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10 Best Sun Hats of 2024

By [Corey Whelan](#)



Edited by [Marlo Jappen Porto](#)

Updated: July 23, 2024



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Sun hats are much more than a fashion statement. This accessory protects your scalp, face, ears, and neck from the sun's harmful rays. It helps prevent signs of photoaging – skin damage caused by ongoing exposure to UV light or sunlight – like wrinkles, sun spots, and pigment changes. Notably, wearing a sun hat can reduce your risk of developing [skin cancer](#). Sun hats are constructed of materials that block (ultraviolet A) UVA and (ultraviolet B) UVB rays from touching your skin.

We spoke with skin specialists and a skin cancer survivor to find out what attributes people should look for when buying a sun hat. Based on their input and my six years of experience working at the Skin Cancer Foundation, we chose Sungrubbies Amber Summer Hat for Women as our best overall pick. This hat, which is approved by the Melanoma Foundation, has a wide brim, an ultraviolet protection factor (UPF) rating of 50+, and comes in a wide range of sizes. All the options on our list offer ample coverage and a UPF of 50+.

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Best Overall

Sungrubbies Amber Summer Hat for Women »

**PROS:**

- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ 3-inch brim
- ✓ Adjustable chin strap and inner drawstring
- ✓ Sizes range from medium to 3XL

CONS:

- ✗ Only comes in one color
- ✗ Doesn't provide shoulder protection

[Buy From Sungrubbies](#)

Though the Amber looks like a trendy accessory, it isn't just for show. It offers UPF 50+ protection. Sun hats with a UPF of 50+ shield you from 98% of the sun's UVA and UVB rays.

The Amber has a generous 3-inch brim. According to The Skin Cancer Foundation, hats with a brim width of 3 inches or greater are ideal choices for sun protection. It also has an adjustable chin strap, meaning you don't have to worry that your hat will fly off in the wind.

Specs

List Price:	\$59
Materials:	Paper, polyester
Brim Size:	3 in.
UPF:	50+

[Buy From Sungrubbies »](#)

Best Budget

San Diego Hat Company's Signature Women's ...



PROS:

- ✓ Affordably priced
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ 4-inch brim

CONS:

- ✗ One size only
- ✗ Not water-resistant
- ✗ Doesn't provide coverage to the scalp or back of the neck

Buy From Amazon

-  Folds up for easy packing

This budget-friendly, large-brim visor accommodates most hairstyles. “Wrap-around visors are a good alternative for people who have a lot of hair on their heads,” explains cosmetic physician, Dr. Vivian Chin, founder of Koru Wellness & Aesthetics NYC.

It has a wide, 4-inch brim, and provides UPF 50+ coverage to your face, ears, and neck. A Velcro closure ensures a comfortable, snug fit for any head size. This visor is available in a wide array of colors and it folds easily for compact storage and packing, making it a suitable pick for trips.

Specs

List Price:	\$35
Materials:	Paper and polyester
Weight:	0.32 oz.
Brim Size:	4 in.

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Best for Women

Eddie Bauer Women’s Exploration UPF Wide B...

**PROS:**

- ✓ Stylish design
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ 3.5-inch brim for generous coverage
- ✓ Lightweight and moisture-wicking
- ✓ Adjustable chin straps for a secure fit

CONS:

- ✗ Not machine-washable (spot-clean with warm water only and no detergent)
- ✗ Runs small

[Buy From Amazon](#)

This sporty hat provides UPF 50+ protection, and it has an all-around, 3.5-inch brim that shades the back of the neck. “For hats, I recommend choosing ones with a wide brim of at least 3 inches to provide adequate shade for your face, neck, and ears,” says dermatologist Dr. Hannah Kopelman of Kopelman Aesthetic Surgery.

This hat’s moisture-wicking properties ensure you won’t get sweat-wet under the hat’s band. It also folds up nicely for easy packing. You can’t iron it, but

users say it remains relatively wrinkle-free.

Its clean lines and simple styling make it a good choice for gardening, sports, and other sun-drenched outdoor activities.

Specs

List Price:	\$45
Materials:	Polyester
Weight:	3.84 oz.
Brim Size:	3.5 in.

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Best for Men

Wallaroo Hat Company Cabo »



PROS:

- ✓ Bold, rugged design
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ 3 1/4-inch brim
- ✓ Inner drawstring for adjustable fit
- ✓ Hideable chin strap
- ✓ Skin Cancer Foundation Seal of Recommendation recipient
- ✓ Easy to pack

CONS:

- ✗ Only one color option
- ✗ Spot-clean only

Buy From Amazon

This men’s fedora stands out with its embroidered trim and braided design. Plus, it’s protective, too. A Skin Cancer Foundation Seal of Recommendation recipient, it provides 50+ UPF protection and has a 3 1/4-inch brim that adequately covers the scalp, face, neck, and ears.

Users say it fits snugly, but the chin strap will also help keep it in place. The strap can be tucked away if you prefer. This hat is easy to fold, so you can easily pack it with you to take on your next adventure.

Specs

List Price:	\$55
Materials:	Paper braid, cotton
Weight:	6.4 oz.
Brim Size:	3 ¼ in.

