

If you're searching for a desk to add function and flair to your home office, then you may be surprised by how many different options there are to consider in terms of materials, adjustability, size, storage, and additional features. To help you narrow down your decision, we've compiled a list of some of the best desks, including a variety of options to suit different budgets, sitting or standing preferences, size needs, and styles.

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Best Overall

HermanMiller Jarvis Bamboo Standing Desk »



PROS:

- Powered height adjustment
- Contoured and rectangular shape options

CONS:

- No storage drawers or shelves
- Only one desk top color available

Buy From Herman Miller

Three color choices for legs

The HermanMiller Jarvis Bamboo Standing Desk is available in five different sizes and two different shapes (rectangle or contour) to suit the space and preference needs of a range of individuals. It offers an adjustable height between 25.5 and 51 inches, making it suitable for use when sitting or standing. Adjusting the height is simple: The desk comes standard with an up/down handset, but you can upgrade to a programmable OLED touch handset for more options, including being able to save your favorite height settings.

This model offers a bamboo top with a powder-coated steel frame. You can choose from three different leg colors: black, white, and silver. If desired, you can upgrade the standard grommets for powered grommets, which provide access to an integrated USB-A port, USB-C 18-watt port, and an AC outlet. An integrated cable management system is also available for an additional charge.

Specs

Price: \$719.00 & Up

Material: Bamboo with UV-cured topcoat and powder-coated steel

frame

Dimensions: 48 in. L x 30 in. W x 25.5-51 in. H (contour); 60 in. L x 30

in. W x 25.5-51 in. H (contour); 48 in. L x 27 in. W x 25.5-51 in. H (rectangle); 60 in. L x 27 in. W x 25.5 to 51 in. H (rectangle); 72 in. L x 30 in. W x 25.5-51 in. H (rectangle)

Buy From Herman Miller »

Best Budget

IKEA Micke »



PROS:

- Budget-friendly
- Cable outlet for cord management
- Leg can be mounted on either side

CONS:

- X Not solid wood
- X Cannot adjust the height

Buy From Amazon

Budget-conscious shoppers should consider the IKEA Micke desk, which retails for under \$100. It features particle board and fiberboard construction with a black or white finish to coordinate with different spaces in your home. The Micke has a unique design, with one solid leg and one powder-coated steel leg. When you assemble the desk, you can choose to mount the steel leg on the right or left side to match the layout of your space.

This is a more compact option with a width of 28.75 inches. Its integrated cable outlet helps you keep cords and wires from overtaking your work area.

The desk also offers a full-width drawer for storing office supplies and other essentials. With the built-in drawer stop, you don't need to worry about inadvertently pulling the drawer too far out from the rest of the desk.

Specs

Price: \$79.99

Material: Particleboard, fiberboard, and plastic edging with

powder-coated steel legs

Dimensions: 28.75 in. L x 19.63 in. W x 29.5 in. H

Buy From Amazon »

Best for Small Spaces

Furninxs Adjustable Standing Desk »



PROS: CONS:

- Integrated casters for portability
- Desk top may be too small for some tasks

wood

Compact size for tight spaces

Buy From Amazon

If you're tight on space, consider this adjustable standing desk from Furninxs. The desk top measures 30 inches long by 19 inches deep, offering enough space to hold a laptop, notebook, and a few other smaller items. The height of the desk can be adjusted between 24.2 and 37 inches, making it compatible for use when sitting or standing.

This model features four casters, allowing you to move the desk between rooms in the home or out of a corner or closet when you need to work on it. Two of the rotating casters are lockable to prevent sliding. The desk has a white finish with a steel base, giving it a modern appearance.

Specs

Price: \$159.99

Material: Medium-density fiberboard (MDF) with steel base

Dimensions: 30 in. L x 19 in. W x 24.2-37 in. H

Buy From Amazon »

Best for Gaming

Secretab Magnus Metal Desk »



PROS:

- Durable construction
- Integrated cable management system
- Customizable with addons

CONS:

- X No drawers for storage
- Height is only adjustable by 0.8 inches

Buy From Secret Lab

A good match for gamers, the Secretlab Magnus Metal Desk comes with a cable management tray to help organize cords and wires for a clutter-free gaming area. Additional cable-management tools, such as anchors and fastening straps, are also available for an extra charge. Some of the other add-ons that may provide a better gaming experience include magnetic leatherette desk mats, surge protectors, magnetic headphone hangers, desk risers, laptop mounts, and monitor arms.

