

The best reading chairs provide you with a comfortable spot where you can sit and open up a good book. But, even more than that, "A reading chair is like a literary sanctuary, a dedicated spot where I can escape into the world of words," says Gagan Saini, the founder of JiT Home Buyers, a company that purchases houses as-is.

Finding a reading chair that offers the comfort and style you desire at a price that fits your budget is important though not always easy. To help you simplify your decision, we've come up with a list of some of the best reading chairs currently on the market.

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Best Overall

La-Z-Boy Charlotte High Leg Reclining Chair »



PROS: CONS:

available

- ✓ Pushback recliner
- Attractive tapered legs and flared, rolled arms

Not ideal for taller individuals

Buy From Wayfair

The La-Z-Boy Charlotte High Leg Reclining Chair combines the stylish appearance of a chair with tapered legs with the comfort of a recliner. With this pushback recliner, you can decide to elevate your feet to make yourself more comfortable as you dive into your next reading adventure. The reclining mechanism allows for two different position options to help the user sit in a way that's the most comfortable for them. The flared, rolled arms and high foam back add to the attractiveness of the chair while also offering comfort and support for those sitting in it. This chair is designed for individuals who are between 5 feet, 4 inches to 5 feet, 9 inches, so if you're taller, it may not be the best bet.

There are nearly 400 different fabric options available, which means there's a good chance you'll find one that coordinates perfectly with your living space. Choose from different colors, patterns, and textures for a truly personalized look. Many of the fabrics can be ordered online. However, you may need to reach out to a local storefront location for some options.

Specs

Price: \$1,129

Materials: Customizable cover options

Dimensions: 33 inches W x 35 inches D x 38.5 inches H

Weight 300 pounds

Capacity:

Buy From Wayfair »

Best Budget

Inzoy Mid Century Modern Accent Chair »



PROS:

- Relatively inexpensive
- Different solid color options to consider
- Solid wood frame

CONS:

- No ottoman or reclining mechanism to elevate feet
- X Assembly required

Buy From Amazon

If you're looking for something a bit more budget-friendly and are also a fan of midcentury modern design, then this accent chair from Inzoy might be a good option to consider. The chair costs just \$114.99, which is significantly cheaper than most of the chairs on this list. This reading chair has a solid wood frame that can support up to 300 pounds of weight.

It has a cushioned seat and back filled with a high-density sponge material. This filing is designed to be soft and comfortable, making it an appealing

spot to sit to enjoy a novel or magazine. Choose from seven different solid fabric colors: Beige, Blackish Green, Camel, Gray, Light Blue, Red, and White. While some assembly is required, detailed instructions are included with each purchase.

Specs

Price: \$114.99 & Up

Materials: Wood frame with a high-density sponge seat; 7 fabric

colors available

Dimensions: 26 inches W x 32 inches D x 29 inches H

Weight 300 pounds

Capacity:

Buy From Amazon »

Best With Ottoman

Akeem Vegan Leather Accent Chair »



PROS:

- Chair back reclines
- Comes with an ottoman to rest your feet upon
- Includes a side pocket to hold books and magazines

CONS:

- Limited finish options available
- More space will be necessary to accommodate both the chair and the ottoman

Buy From Wayfair

Rest your feet on the included ottoman while sitting down to read a good book on the Akeem Vegan Leather Accent Chair. In addition to the comfortable seating options the ottoman offers, this reading chair also offers a reclining back. Users can adjust the back between 90 and 180 degrees to find a position that's most comfortable for them. Additionally, this model features a side storage pocket, which can hold your books, magazines, remotes, and other items to keep them easy to access.

This accent chair from Akeem has a solid wood frame. Both the ottoman and chair have tapered wood legs and are wrapped with a vegan, faux-leather material. Choose from dark brown suede or light brown suede to coordinate

with the other fabrics in your space. The chair will arrive disassembled, but the tools needed to put it together are included with your purchase.