EXPAND LIST ▾

Buy From Amazon »

Best for Kids

Wallaroo Hat Company Microfiber Platypus »



PROS:

- ✓ Velcro chin strap is ideal for active toddlers
- ✓ Made of water-resistant microfiber
- ✓ Full-coverage brim
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ Packable
- ✓ Skin Cancer Foundation Seal of Recommendation recipient

CONS:

- ✗ Only available in one size
- ✗ Too small for older kids

[Buy From Amazon](#)

According to the [Melanoma Research Alliance](#), it only takes one blistering sunburn during childhood to double your risk of malignant melanoma, the deadliest skin cancer, later in life. So sun protection for the littlest set is an absolute necessity.

This toddler-sized bucket hat has the Skin Cancer Foundation’s Seal of Recommendation. It provides UPF 50+ protection, and its elongated brim design provides significant all-around coverage to the face and upper back.

Unlike some children’s sun hats, the Platypus has a snug-fitting, adjustable Velcro chin strap rather than a loose string closure. This means that kids can have fun in the sun without the hat slipping off their heads.

Specs

List Price:	\$27
Materials:	Microfiber
Brim Size:	2 1/4 in. front, 3 1/4 in. back
UPF:	50+

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Best for Travel

Coolibar Women’s Convertible Roll-Up Shelby ...

**PROS:**

- ✓ Roll-up design with snap for compact packing
- ✓ Non-crushable
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection
- ✓ Wired 7-inch brim for maximum coverage
- ✓ Adjustable chin strap

CONS:

- ✗ Spot-clean only
- ✗ Not recommended for windy environments

[Buy From Amazon](#)

Large-brimmed hats could be hard to travel with. However, this crush-proof sun hat has a roll-up design and snap closure, so it retains its shape – even in a stuffed suitcase.

Dr. Chin recommends wide-brimmed hats for full protection during high sun, hazy conditions, and even on cloudy days. This hat's wired, 7-inch brim provides UPF 50+ sun protection for the face, sides of the head, and shoulders.

A chin strap will keep your hat from flying off in the wind, but the brim may flip back during windy conditions, reducing your coverage.

Specs

List Price:	\$65
Materials:	Polyester
Weight:	11.3 oz.
Brim Size:	7 in.

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Best for Outdoor Sports

Protean Headwear Proteus Hat »



PROS:

▲ Tuck in flaps add coverage

CONS:

▼ Hand wash with water

- neck coverage

only
- ✓ UPF 50+ coating

✗ No chin strap
- ✓ Water-repellent
- ✓ Four-way stretch
- ✓ Adult and youth sizes available

Buy From VESL

Typically, Dr. Chin doesn’t recommend baseball caps because they don’t shield the lower two-thirds of your face. However, the Proteus Hat is not your standard baseball cap. It has a large, built-in flap that provides protection for your ears and the back of your neck. The flap can be tucked back into the cap on days when you need less coverage.

The water-repellent design makes it a good choice for outdoor sports like surfing and [fishing](#). It also features a four-way stretch for a comfortable fit.

UPF coatings can lose their efficacy if washed with a harsh detergent or fabric softener. To clean this hat, hand-washing with just water is recommended by the manufacturer.

Specs

List Price:	\$59.95
Materials:	Nylon, polyester, spandex
Weight:	4 oz.
Brim Size:	3 in.

EXPAND LIST ▾

Buy From VESL »

Best for Beach

Solbari Ultra Wide Cotton Linen Hat UPF 50+ »



PROS:

- ✓ Lightweight, breathable fabric
- ✓ Ultrawide brim for maximum sun protection
- ✓ Detachable chin strap
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection

CONS:

- ✗ May shrink with washing
- ✗ Hand-wash only

[Buy From Amazon](#)

This UPF 50+ sun hat has a brim that elongates in the back. This ensures you'll get full sun protection for your entire face and neck, plus your ears. An internal brim wire keeps the hat in place but can be adjusted for shape and style.

The all-natural fabric is soft and breathable, so you'll stay cool on the beach. There's also a discreetly placed ponytail opening so you can pop your hair up

while sunning. The detachable chin strap will keep your hat in place in breezy conditions.

This hat comes in two size options: Small/Medium and Large/Extra-Large. The fabric is pliable, adjusting easily to any head shape. It’s also easy to pack.

Specs

List Price:	\$65
Materials:	Linen and cotton
Weight:	4.94 oz.
Brim Size:	5 in. in front, 6 in. in back

EXPAND LIST ▾

[Buy From Amazon »](#)

Most Stylish

WATSKIN Sienna Hat »

**PROS:**

- ✓ Comes in a wide range of colors and prints
- ✓ Coordinates to matching bodysuits and tennis gear
- ✓ Ultrawide brim
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection

CONS:

- ✗ Pricey
- ✗ Dry-clean only

[Buy From Watskin](#)

The WATSKIN Sienna hat is stylish but provides serious sun protection. It features an ultrawide brim that shields your face and neck. And, it's made from UPF 50+ fabric.