The Magnus Metal Desk offers a spacious work area, measuring 59.1 inches by 27.6 inches. It is 29 inches tall, and the height can be extended an additional 0.8 inches. This desk is designed with durability and longevity in

mind. It features a steel frame with an MDF and high-pressure laminate bamboo with a steel desktop.

Specs

Price: \$549 & Up

Material: MDF and high-pressure laminate bamboo with steel top

with steel frame

Dimensions: 59.1 in. L x 27.6 in. W x 29 to 29.8 in. H

Buy From Secret Lab »

Best Executive

Pottery Barn Livingston Executive Desk »



PROS: CONS:

Contract-grade construction

× No height adjustment

Seven drawers for storage Expensive

Buy From Havenly

Five finish options

Make a statement in your home office with the Livingston Executive Desk from Pottery Barn. This contract-grade model features quality construction from durable materials. It's made from tropical meranti wood, a material known for its attractive grain. The wood is kiln-dried to protect it against cracking, splitting, or growing mildew. Veneers are also used to ensure a consistent and aesthetically pleasing appearance.

If you're looking for storage space in a desk, this may also be a good choice. It offers a total of seven drawers (two large file drawers, two medium drawers, and three small drawers). Each drawer features English dovetail joinery and ball-bearing glides for easy opening and lasting durability. The Livingston Executive Desk is available in five finishes. If desired, you can opt for white glove delivery for an additional fee to have the desk delivered and assembled in your designated room.

Specs

Price: \$2,399

Material: Kiln-dried solid meranti wood and veneers

Dimensions: 75 in. L x 30 in. W x 30 in. H

Buy From Havenly »

Best L-Shaped

Uplift L-Shaped Standing Desk »



PROS:

- Several size options available
- Powered height adjustment
- Several frame and finish options

CONS:

- × Pricey
- X Takes up a lot of space

Buy From Uplift Desk

If you're looking for an L-shaped desk, this model from Uplift is a strong contender due to its versatility. It's available in six different size options, with varying main and return desk lengths. You're also able to customize the location of the return side based on your seating preferences and room layout. Uplift offers two material options: laminate or bamboo. Each is available in a choice of four finishes to suit your style and room decor.

This desk allows users to sit or stand as they work – simply press a button to adjust the height to suit your preference. There are several available addons for this model, including powered grommets, a wireless foot switch, a Bluetooth adapter, and casters.

Specs

Price: \$1,399 & Up

Material: Laminate or bamboo top with steel frame

Dimensions: 6 size options available

Buy From Uplift Desk »

Best for Style

Crate & Barrel Twist Rotating Desk »



PROS:

CONS:

Desktop surfaces
 rotate 360 degrees for
 different
 configurations

Not very budgetfriendly

- Integrated cabinet with shelf
- Two finish options available
- Ash finish may not be available for immediate shipping

Buy From Crate & Barrel

The Crate & Barrel Twist Rotating Desk may be the ideal choice for those looking for a stylish option to increase the aesthetic appeal of their office space. The desk's unique design features two sections that can nest together for a more compact layout or pivot a full 360 degrees. With the rotating design, you can configure the two sections in many different ways, including turning them into an L-shaped desk or a corner desk. Nest the two sections together for a more minimalist look, or pivot them outwards when you need more space to work on a project.

The drum-shaped cabinet that the sections pivot around doubles as a storage shelf with doors, providing space to keep a few essentials. This desk is made from ash veneer and engineered wood. It's available with an ash or gray ash finish.

Specs

Price: \$1,899

Material: Engineered wood with Forest Stewardship Council

(FSC)-certified ash veneer

Dimensions: 64 in.L x 24 in. W x 29 in. H (closed); 64 in. L x 60 in. W x

29 in. H (open)

Buy From Crate & Barrel »

The Bottom Line

Jonathan Warshaw, founder of Simple Woodworker, an online resource for woodworking, recommends finding a high-quality and durable desk. He explains, "You need to remember that this is a long-term investment in your comfort and productivity." We selected the HermanMill Jarvis Bamboo Standing Desk as our best overall pick because of its adjustable height to accommodate both sitting and standing positions, as well as its high-quality construction and multiple available size options.

