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Best Carpet Cleaners of 2024

By [Deirdre Mundorf](#)



Reviewed by [Marlo Jappen Porto](#)

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Carpet cleaners can help you remove dirt and grime from your carpets. As Karina Toner, operations manager of [Spekless](#), a home cleaning and maid service company serving the Washington, D.C., area, explains, “They go beyond the surface to remove embedded dirt and stains deep in the carpet fibers, enhancing the carpet's appearance. Not only does this leave your carpet looking spick and span, but it also fights off allergens and bacteria, improving overall cleanliness.”

Between portable and upright models, those designed for pet owners, different attachment options, and more, there are lots of options out there. In our guide, we'll help you pick from the best carpet cleaners to match your specific cleaning needs and budget.

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Best Overall

Bissell ProHeat 2X Revolution Pet Pro Carpet C...

**PROS:**

- ✓ Comes with pet upholstery attachment

CONS:

- ✗ Not as convenient for spot-cleaning

- ✓

Integrated pre-treating tool for stains
- ✗

Some assembly is required
- ✓

Long power cord
- Buy From Bissell

Toner shares that “Bissell is an excellent place to start looking if you’re on the hunt for a new carpet cleaner. They’re a reputable and well-established brand in the cleaning industry and their range of products offers versatility.” She specifically recommends the Bissell ProHeat 2X Revolution Pet Pro Carpet Cleaner for its “powerful cleaning capabilities.” Toner explains that “the HeatWave Technology maintains consistent water temperature, and the Dual DirtLifter Power Brushes feature 12 cleaning rows of bristles, effectively removing deeply embedded dirt and stains.”

The Bissell ProHeat 2X Revolution Pet Pro Carpet Cleaner comes with several attachments to aid with cleaning upholstery, stairs, corners, and more. These include the 3-inch Tough Stain Tool, the 2-in-1 Pet Upholstery Tool, the 3-IN-1 Stair Tool, and the Sliding Crevice Tool. The carpet cleaner’s 1-gallon water tank and 25-foot (ft) power cord will help make it possible to clean your floors with fewer interruptions.

Specs

List Price:	\$308.99
Weight:	17.5 lbs.
Dimensions:	15 in. D x 12.5 in. W x 43.5 in. H
Cord Length:	25 ft

EXPAND LIST ▾

Buy From Bissell »

Best Budget

Hoover PowerDash Pet Compact Carpet Clean...



PROS:

- ✓ Budget-friendly
- ✓ Relatively lightweight
- ✓ Heatforce Technology for faster drying

CONS:

- ✗ Lower-capacity tank
- ✗ No attachments

[Buy From Chewy](#)

Those looking for a more budget-friendly option should consider the Hoover PowerDash Pet Compact Carpet Cleaner. This model costs just less than \$130, which is significantly less expensive than all of the other upright carpet cleaners that make our list. In addition to its economical price, the Hoover PowerDash is the lightest option on our list. It only weighs 12.5 pounds, which makes it easier to carry up and down the stairs or to push around when cleaning the carpets in a room.

Keep in mind that this unit's tank capacity of 0.62 gallons is on the lower end, which means you may need to interrupt your cleaning session to refill it.

However, the PowerDash offers strong suction and Heatforce Technology to remove dirt and stains from carpets and help them dry quickly.

Specs

List Price:	\$129.99
Weight:	12.5 lbs.
Dimensions:	15.25 in. D x 10.12 in. W x 43.5 in. H
Cord Length:	20 ft

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Chewy »](#)

Best for Pet Owners

Hoover SmartWash Pet Complete Automatic C...



PROS:

CONS:

✓ No need to pull the trigger to dispense solution

✓ Power brushes resist pet odors

✓ Integrated Spot Chaser spray wand pre-treats stains

✗ Pricey

✗ On the bulkier side

Buy From Amazon

If you have pets, you might want to try the Hoover SmartWash Pet Complete Automatic Carpet Cleaner. This model is designed to be user-friendly and effective at removing hair and pet stains from your carpets. The FlexForce Pet PowerBrushes work to pull out embedded dirt from carpets. These antimicrobial PowerBrushes are also resistant to pet odors. Another feature that pet owners will appreciate is the Spot Chaser Pretreat Wand. When you come across pet stains on the carpet, spray them with the wand for more effective removal when you clean using the carpet cleaner. An antimicrobial pet tool for cleaning stairs, furniture, and more is also included with each purchase.

Unlike many other models on the market, there’s no need to pull a trigger to release the cleaning solution. You can simply push the carpet cleaner as you would a standard [vacuum](#). Pushing it forward releases the hot water and cleaning solution, and pulling it back sucks up the water and dirt to dry the carpets.