Specs

Price: \$294.99 & Up

Materials: Solid wood frame with faux leather upholstery

Dimensions: 29.52 inches W x 33.49 inches D x 37 inches H (chair)

and 24.01 inches W x 16.53 inches D x 14.56 inches H

(ottoman)

Weight 250 pounds

Capacity:

Buy From Wayfair »

Best Reclining

La-Z-Boy Jasper Wall Recliner »



PROS:

- Reclines so you can put your feet up while reading
- Can be placed only a few inches from a wall and will still recline
- Numerous fabric options available

CONS:

- × Higher price
- Might be too high for petite individuals (designed for users between 5 feet, 10 inches and 6 feet, 2 inches)

Buy From La-Z Boy

If you like sitting with your feet up and your back reclined when reading, take a look at the La-Z-Boy Jasper Wall Recliner. This recliner, which is best suited for taller individuals between 5 feet, 10 inches and 6 feet, 3 inches, offers a plush, blown fiber-filled cushion to keep individuals comfortable as they sit back to enjoy a book. It has a stitched back pillow cushion for added comfort and aesthetic appeal. The flared pillow arms offer even more cushioning to make reading all the more enjoyable.

This recliner features a unique design in that it can be placed nearly right up against a wall. As long as the recliner is just a few inches from a wall, you'll still be able to recline it without hitting the wall thanks to the way the reclining mechanism moves the chair forward away from the wall.

Users can choose from three positions for the leg rest depending on how high they wish their feet to be elevated when reading. With numerous fabric options, you can customize the finished look of this chair to match your preferences.

Specs

Price: \$1,229

Materials: Customizable cover options

Dimensions: 40 inches W x 38.5 inches D x 42 inches H

Weight **Capacity:** 300 pounds

Buy From La-Z Boy »

Best Swivel

CB2 Muir Swivel Chair »



PROS:

- ✓ 24 fabric options available

 ✓ Pricey
- ✓ Chair swivels a full 360 degrees
- Stylish round design

CONS:

- X Doesn't include a pocket to hold books or magazines

Buy From CB2

Those looking for a swivel chair might want to consider the CB2 Muir Swivel Chair. Inspired by California design trends from the 1950s and 1960s, this chair features a rounded design that will add some flair to nearly any living space. The rounded shape combined with the full 360-degree swiveling mechanism provides users with flexibility regarding where it's placed in a living space.

The barrel-style chair sits atop a circular base with an attractive bent wood and walnut veneer. It has a durable frame constructed from Forest Stewardship Council certified poplar, pine, and engineered wood.

Choose from more than 20 fabric options to find a style that will look the best in your space. Some of the fabric choices – Nova, Camel (a velvet option) Richards, Charcoal (a textured weave), and Teddy, White (a boucle fabric) – are stocked and ready to ship quickly. The other options will be custom-made and available for delivery after a few months.

Specs

Price: \$1,299

Materials: Cotton and polyester upholstery with solid poplar, pine,

and engineered wood frame

Dimensions: 35 inches W x 33 inches D x 28 inches H

Weight Not listed

Capacity:

Buy From CB2 »

Best for Small Spaces

Trule Pfeiffer Folding Papasan Chair »



PROS:

- ✓ Folds up when not in use
- Cushioning on all sides
- Anti-slip feet

CONS:

- Not as elegant as other options
- Only comes in two colors

Buy From Wayfair

If you don't have a dedicated reading nook, the folding design of the Trule Pfeiffer Papasan Chair may make it a suitable option for your needs. When you're ready to sit down to read, simply unfold the chair and place it wherever you'll be comfortable. With the durable metal frame and anti-slip feet, you won't need to worry about the chair sliding around or collapsing beneath you as you enjoy your book.

The papasan chair can provide ample space for adults or teens who want to cuddle up with a good book. It features a soft, rounded polyester cushion with a tufted design to provide flexible seating options. You might choose to sit with your feet flat on the floor or to sit sideways with them curled up next to you. There are two different color options available: Gray Corduroy and Turquoise Corduroy.

Specs

Price: \$219.99

Materials: Metal frame with a corduroy-upholstered polyester

cushion

Dimensions: 31 inches W x 18 inches D x 39 inches H

Weight 250 pounds

Capacity:

Buy From Wayfair »

Best Oversized

Ashley Morren Oversized Chair »



PROS: CONS:

Oversized to provide

X Dusk is the only

more space for users to spread out

- Platform foundation system to resist sagging
- Comes with an accent pillow

color option available

Doesn't recline or come with an ottoman

Buy From Ashley Furniture

The Ashley Morren Oversized Chair is ideal for those looking to be able to spread out or sit in different positions when enjoying a good book. With its 32-inch-wide and 24-inch-deep seat, readers won't feel cramped or crowded as they sit back and relax with their book.

