

Consumer Reports



How To

Product Reviews, Ratings, Buying Guides

SUMMARY

Find up-to-date evaluation from Consumer Union on the latest home appliances, technology, cars, and other household and personal necessities.

ACCESS

Go to the County Library's Resources Page at thecountylibrary.org/howto and choose Consumer Reports from the list.

SEARCHING

Searching is simple using the search bar at the top of the page. Enter the type of product you'd like to search for and suggested searches will appear, giving you the option to view product ratings, reviews, and comparisons.

A screenshot of the Consumer Reports website's search interface. At the top, a dark grey header bar contains the 'CR Consumer Reports' logo on the left, a search bar in the center, and a green circular icon on the right. The search bar has a magnifying glass icon on the left, the text 'speaker' in the middle, and a close 'X' icon on the right. Below the search bar, a section titled 'SUGGESTED SEARCHES' lists 'Smart Speakers' and 'Wireless & Bluetooth Speakers'. At the bottom of this section, there is a link 'All Products A-Z' with a right-pointing arrow. Above the search bar, a small line of text reads 'Ad-free. Influence-free. Powered by consumers.' and a small 'Me' icon is visible on the far right.

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Consumer Reports

How To

Product Reviews, Ratings, Buying Guides

Each popular category contains an overview of the product, ratings, a list of Consumer Reports (CR) recommendations, and a Buying guide with information consumers should know when shopping for this product. You can also view all products in and A to Z search.

FIND RATINGS & REVIEWS



Baby Monitors



Coffee Makers



Dishwashers



Exterior & Interior Paints



Mattresses



Portable & Standby Generators



Refrigerators



SUVs



Tires



TVs



Vacuums & Robovacs



Washing Machines

All Products A-Z

Overview

Each Overview page will give general information about the product and link to ratings and buying guides, as well as articles related to the product to provide more information for consumers.

The screenshot shows the Consumer Reports website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with the 'CR Consumer Reports' logo, a search bar, and links to various categories like Cars, Home & Garden, Appliances, Electronics, Babies & Kids, Deals, and More. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: Electronics & Computers / Audio & Video / Smart Speakers. The main heading is 'Smart Speakers', with sub-links for Overview (highlighted with an orange box), Ratings, Recommended, and Buying Guide. The 'Overview' section is titled 'Smart Speaker Ratings' and includes a paragraph about the power of voice control and a link to the ratings and reviews. Below the text is an image of an Amazon Echo smart speaker. To the right of the image, it says 'Smart Speakers (37)' and provides a brief description of the testing process, followed by links for 'Recommended Smart Speakers' and 'Smart Speakers Ratings'.

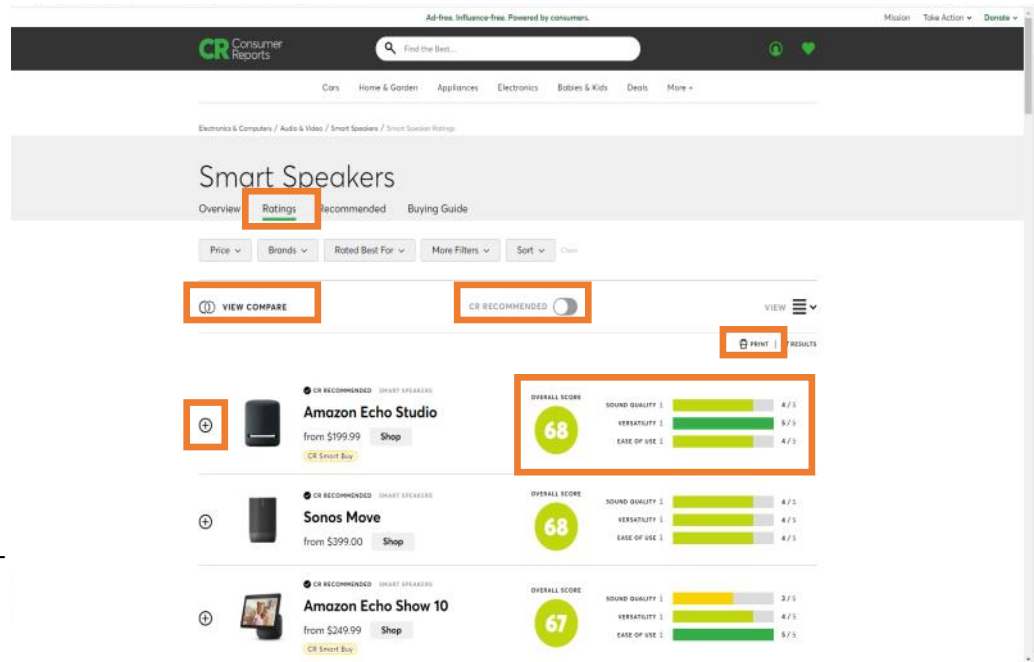
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Ratings

