When the tray is removed, there's room to move the keyboard closer and also more space for desktop accessories. The flexibility to use it both ways makes this a good choice if you want versatility. Using this configuration, you can put the monitor on top and put the laptop underneath it.

The standing desk converter has a weight limit of 23 pounds and can increase in height from 5.2 inches to 17.7 inches. There's a pressure handle on the right side that easily raises and lowers the workstation. It's also stable with anti-slip protection in the shape of rubber rollers for feet. In addition, the double X-shaped structure provides durability and makes the standing desk converter easier to adjust. Weighing only 22 pounds, it's also easy to collapse the standing desk converter and move it. There's not much to installing it – just use the attached screws to put the keyboard tray on it. Color choices include gray, rose gold, and silver.

Specs:

• **Price:** \$119.99

• Max Height: 17.7 inches

• Weight Capacity: 23 pounds

Work Surface Area: 48 inches L x 40 inches W



Best Portable: Nulaxy Laptop Stand

Pros:

✓ Great nrice

- Compact and foldable design
- Several color choices

- Doesn't have much extra space
- Can be wobbly with a heavy laptop

If you're looking for an option that's compact enough to easily fold and transport, the Nulaxy Laptop Stand is one of the most compact yet sturdy models that we've seen. Using an expandable trolley design, it can adjust in height from 1.2 to 20 inches, providing plenty of adjustable height options to find the most ergonomic option for your needs. The desk converter can be used with laptops that range in size from 10 to 17 inches. It supports up to 22 pounds and is steady with laptops like MacBooks and those of a similar build. However, if your laptop is really heavy, you might want to use a separate keyboard since extreme weight can cause the device to wobble a bit as you're typing.

The expandable trolley design also serves other purposes. When raised, it frees up a lot of desktop space that can be used for desk accessories, for instance. When it's lowered down to 1.2 inches, the 2.76-pound standing desk converter barely takes up any space and can be carried by the handle.

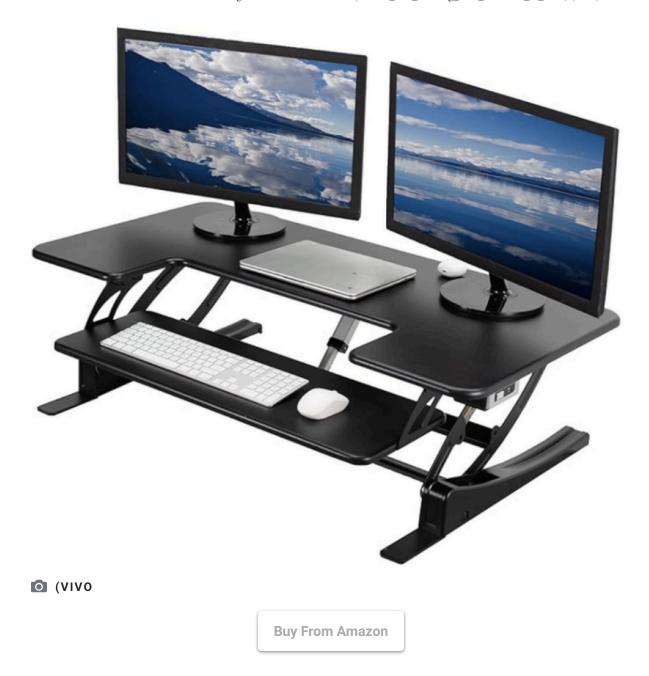
Specs:

• **Price:** \$69.99

• Max Height: 20 inches

• Weight Capacity: 22 pounds

Work Surface Area: 12.87 inches L x 12.05 inches W



Best Electric: VIVO 42-Inch Electric Standing Desk Converter

Pros:

- ✓ Easy to raise and lower
- ✓ Includes USB-A port
- ✓ Available in three color choices

- Heavy
- Requires assembly

Most standing desk converters are actually quite easy to manually raise or lower. However, if you'd rather avoid physically handling this task, the VIVO 42-Inch Electric Standing Desk Converter has a control panel on the right side that does the lifting for you. Just a flip of the switch engages the motor, which smoothly raises and lowers the desk converter, and you can stop it at the desired height. The adjustment range is from 6.4 to 16.7 inches.

The weight capacity for the desktop is 33 pounds, so it's sturdy enough – and wide enough - to hold and lift two monitors and a laptop on the top surface. The bottom keyboard tray also has a laptop cutout so you could alternately place your laptop there and then put your keyboard and mouse on the desk, depending on how high you choose to raise the electric riser. The standing desk converter also has a USB-A port on the side, and this device slot can be used to charge and sync various devices, including your smartphone or earbuds. Color choices include Black, White, and Vintage Brown.

