

The Complete Robot Vacuum Buying Guide

How to choose the best robot vacuum for your home

Robot vacuums have come a long way. Modern models can vacuum, mop, empty themselves, and even wash their own mops. But with so many options, how do you choose?

Suction Power (Pa)

Suction	Best For
2000-3000Pa	Hard floors, light debris
4000-6000Pa	Carpets, pet hair, heavy debris
8000-12000Pa	Thick carpet, deep cleaning

Navigation

LiDAR (Recommended)

Laser-based mapping. Most accurate, works in the dark. Standard on mid-range+ robots.

Camera

Visual navigation. Good but struggles in low light. Common on budget robots.

Self-Emptying

Auto-empty docks suck dirt from the robot's dustbin into a larger bag. Capacity ranges from 30-60 days. Essential for pet homes and people who don't want to empty the robot after every run.

Mopping

Type	Effectiveness
Drag pad	Basic — just drags a wet pad
Rotating pads	Good — spinning pads scrub the floor

Extendable pads	Best — reaches edges and baseboards
Auto-wash	Essential — dock washes pads between sessions

Budget Guide

Budget	What You Get
Under \$300	Basic suction, camera nav, no self-empty
\$300-600	Good suction, LiDAR, self-empty
\$600-1000	Strong suction, self-empty, basic mopping
\$1000+	Premium everything, auto-wash mop, AI avoidance

Our Top Picks

For detailed reviews and comparisons, visit blank2done.com/categories/robot-vacuums/