Things To Consider When Buying Desks

Size: Before getting too deep into your search, determine what size desk you need. As Warshaw explains, "You need to assess the space you have for your desk. Does the office accommodate a large desk or do you need something compact?" Take measurements of your office or the room where you plan to put the desk and think about how much of the space you can dedicate to a new desk.

Dawn, an interior design company, recommends taking functionality into account as well when deciding what size desk to get. She says, "Think about how you will use the desk. If you need a desk for computer work, ensure it has enough space for your monitor, keyboard, and mouse. If you need a desk for writing or crafting, consider a larger surface area."

As you consider the size of each option, don't overlook the height. The standard desk height is between 28 and 30 inches, but due to individual differences in body type and height, you may not find that a standard desk offers an ergonomic fit. If you want something that you can customize for a more comfortable fit, consider an adjustable desk. These will also give you the flexibility to switch between a standing and a sitting position as you work. In addition to adjustability, Frattarelli recommends

looking for a keyboard tray and cable management to ensure comfort and proper posture while working.

Material: There are several different things to consider when choosing the best material for a desk. Warshaw notes that the best material for a desk will depend on your specific needs and planned use. He adds, "For office or computer desks, I would recommend solid wood – they are known for their durability and timeless appeal. It could be oak, maple, or cherry. However, these desks are expensive and prone to scratches." Metal desks are another durable option, but might not be a good fit for those looking for a more classic style.

"If the desk is intended for arts and crafts, then I recommend a laminate desk," shares Warshaw. He explains that laminate desks are "affordable and easy to clean. They can be made to look like wood but it should be noted that these desks are not that durable."

You may also find desks made from engineered wood, such as MDF. While these desks will probably be a more budget-friendly option, they are not likely to last as long as those made from higher-quality materials.

Storage Compartments: How you plan to use your desk will impact the type and/or amount of storage that you need. If you need ample storage space, Frattarelli recommends opting for desks with drawers, shelves, or cabinets. Consider the size of each of these features as well to make sure it will be a good fit for your needs. For example, if you need to store files in your desk, you'll need deeper drawers than someone who just wants to be able to keep a few writing utensils handy.

Some desks also include cable management systems, which can help keep cords and wires out of the way. If you use several electronics on your desk and want to keep it less cluttered, then consider looking for a model that will help you keep everything organized.

As you shop for a new desk, you'll likely notice that some have little to no storage. According to Frattarelli, such models would be good for those who prefer a minimalist look.

Style and Aesthetics: "Consider the overall style and design of your room or office," says Frattarelli. She recommends choosing "a desk that complements the existing decor and matches your personal taste." There are several desk shapes to consider,

each of which will impact the overall functionality and style of the desk. Rectangular and L-shaped desks are among the most popular, but there are also corner, covered, oval, and U-shaped options.

Once you've decided on the overall shape that you prefer, think about whether you are looking for more of a traditional desk, such as an executive model, or something more modern or contemporary. Don't forget to think about the existing style of your office to ensure that you choose something that will look like it belongs in the space.

Assembly: Consider the level of assembly that will be required for each desk you purchase. While some may require minimal assembly or come with all the tools you need to put everything together, others may be more involved and time-consuming to put together. Preview the assembly instructions and any available videos to gauge the skill level and time commitment before finalizing a purchase.

Some manufacturers may offer white-glove delivery where couriers deliver and assemble the desk for you. Others may have options to set up assembly with a third party, such as Taskrabbit. While this service will likely cost more, you may decide it is worth saving yourself the time and hassle of trying to put a new desk together yourself.

How We Chose the Best Desks

We considered several factors when choosing the best desks. First, we gathered information from professional reviewers and compared that with ratings and reviews from everyday customers. We also consulted two industry experts for their thoughts and opinions. Dawn Frattarelli, staging operations manager and interior designer with Interiors By Dawn, and Jonathan Warshaw, founder of Simple Woodworker, offered invaluable insights to help with our recommendations and the advice we shared on what to look for when choosing a desk. Finally, we made sure that our product recommendations included a range of styles, sizes, and prices to match the varying needs of each reader.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. Deirdre Mundorf, the author of this piece, has been writing about home-related topics for five years. She has bylines in several online publications, including USA Today, House Digest, and Bob Vila.

FAQ

What kind of desk is best for ergonomics?	+
What height should my desk be?	+
How do I clean my desk?	+

About Our Team



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

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