Specs:

• **Price:** \$299.99

• Max Height: 16.7 inches

• Weight Capacity: 33 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 26 inches L x 42 inches W



O HUMANSCALE

Buy From Humanscale

Best for Ergonomics: Humanscale QuickStand Eco Single Monitor Standing Desk Converter

Pros:

- Cable management
- Clean, sleek design
- ✓ OfficeIQ timer

- Expensive
- Heavy

Although it's quite expensive, we consider the Humanscale QuickStand Eco Single Monitor Standing Desk Converter to be the most ergonomic choice. It can adjust up to 18.6 inches in height and has a self-locking mechanism to ensure stability. The adjustable desk converter is also compatible with OfficeIQ, which is Humanscale's sit/stand alert software that can connect to a web app or smartphone and track how often you sit or stand, as well as how many calories you're burning. It can also provide prompts – for example, to suggest that you need to take a break.

The actual stand is at a sloping angle, which provides a more ergonomic view and brings the keyboard closer to reduce hand fatigue. The monitor and keyboard are on two separate tracks, so they can be adjusted separately. The device, which weighs 42.3 pounds, can support up to 35 pounds and has integrated cable management to eliminate clutter. Although we picked the single-monitor version, it also comes in two other configurations: laptop (\$529) and dual monitor (\$741).

Specs:

• **Price:** \$635

• Max Height: 18.6 inches

• Weight Capacity: 35 pounds

• Work Surface Area: 28 inches W x 29.2 inches D

The Bottom Line

Standing desk converters come in a variety of sizes and types and sell for various prices. The VariDesk Pro Plus 30 Standing Desk Converter is our choice for the best overall pick. It has a weighted base for stability and a spacious two-tier design. It

also has ergonomic features like a spring-assisted lift and a posture curve. With 11 height options, users can find the one that's most comfortable for their needs.

Things To Consider When Buying Standing Desk Converters

Dimensions: The dimensions will largely depend on what will fit in your work environment, but ideally, you want to ensure there's enough space to meet your needs. Do you have a monitor, a laptop, an external keyboard, and a mouse? If so, you want all of this to fit comfortably.

Adjustable Height Range: This range may vary depending on the user's height. For example, if you're shorter than average, you may not need as much of a range. On the other hand, if you're on the taller side, you may want as much of a height range as possible.

According to Lisa Orr, senior human factors consultant at Sedgwick, the most important ergonomic factor is to determine whether it will position your keyboard and mouse to the appropriate height: "If your desk is already too high (i.e., if the work surface is above your seated elbow height – as measured when your feet are fully positioned on the floor with your shoulders relaxed), then your keyboard and mouse will be too high."

Orr says she often sees employees with discomfort in their neck/shoulders or hands/wrists from having their keyboard and mouse too high. "If this applies to you, then you might consider a standing desk converter that has a keyboard/mouse surface that extends in front of the desk and can adjust below the desk height," she advises, and "just make sure you have enough clearance behind your chair to allow for the extra depth of the keyboard surface."

Weight Capacity: The standing desk converter should support the weight of your monitor/laptop, etc., so always pay attention to weight limits. Exceeding them could cause the desk converter to collapse, damaging your valuable equipment.

Durability: In addition to weight capacity, make sure your standing desk converter is durable. "For someone who is tall and heavier, if they tend to lean on the desk, it may

topple over if it's not a large and sturdy desk converter," warns Allen Conrad, a chiropractor at Montgomery County Chiropractic Center in North Wales, Pennsylvania. "Many styles of converters are available, but for people over 250 pounds and over 6 feet tall, a sturdier, heavier, base converter will be needed so that leaning on the side won't make the desk fall towards you," he adds.

Lift: Many – but not all – standing desk converters are rather easy to manually lift or lower. However, how easy it is can vary depending on the user. "Many standing desk converters adjust in height using pneumatic or spring-assisted technology and when set properly, they are easily adjusted in height by most people," Orr of Sedgwick explains. "However, those who have severe back issues might find electric height adjustment to be more convenient."

Features: If you often take handwritten notes or work with paper, Orr recommends ensuring that there is a space available on the converter for that. "Also ensure that the keyboard/mouse surface is large enough for you," she recommends. Some converters also have other features like cable management and USB ports.

Cost: A standing desk converter with a handle is typically cheaper than one that's electric. However, if cost is no option, Conrad of Montgomery County Chiropractic Center recommends going for an electric model. "This is much easier to do and less strain on the back when switching positions," he says.

How We Chose the Best Standing Desk Converters

At U.S. News 360 Reviews, we consulted with two ergonomic experts to create this list of the best standing desk converters: Allen Conrad, a chiropractor at the Montgomery County Chiropractic Center, and Lisa Orr, a senior human factors consultant for Sedgwick. We then narrowed our selection down with more thorough research considering quality/durability, size, weight, lift mechanism, and other features. Our list includes a variety of standing desk converters at various prices and for different needs.

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Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. Terri Williams, the author of this piece, has years of experience writing product reviews on home goods and tech products. Williams has bylines at Forbes, Architectural Digest, CNN, NBC News, Real Simple, Tom's Guide, USA Today, Better Homes & Gardens, Tech Radar, Daily Beast, and Popular Science. She's also on Popular Science's Best of What's New team.

FAQs

How is a standing desk converter different from a standing desk? +

How long should you stand at a standing desk converter? +

How tall should my standing desk converter be? +

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