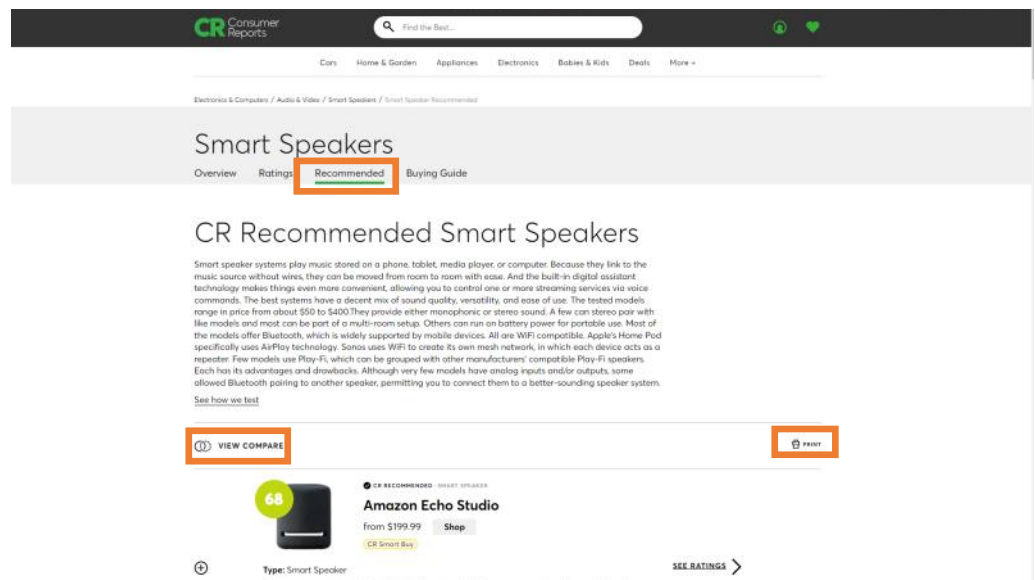
Consumer Reports' product ratings are unique in that they combine product performance, measured through expert lab testing, with predicted reliability and owner satisfaction data gathered through surveys of product owners.

On the Ratings tab, you can narrow your search by price, brand or rating using the drop down menus. By clicking on the + next to the item, you can compare up to five selected products to one another. You can choose to only view items recommended by CR, and even print your results from this page.



Recommended

The Recommended tab shows CR's recommended products in your searched category. By clicking on the + next to the item, you can compare selected products and even print your results from this page.



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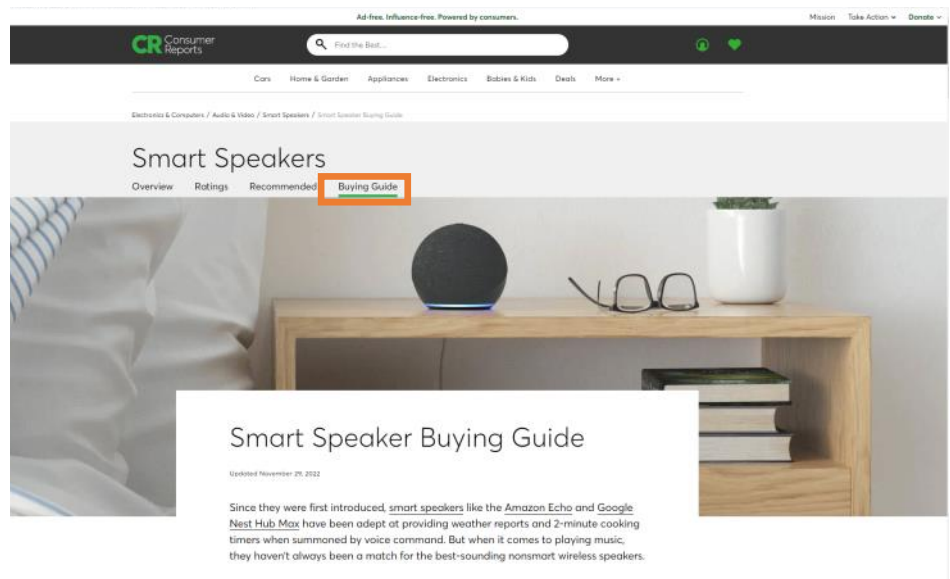
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Buying Guides

The Buying Guides tab give detailed information about the product, including questions to ask when buying, features to consider, and what to look for as you search for the product. Some include product testing videos and CR's top rated brands to further inform buyers.



Best Time to Buy

Another helpful feature in the Consumer Reports database is the "Best Time to Buy" guide, which breaks down the best deals on products each month so you can plan out your purchases in order to get the most savings. This guide is found in the CR Deals section of the database. You will also find lists of deals by price range and seasonal picks, all with the Consumer Reports ratings.