Specs

List Price:	\$319.99
Weight:	18.9 lbs.
Dimensions:	18.9 in. D x 13 in. W x 43.5 in. H
Cord Length:	22 ft

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Best Portable

Bissell Little Green Pet Pro Portable Carpet Cle...



PROS:

- ✓ Lightweight and compact
- ✓ Includes three attachments
- ✓ Can be used on a variety of surface types

CONS:

- ✗ Not suitable for whole-room cleaning
- ✗ Shorter power cord than other models

[Buy From Bissell](#)

The Bissell Little Green Pet Pro Portable Carpet Cleaner may be the right choice for those looking for a more portable option. This handheld model has a lightweight and compact design with an integrated handle, making it easy to carry around the house or even to different locations. It features a 5-

foot hose and comes with three different attachments to help you clean stairs, upholstery, stained sections of carpet, and more. This unit comes with an assortment of handy tools: a Pet Stain Tool, a 3-inch Tough Stain Tool, and a Spraying Crevice Tool.

For a compact model, this carpet cleaner offers a generously sized 3/4-gallon tank. The 20-foot power cord isn't as long as some of the upright carpet cleaners on our list, but it's still relatively long for a handheld model. Each purchase includes a trial-size bottle of the Bissell PET PRO OXY Urine Eliminator Formula.

Specs

List Price:	\$164.79
Weight:	13.25 lbs.
Dimensions:	15.35 in. D x 11.02 in. W x 13.98 in. H
Cord Length:	20 ft

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Bissell »](#)

Best for Spot Treatment

Rug Doctor Pet Portable Spot Cleaner »

**PROS:**

- ✓ Dual-Action Pet Tool loosens and extracts dirt and more
- ✓ Handle and wheels for easier transport
- ✓ Powerful suction

CONS:

- ✗ Heavy for a portable model
- ✗ Smaller tank

[Buy From Amazon](#)

If you don't need a full-size upright carpet cleaner but want to be able to eliminate stains left from food, pets, or other causes, take a look at the Rug Doctor Pet Portable Spot Cleaner. This model features an integrated handle and wheels, making it easier to move around a home to tackle unsightly stains. In addition to carpeting, it can also be used on upholstered furniture, area rugs, [pet beds](#), [mattresses](#), and car interiors.

The Rug Doctor Pet Portable Spot Cleaner comes with one attachment: the Handheld Dual-Action Pet Tool. This tool offers rubberized bristles to pull hair and other debris, such as pet messes and dirt, from the soft surfaces in your home. The bristles combined with the powerful suction work effectively

to erase stains from your carpets and other surfaces. This model has a 28-foot-long cord and a 1/2-gallon tank capacity.

Specs

List Price:	\$189.99
Weight:	18.96 lbs.
Dimensions:	16.02 in. D x 10.94 in. W x 15.63 in. H
Cord Length:	28 ft
EXPAND LIST ▾	

[Buy From Amazon](#) »

Best Commercial-Style

Rug Doctor Mighty Pro X3 Carpet Cleaner »



PROS:

CONS:

- ✓

Large-capacity tank
- ✓

Long power cord
- ✓

Commercial-grade cleaning power and suction
- ✗

Very expensive
- ✗

Heavy

Buy From Amazon

If you want to clean like the pros, consider the Rug Doctor Mighty Pro X3 Carpet Cleaner. This model combines powerful jets that loosen grime with a triple-action vibrating brush that scrubs each carpet fiber to effectively release messes. Then, the powerful suction extracts the gunk along with the cleaning solution and water, leaving your carpets clean and helping them to dry quickly. The [Carpet & Rug Institute](#) awarded this model its Gold rating for soil removal, water removal, and being gentle on carpets.

On the downside, this device doesn't come with tools, and it has a hefty price tag of almost \$600. However, this commercial-grade option will allow you to clean large areas without interruption. It offers a 28-foot-long cord and large-capacity clean and dirty water tanks (3 gallons and 3.9 gallons, respectively).

Specs

List Price:	\$597.99
Weight:	47 lbs.
Dimensions:	21 in. D x 12.5 in. W x 24.75 in. H
Cord Length:	28 ft

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

The Bottom Line

There's no one "best" carpet cleaner. As Toner explains, "Choosing the right carpet cleaner involves a bit of matchmaking between the cleaner's features and your unique home situation." She adds, "At the end of the day, your ideal carpet cleaner should be a tailored fit for your living space" and recommends considering how large your home is, whether you have children or animals, and the types of carpets or rugs that are present. We chose the Bissell ProHeat 2X Revolution Pet Pro Carpet Cleaner as our overall best pick because of its easy-to-use and maneuverable design, included attachments for versatility, and overall performance. However, now that you've read more about the different options available, you might find that one of our other recommendations is a better fit for your specific needs and/or budget.