Though it only comes in one size, there's a tie at the back that allows you to adjust the fit. It's available in neutral shades like black and white, as well as in a wide range of bright colors and fun patterns, including animal prints, florals, and abstract designs. For a cohesive look, you can coordinate the hat with other items from Watskin's line of UPF 50+ clothing like bodysuits, tees, and tennis gear.

Specs

List Price:	\$175
Materials:	Polyester and lycra
UPF:	50+

[Buy From Watskin »](#)

Best Full-Coverage

Coolibar Women’s Anastasia Elegant Full Cove...



PROS:

- ✓ Attached neck drape covers shoulders and upper back
- ✓ UPF 50+ protection

CONS:

- ✗ Doesn’t pack easily
- ✗ Only comes in one size

- ✓ Skin Cancer Foundation Seal of Recommendation recipient
- ✓ Light, stretchable fabric

Buy From Amazon

This floppy-brimmed sun hat is a smart choice for strolling sun-drenched streets, gardening, or sitting around the pool. It offers full face protection. It also has an attached drape in the back that provides ample coverage to your neck, ears, shoulders, and upper back.

An internal, elastic sweatband will keep you cool and dry for all-day wear. The fabric is soft and pliable, but folding and bending the brim is not recommended, so it may be challenging to get into a suitcase.

It's one-size-fits-most and comes in two shades: black and white.

Specs

List Price:	\$59
Materials:	Polyester
Weight:	5.3 oz.
Brim Size:	4 3/4 in. in front, 13 3/4 in. in back

EXPAND LIST ▾

Buy From Amazon »

The Bottom Line

For optimal protection, you'll want a sun hat with a high UPF and enough coverage to protect your scalp, face, ears, and neck.

Our top pick, the Sungrubbies Amber Summer Hat for Women, is made from UPF 50+ fabric and has an ample, 3-inch brim that extends around its entire perimeter.

Things To Consider When Buying Sun Hats

UPF: It's critical to consider a sun hat's UPF. The Skin Cancer Foundation's Seal of Recommendation is only available to sun hats that have a UPF factor of 30 or greater. UPF 30 allows 1/30th, or 3%, of the sun's rays to get through. All of the hats on this list provide UPF 50+ protection. UPF 50 allows 1/50th (or 2%) of the sun's rays to get through.

Brim Size: A bigger brim means more coverage. Adult-sized sun hats should have at least a 3-inch brim that shades your entire face and neck. It's wise to consider a hat with an all-around brim that covers your ears and the back of your neck.

Comfort and Adjustability: Some sun hats come in multiple sizes, while others are one-size-fits-most. Features like inner drawstrings or Velcro closures allow you to adjust the size of the hat for a custom fit.

Breathability: Since you'll likely be wearing a sun hat in warm weather, you'll want one made with lightweight materials. Some sun hats have inserts that absorb sweat.

Additional Features: Some sun hats have tuckable flaps that can be pulled down to protect the ears or back of the neck. There are also sun hats with attached capes that can be draped around the shoulders for full protection.

Even snug-fitting hats can blow off in the wind. To avoid this, look for a hat with a chin strap.

If you'll be wearing your hat in wooded areas or for [hiking](#), look for one that is treated with insect repellent.

How We Chose the Best Sun Hats

To choose the best sun hats, we got input about important attributes like UPF factor and brim size from [Dr. Hannah Kopelman](#), a dermatologist at Kopelman Aesthetic Surgery, and [Dr. Vivien Chen](#), a cosmetic physician and founder of Koru Wellness & Aesthetics NYC. We also spoke about fabric choices and comfort with skin cancer survivor [Lynn Fletcher O’Brien](#), the founder of Line in the Sand and a board member of the Prevent Cancer Foundation.

We only chose hats that offered ample coverage plus UPF 50+ protection. We kept style in mind as well as function and considered special features like adjustable fit and packability.

WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Before becoming a full-time writer, [Corey Whelan](#), the author of this piece, spent several years working for the Skin Cancer Foundation. She knows the importance of avoiding skin cancer and reducing the effects of photoaging. She used her experience to craft this piece, with skin health and safety in mind.

[Marlo Jappen Porto](#), who edited this article, is an editor at U.S. News 360 Reviews, focusing on health and wellness products.

FAQ

- What are the benefits of sun hats?

+
- How do sun hats work?

+
- What’s the best way to clean and maintain a sun hat?

+

About Our Team



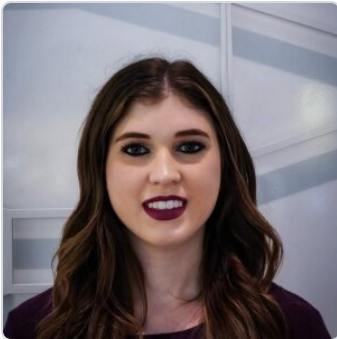
Corey Whelan

Contributor



Corey Whelan is a patient advocate, freelance health writer, and small business owner based in Brooklyn, New York. She specializes in reviewing consumer products that make people healthier, happier, and safer. Whelan contributes content to a wide range of sites including Verywell Health, Healthline, and Well+Good.

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