To provide comfort and support to each individual, this chair offers high-resiliency foam cushions wrapped with a polyfiber material. Ashley designed this model with a platform foundation system instead of a more traditional spring support system. The platform system is engineered to resist the sagging and dipping that's more common with spring bases after years of use.

This chair is only available with one upholstery choice: Dusk, a muted, neutral gray color that will coordinate with a variety of different decor schemes. The chair offers stylish, faux-wood exposed feet. An accent pillow is included with each purchase.

Specs

Price: \$742.98

Materials: Polyfiber-wrapped foam cushions

Dimensions: 52 inches W x 44 inches D x 42 inches H

Weight Not listed

Capacity:

Buy From Ashley Furniture »

Most Stylish

Medley Kaydan Chair »



PROS:

- Handcrafted to order
- Comes in wool and down filling options
- Higher seat back to provide more support when sitting upright

CONS:

- × Expensive
- Not available to ship immediately

Buy From Medley

Kamila Flieger, the founder of Green Snooze, a company dedicated to helping people find nontoxic products for their homes, considers the Medley Kaydan Chair to be one of her favorite reading chairs. She says that it's "A

harmonious blend of comfort and style, with an underlying commitment to sustainability."

The chair features a stylish design with its hand-sculpted, tapered arms; high back; and 7-inch exposed legs with a dark Cafe or light Maple finish. Each chair is custom-made to order with more than 60 different fabric options in a range of colors and textures.

The custom options don't stop with just the fabric choice. Users can choose from two different materials for wrapping the natural latex seat cushion: natural wool fiber or down. As Flieger explains, these two options don't just allow individuals to match their comfort preferences. With its "Oeko-Tex 100 certified natural cotton-linen weave or GreenGuard-GOLD certified covers, this chair ensures minimal indoor air pollution, making it a safe choice for people with allergies or chemical sensitivities," she says. Other perks: The fabric covering the back and seat cushions is even removable for easier spot-cleaning, and the cushions are flippable.

Specs

Price: \$2,376

Materials: Solid and engineered hardwood frame with natural latex

foam and upholstered wool fiber cushions; variety of

fabric options available

Dimensions: 36 inches W x 37 inches D x 34 inches H

Weight Not listed

Capacity:

Buy From Medley »

The Bottom Line

There are several different reading chairs on the market, which can make it challenging to decide which one is best for you. As Saini of JiT Home Buyers shares, "The key is finding one that resonates with your style and beckons you to read for hours on end." We selected the La-Z-Boy Charlotte High Leg Reclining Chair as our top pick because of its attractive design, wide range of fabric options, and two-position reclining mechanism. However, because each person's needs and preferences are unique, you might find that one of the other reading chairs on our list is a better fit for you.

Things To Consider When Buying Reading Chairs

Size: There are a few things you'll want to keep in mind when considering the size of a reading chair. First, you need to measure the available space in your room and confirm that each chair you're looking at will fit. Make sure there will be enough clearance around the chair to walk around it easily and avoid it rubbing up against the wall. If you're looking for a reclining chair or one with an ottoman, you'll want to confirm there will be enough room to put your feet up while still leaving sufficient room for others to move about the space.

The dimensions of the chair – particularly the seat – will also impact how comfortable it'll be to sit in. Your body type and size can play a role in helping you find a chair that offers sufficient room for you to sit without feeling too constricted. Additionally, consider how you plan to sit in the chair while reading. If you'll be sitting with your legs curled up on the chair, you might want a wider seat than someone who prefers keeping their feet flat on the floor when reading.

Weight Capacity: The weight capacity of a chair will determine whether or not it can safely support your body. The material used to make the frame of each chair plays an important role in determining how much weight it will hold. Solid wood frames or those made of steel typically offer the most support for heavier individuals. Before finalizing your decision about which chair to buy, confirm the weight capacity and compare it to your body weight. Look for a model with a capacity that's higher than your weight.

