



Grande Prairie, Alberta

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Working with Consumer Reports

CR Consumer Reports

Prepared by Samantha Mercer, Digital Learning & Outreach Librarian

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1 About Consumer Reports

Consumer Reports has been giving unbiased product reviews since 1936. Originally a physical magazine, all that information is now available online. The non-profit organization tests and rates over 4,000 products a year. In addition, they offer news and helpful guides that are great for those looking into big first time purchases.

2 Software and Devices

While Consumer Reports does have a couple apps, none of them will work with your library card. If you want to access information on one of their apps, you will have to purchase a personal subscription. To access Consumer Reports with your library card, you need to use an internet browser. That browser can be on any computer or mobile device.

3 Access and Accounts

Consumer Reports is a mixture of patron and public access.

Within the library, anyone can access Consumer Reports. If they are on the library wi-fi or on a library computer, they will simply select Consumer Reports as their eResource and be brought into the website.

1. Go to the eResources page of your library.
2. Select "Magazines and Newspapers."
3. Choose "Website" below the icon.
4. Select "Consumer Reports.org."

Outside of the library, you are required to enter your library barcode in order to gain access.

1. Go to the eResources page of your library.
2. Select "Magazines and Newspapers."
3. Choose "Website" below the icon.
4. Enter your library barcode as your Patron ID and select "Next."
5. Select "ConsumerReports.org."

4 Search and Browse

- A. On the homepage, you can use the search bar on the top centre to search for your product. The bar will auto complete as you type.
- B. On the homepage, you can select “All Products A-Z” which is located to the right of the search bar.
- C. Browse through the “Featured Products” section which is below the featured photo.
- D. Hover over “Product Reviews” on the top left

5 Recommended and Guides

When you find the product you want reviews for, there is a few ways to get information.

- A. “Overview” is your home page where you can select a certain type of your product (window air condition vs. portable air conditioner). You can also get a few related videos, access to the buying guide, a sample of recently tested products, and the most recent related news articles.
- B. “Ratings & Reliability” allows you to view the details of each model of the product you are looking for. See 5.1 to learn about comparing models. Use the filter options in the panel on the left to limit your results.
- C. “Recommended” will give you general and overall recommendations for a product. They generally organize the recommendations based on how big of a space they are good for or any specific/differentiating factor (waterproof camera vs. mirrorless camera).
- D. “Buying Guide” is a guide put together to help you get the best product for what you need and can afford. Find out exactly what you should be looking for, what price range it may fall within, and how to test the device.




Products displayed in the ratings and recommendations section include a “Shop Now” button. Be aware that these links generally lead you to American sites (Amazon.com). See 6 to learn about Canadian focused information.

5.1 Compare

In the Ratings section of a product, you will notice a faded + sign. Select up to 3 products' + sign and then select the "Compare" button on the top right of the chart. This will remove all unwanted products and allow you to easily compare the models you are interested in.

[< Back to add models](#) | [Back to Air conditioners ratings](#)

Compare Air conditioners

 <p>75</p> <p>SPT WA-6022S</p> <p>✓ Recommended \$171.68</p> <p>Shop ▶</p> <p>✕ Remove from Compare</p>	 <p>74</p> <p>LG LW6016R</p> <p>✓ Recommended \$220.00</p> <p>Shop ▶</p> <p>✕ Remove from Compare</p>	 <p>70</p> <p>Frigidaire FFRE0533Q1</p> <p>\$200.00</p> <p>Shop ▶</p> <p>✕ Remove from Compare</p>
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Ratings

Overall score (Out of 100)	75 Very Good	74 Very Good	70 Very Good
Comfort	👍 Excellent	👍 Excellent	👍 Very Good
Indoor noise low	👍 Very Good	👍 Very Good	👍 Very Good
Indoor noise high	👎 Good	👎 Good	👍 Very Good
Brownout	👍 Excellent	👍 Excellent	👍 Excellent
Ease of use	👎 Good	👎 Good	👎 Good

6 Canada Extra

For Canadian focused content:

1. Scroll to the bottom of the website.
2. Locate the column "Our Site."
3. Choose "Canada Extra."

This section of the website will give you feedback on items available in Canada. This avoids you trying to purchase a product or model that are not available in Canada. You can also find links to information about the auto industry in Canada, the Better Business Bureau and government consumer offices.

7 News and Information

You can access news and information by:

- A. Selecting “News” from the top left.
- B. The featured article in the centre of the home screen.
- C. Scroll slightly down the home page.
- D. Hover over “Product Reviews” on the top left, hover over the category in the left column that you are interested in, and select the “News” option from the far right column.

8 Videos

You can access videos by:

- A. Scroll to the bottom of the page, locate the “Our Site” column, and select “Video Index.”
- B. Hover over “Product Reviews” on the top left, hover over the category in the left column that you are interested in, and select the “Video” option from the far right column.
- C. Go to www.youtube.com and search “Consumer Reports.” Their channel has all of their videos.

9 Offer Reviews

To give your own review of a product:

1. Find the exact model you have
2. Locate the “Write a Review” button on the right hand side.



OVERALL SCORE All Upright vacuums Ratings

63

33 | 74

Shark Navigator Lift-Away NV351 (Walmart) vacuum cleaner

✓ Recommended

Price **\$170.00** [Price & Shop ▶](#)

We expect this model to perform similarly to the tested Shark Navigator Lift-Away NV352 although it may differ in price and features.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 2 2 Review [Write a Review](#)

3. Leave your review.