Things To Consider When Buying Carpet Cleaners

Upright vs. Portable: One of the first decisions you'll need to make before purchasing a carpet cleaner is whether you want an upright or a portable model. An upright model will likely be the best choice if you want to be able to clean entire rooms in your home. Like [upright vacuum cleaners](#), these carpet cleaners are designed to be pushed across the floor. They have a large water tank and dirty water reservoir, allowing you to clean more with each batch of water and cleaning solution. Upright models also tend to be more powerful and have stronger suction than portable carpet cleaners, which can help provide a more thorough cleaning. However, there are some downsides to uprights. They're typically heavier and larger, which is worth keeping in mind if you're short on storage space. Plus, they're usually louder.

A portable carpet cleaner might be the right solution for you if you only plan to use the machine for spot-cleaning and caring for upholstered furniture or other smaller tasks. These models are easier to carry, and their handheld design makes them easier to move from room to room. They also tend to be lighter and easier to store than full-size upright models. A portable carpet cleaner works a bit differently than

an upright model. Instead of pushing the entire unit across the surface that needs to be cleaned, you use the hose and attachments to extract dirt and other debris.

Size and Weight: As Andriy Neborak, CEO of [Luxury Cleaning NY](#), a professional cleaning company in New York City, New York, shares, "ease of use is key for comfortable cleaning." Keep this in mind as you compare the size and weight of each carpet cleaner. Heavier models may not only be more cumbersome to push across your carpets but also more difficult to carry up and down the stairs.

However, lighter units may not offer the heavier-duty cleaning power of some of the larger models on the market. You'll have to consider your cleaning needs, how much weight you're comfortable lifting, and the available storage space in your home to help you choose the right model.

Tank Capacity: The capacity of the water tank is another feature to consider as you shop for a new carpet cleaner. The larger the capacity, the more you'll be able to clean at one time without stopping to dump out dirty water and refill the clean water. Some upright models may have a capacity of 1 or more gallons. Just keep in mind that models with a larger capacity will weigh significantly more when the tank is full. A gallon of water weighs about 8 pounds. This added weight will impact maneuverability and how easy the carpet cleaner is to carry up or down a full flight of stairs.

Cord Length: Don't overlook cord length when shopping for a new carpet cleaner. As you compare the different options on the market, you'll notice that the length of each cord can vary rather significantly. Some models may have a cord that's only about 15 feet long, while the cord on others could be 25 or more feet in length. Such a difference can have a huge impact on how you'll be able to use the carpet cleaner. The longer the cord, the more you'll be able to clean without needing to move the plug. If you have large rooms in your home, it may be especially important to prioritize choosing a carpet cleaner with a longer cord.

Similarly, you should also consider the length of the hose on each model you're looking at. Longer hoses will make it easier to use the tools to clean stairs and upholstered furniture.

Special Features: Some carpet cleaners are designed with special features to make them more user-friendly or effective. Toner shares that some models offer adjustable

settings. She explains, “They allow you to tailor the cleaning process based on the specific needs of different areas. So, if you have a mix of carpeted spaces in your home, from plush rugs to more high-traffic zones, having this flexibility ensures you're not using a one-size-fits-all approach.” Other carpet cleaners may offer stain-treatment features, heated elements to aid with faster drying times, or even app connectivity.

“Attachments are another game-changer,” shares Toner. “If your home has a variety of surfaces beyond just carpets, like upholstery or even stairs,” Toner suggests “[making] sure your chosen carpet cleaner comes with attachments designed for these specific areas.” Some common attachments to look for include upholstery tools, stair tools, crevice tools, and spin brushes.

How We Chose the Best Carpet Cleaners

To help us choose the best carpet cleaners, we reached out to two experts in the cleaning industry: Karina Toner, operations manager of [Spekless](#), a home cleaning and maid service company serving the Washington, D.C., area, and Andriy Neborak, CEO of [Luxury Cleaning NY](#), a professional cleaning company in New York City, New York. We also conducted extensive research comparing reviews from everyday users and considering the feedback from professional reviewers. Finally, we included a range of product types to offer suitable options to match the cleaning demands and budgets of each reader.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. The author of this piece, [Deirdre Mundorf](#), has five years of experience reviewing products and writing about the home and family niches. Additionally, she has bylines in various online publications, including House Digest, Discover Magazine, and USA Today.

FAQ

How do I use a carpet cleaner?



How often should I use a carpet cleaner?



What are the benefits of having a carpet cleaner?



About Our Team



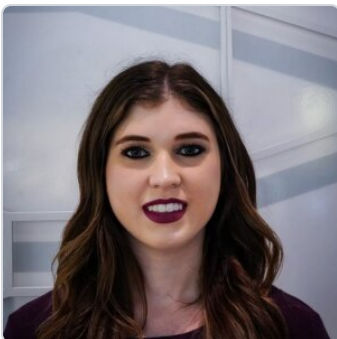
Deirdre Mundorf

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 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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