Material: The material of each reading chair will directly impact both its visual appeal and comfort. Several different types of fabric are used to upholster reading chairs, including twill, velvet, leather, linen, microfiber, and cotton. Each provides a different look and feel, and some may be better for different situations and locations than others. For example, linen can be more cooling, while leather, a less breathable material, may be a better fit for those living in colder climates. If you have children or pets, choosing a spill- and stain-resistant fabric (or one treated to resist stains) might also be a good idea.

Flieger of Green Snooze encourages shoppers to choose reading chairs made from nontoxic materials that won't harm their health. "Opting for non-toxic materials, such as solid wood, natural latex, or CertiPUR-US certified foam fill, ensures that you're not exposed to harmful chemicals during those long reading sessions. These materials are not only safe for you but also contribute to the overall sustainability of the chair," she shares. Flieger adds that "Certifications such as GreenGuard ensure that the chair meets strict indoor air quality standards, further emphasizing its commitment to non-toxicity."

Style and Color Options: You'll want the reading chair that you choose to coordinate with your home's decor. Comfort is certainly important, but if you don't find the chair you choose to be attractive, you aren't going to be happy with how it looks in your space. You'll find that there are different types of reading chairs, including swiveling models, recliners, club chairs, and those with a more streamlined and modern look. Consider how each style would look in your space before getting too far into your search.

Beyond the style and overall design of each chair, you should also consider the available color options. Look for a reading chair that will coordinate with the other furniture and artwork in your space. Many reading chairs are customizable, allowing you to choose from a range of fabric and color options. Others may only have a few choices available.

Ergonomics: A reading chair's ergonomics will impact how comfortable it is to sit in. One important thing to pay attention to is the seat depth. A deeper seat will allow you to sit farther back in the chair, which may be more comfortable for some users. However, if you're more petite, a deeper seat may prevent your feet from being able to reach the ground, which may leave you uncomfortable, especially when sitting for longer periods.

It'll also be important to note the back height of each model. Chairs with a higher back will allow users to lean back and feel more supported when reading a book. As a general rule, finding a chair with a back height between 16 and 20 inches should offer sufficient support, but this may vary if you're on the taller side. Beyond the height of the chair's back, consider its design and the support it will provide. For example, a chair with better lumbar support might be a good fit for individuals who suffer from back pain.

Armrests might be something else to look for when choosing a reading chair. They'll provide support for your arms to keep them from getting fatigued from holding a book up to read.

Additional Features: Some reading chairs are designed with additional features that may make them a more comfortable or functional option for your needs. An included ottoman or reclining mechanism, for example, will allow you to elevate your feet while reading. If you find sitting in such a position more comfortable, then you might wish to prioritize one of these features in your search.

Other chairs may integrate storage compartments or pockets into their design.

These could allow you to store the book you're reading in the chair for easy access whenever you want to pick it back up. A few other features you might want to look for include built-in cup holders, USB ports or power outlets, and heated or massaging seats.

How We Chose the Best Reading Chairs

Several factors were considered when choosing our selections for the best reading chairs. In addition to looking at feedback from customers and professional reviewers, we also considered the cost, materials, and overall design of each model. Our goal was to arrive at several options to match different styles and comfort preferences while also offering choices to suit a range of budgets. We reached out to Gagan Saini, the founder of a home-buying company called JiT Home Buyers, and Kamila Flieger, the founder of Green Snooze, a resource for nontoxic home products, for their expert advice and tips for choosing the best reading chair.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

U.S. News & World Report has developed a solid reputation with readers as a trustworthy source for the latest information. The 360 Reviews team seeks to uphold this reputation through thorough research and fact-checking for each article that's published. Deirdre Mundorf, who wrote this piece, has been a freelance writer for about five years. In addition to the work she has done for U.S. News & World Report, she has contributed home-related content to sites such as Bob Vila, Discover Magazine, and House Digest.

FAQ

What's a reading chair?	+
What makes a good reading chair?	+
What's the ideal height for a reading chair?	+

About Our Team



Deirdre Mundorf
Contributor



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. Prior to her freelancing career, Mundorf was an elementary school teacher for more than a decade.

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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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