

Most and Least Reliable Washing Machine Brands

In Consumer Reports' survey, LG and Speed Queen stand out as reliable

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CR's extensive lab testing can help you pinpoint a washing machine that cleans fabric well, is gentle on clothes, runs quietly, and more. But aside from picking a machine with solid performance, you want an appliance that's built to last.

Consumer Reports' latest member survey reveals which brands are tops in reliability, and just how likely owners are to recommend their washer to family and friends. And we now factor those results into our washing machine ratings.

Our survey results are based on CR members' experiences with 76,517 washers, not covered by a service contract, purchased between 2007 and 2017.

Each model in our washing machine ratings now has a rating for predicted reliability and owner satisfaction. Our predicted reliability rating estimates the likelihood that newly purchased models from a given brand will break within the first five years. Our owner-satisfaction rating reflects the proportion of CR members who are extremely likely to recommend the washer they bought to friends and family.

In the market for a new machine? In addition to reliability data, check out our washing machine buying guide to learn the pros and cons of different washer types. Then see our washing machine ratings, and use the filters to narrow your choices among the 100-plus models.

And below, a look at the results for the most and least reliable brands—including names like LG, Speed Queen, GE, Samsung, Frigidaire, Kenmore, and Amana—and a quick glimpse at owner satisfaction. See our complete washing machine ratings for the full picture.

Agitator Top-Loaders

We analyzed 10 brands of agitator top-loaders, still the most popular washing machine type.

Speed Queen and Roper are the two most reliable brands; in this category, both garnered an Excellent for reliability. Speed Queen is the only brand to get an Excellent rating for owner satisfaction.

Least reliable? Fisher & Paykel, which got the lowest rating, a Poor, for reliability. Frigidaire rated just Fair for reliability. CR can't recommend top-loader agitator models from either brand at this time.

Frigidaire also received an unfavorable rating for owner

satisfaction, and Hotpoint got the lowest owner-satisfaction rating among the 10 brands we analyzed (although it got a Very Good for predicted reliability).

High-Efficiency Top-Loaders

LG pulled ahead as the most reliable brand among HE top-loaders (the type without an agitator). It's the only brand to get an Excellent for predicted reliability, and the only one of the seven brands analyzed to merit a Very Good for owner satisfaction.

Fisher & Paykel was the least reliable brand, and we don't recommend the company's HE top-loaders at this time.

As for owner satisfaction, GE and Samsung were notable for their Fair ratings. GE, however, rated well for predicted reliability, earning a Very Good.

Front-Loaders

LG earned an Excellent score for predicted reliability and a Very Good for owner satisfaction. Speed Queen earned our highest rating—Excellent—for owner satisfaction, but its reliability rating was a middle-of-the-road Good.

Frigidaire was the least reliable, and GE also rated unfavorably for predicted reliability. We don't recommend buying either brand at this time. Both also rated unfavorably for owner satisfaction.

In addition to the brands called out here, you'll see Amana, Electrolux, Kenmore, Maytag, and Whirlpool in our full washing machine ratings.

Compact Front-loaders

Miele and LG were the most reliable brands, and Miele also warranted our highest rating, Excellent, for owner satisfaction. In fact, it's the only compact washer that got a favorable rating for owner satisfaction.

Whirlpool, GE, and Asko were the three least reliable brands and can't be recommended at this time. Each brand also received an unfavorable owner-satisfaction rating.

You'll also see Blomberg, Bosch, Electrolux, Kenmore, and Samsung in our compact washing machine ratings.