

Which Brands Make the Most Reliable Appliances?

CR's Appliance Brand Reliability Rankings can help you avoid problem-prone models—and the cost of repairs

By Consumer Reports December 11, 2023

When it's time to invest in a new refrigerator or dishwasher, you want to get one that will stand the test of time. The best way to make sure you're not shelling out for another replacement too soon? Buy from a reliable brand. Factoring in reliability–based on exclusive data from CR's member surveys–will save you money over the long haul and keep refrigerators, washers, and other appliances out of the waste stream and landfills.

A good place to start is with the chart below. CR's fifth annual Appliance Brand Reliability Rankings show how reliable a brand is relative to another across multiple appliance types: refrigerators, dishwashers, over-the-range microwaves, ranges, cooktops, wall ovens, washing machines, and dryers. The results are based on survey data we collected from our members on more than 528,800 kitchen and laundry appliances purchased new between 2012 and 2022.

To calculate predicted reliability, we asked members whether their appliances broke or stopped working as well as they should. We used that data to estimate how a given brand's new models will hold up over the first five years of use. The chart only includes brands for which we have reliability ratings in at least two categories of major appliances.

The predicted reliability ratings for appliances from each brand are an average of the ratings for all types of that brand's appliances (for example, front-loaders, top-loaders, etc., for washing machines).

For each brand, the average predicted reliability score has been adjusted to account for differences among types of appliances. A brand that earns relatively high marks for its French-door refrigerators, for example, will get a bump in its score because French-door models are less reliable than other refrigerator types. Without this statistical adjustment, a brand that makes only top-freezer refrigerators—the most reliable type—would have an unfair advantage over brands that make multiple types.

Yet again, the most reliable brand, Speed Queen, and the



Whether you're paying hundreds or thousands, CR's reliability data helps you pick out appliances built to last from trusted brands. Photo: Justin Metz

least reliable brand, Viking, maintained their positions at the top and bottom of our chart. Hotpoint made the biggest jump, moving up seven spots from where it ranked in last year's survey. Ikea appliances moved down seven spots.

Four brands were dropped from last year's rankings: Beko, Blomberg, Crosley, and Roper, which previously held third place. Brands are dropped when our survey responses represent a sample size that's too small to assign reliability ratings.

Read on, below, for a deep dive into appliance reliability across 25 brands that include LG, Frigidaire, GE, KitchenAid, Samsung, Bosch, Electrolux, Kenmore, Maytag, Miele, Sub-Zero/Wolf, and Whirlpool.

Keep in mind that our predicted reliability ratings are not an indicator of performance. So even when you settle on a reliable brand, you'll want to check our full appliance ratings to find a specific model that performs well in our rigorous lab tests. And in our ratings of washing machines, dryers, and dishwashers, look for our newly expanded Green Choice designation, which identifies appliances with a lower environmental impact.

Appliance Brand Reliability Rankings

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Empty spaces indicate that either the manufacturer doesn't make that appliance or we have insufficient data to calculate a reliability rating. Beko is new to the rankings.

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