

Best Mattresses of 2018

Take your pick of the top adjustable air, innerspring, and foam mattresses from CR's tests

By Haniya Rae
Last updated: June 14, 2018

Buying a new mattress can be a headache because it's difficult to separate the marketing hype from actual mattress attributes. To help, Consumer Reports' mattress ratings mechanically measure firmness and detail how much support each mattress provides to people of different sizes, whether they sleep on their back or on their side.

In fact, you can match your sleeping style and your stature to the right mattress for you by scanning the six columns in our ratings that call out the best mattresses for petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, and petite, average, and large/tall back sleepers.

How We Test Mattresses

At CR we buy and test queen-size mattresses because they're the most widely sold size. Using lab equipment and human subjects, we evaluate how well a mattress supports the body for both back and side sleepers, how easily sleepers can shift their weight without disturbing their partner, and how well the mattress keeps its shape over time.

To mimic the typical eight- to 10-year useful life span of a mattress, we conduct a mechanical test in which a 308-pound roller is pushed over each model 30,000 times. For firmness, rather than take a manufacturer's word for it, we measure that attribute with a highly calibrated instrument and give the mattresses a score from 1 to 10, with 10 being the firmest.

We test mattresses from well-known brands such as Sealy, Serta, Stearns & Foster, and Tempur-Pedic, and from newcomers such as Casper, Leesa, Reverie, and Tuft & Needle.

Below, ratings and reviews for two top picks from each of the three types of mattresses we test: innerspring, foam, and adjustable air.

Best Adjustable Air Mattresses

You can inflate each side of these mattresses to your desired firmness using a remote control.

Sleep Number c2

Overall score: 81

Ranking: 2

CR's take: You don't have to pay thousands for an adjustable air mattress to get impressive side support and even better back support, and the c2 mattress proves it. The pricier Sleep Number i8 bed edged this one out in overall performance, but you'll pay \$2,000 less without a noticeable difference in support. Trying out the bed before buying will tell you whether this mattress's thinner top foam layer is comfy enough for you.

The mattress measures just 8 inches high, so, again, you'll get by with your normal sheets.

Best Innerspring Mattresses

These traditional mattresses are composed of steel coils in various configurations. They're often the least expensive—and they're the most widely sold.

Avocado Green Mattress

Overall score: 85

Ranking: 1 of 62 innerspring mattresses

CR's take: The Avocado Green performs superbly in side-support tests for average and large/tall side sleepers and in back-support tests for petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers. The Avocado is made of recycled steel pocket innersprings and has latex foam padding and a certified organic cotton cover. It's not as stable as some other mattresses in our tests, though: If you sleep with a restless partner or don't like a lot of bounce, this mattress might not be the one for you.

Charles P. Rogers Powercore Estate 5000

Overall score: 80

Ranking: 2

CR's take: Back sleepers have a lot to like about this innerspring from Charles P. Rogers, and it's almost as good for side sleepers of all sizes. With a latex-foam topping, this mattress is among the best at supporting the curve of the spine and very good at keeping side sleepers' spines horizontal. The mattress showed little wear after eight to 10 years of simulated use, and it's top-notch at muting vibrations, meaning little bouncing from across the bed. It's 14 inches high, so you'll probably need deep-pocket fitted sheets.

Best Foam Mattresses

The foam mattress category is seeing the most innovation, with a flurry of beds-in-a-box coming on the market.

Essentia Stratami

Overall score: 81

Ranking: 1 out of 54 foam mattresses

CR's take: Petite and average back sleepers will appreciate that the Essentia Stratami scored Excellent for support, and petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers will enjoy very good support. The Stratami is quite stable—meaning that you'll barely feel vibrations and

movements across the bed, and durability is excellent, with no changes in performance after eight to 10 years of simulated use. This mattress weighs 122 pounds and has no grips, so if you're moving it, you may need help maneuvering it.

Reverie Dream Supreme II Hybrid Sleep System Firm

Overall score: 81

Ranking: 2

CR's take: Though the Dream Supreme is on the pricier end of the mattresses we've tested, it does have a unique foam spring system that allows you to rearrange the springs. The springs come in four levels of firmness, so you can configure the bed to your liking. Reverie offers the mattress in three configurations if you don't want to experiment. We tested all three, and this one, the firm, rated best. The medium and soft versions came in lower in CR's rankings (16 and 26, respectively). The firm mattress rates Excellent for petite back sleepers, and Very Good for petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, and for average and large/tall back

sleepers. It earns a 4 in firmness on our scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the firmest. Durability is top-notch.

Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm

Overall Score: 81

Ranking: 3

CR's take: At a much lower price point than the Essentia Stratami and the Dream Supreme, the Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm is made of two layers of 100 percent natural latex foam. It earns a 7 in firmness (on our scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the firmest). In our tests, it scores Excellent for petite, average, and large/tall back sleeper support. For petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, the Pure Green Firm earns a Very Good score, as the mattress kept test sleepers' spines reasonably aligned horizontally. This mattress is also extremely durable, holding its shape after 8 years of simulated use.

See our full foam mattress ratings for a variety of choices at <https://www.consumerreports.org/products/mattress/ratings-overview/>