



# Best outboard motors consumer reports

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Today's best outboard motors are powerful, quiet, reliable, easy to service, and offer excellent power-to-weight ratios, as well as outstanding corrosion resistance. Outboard motors dominate today's boating market.

This curated list of outboard engines for 2024 showcases the pinnacle of marine engineering across various categories, ensuring that whether you're exploring quiet coves, competing in fishing tournaments, or venturing offshore, there's an engine tailored to your specific boating desires.

Outboard motors dominate today's boating market. And with good reason. Today's outboards are powerful, quiet, reliable, easy to service, and offer excellent power-to-weight ratios, as well as outstanding corrosion resistance. American boaters can choose from more than 180 models (not counting shaft length variants), all four strokes, from manufacturers such as Honda Marine, Mercury Marine, Suzuki Marine, Yamaha Outboards, and others, many in a choice of colors.

Horsepower ratings range from 2.3 to a whopping 600 ponies. Advanced technology abounds, with many models featuring electronic throttle and shift, electric steering, digital integration with your marine electronics, wireless connections to apps that let you view key functions, and more. While many boaters might narrow their search to the best outboard motor for the money, we instead built this list to showcase the best outboards available.

If you own an outboard motor, then you probably already know what you like in terms of brand and horsepower. But, on the other hand, you might be interested to learn about other great outboard motors, in case you buy a second boat or want to repower with the latest outboard technology. With this in mind, we looked at three outboard categories--portables, midsize and big outboards--and highlighted models from the major outboard brands that reflect some of the most notable and innovative engineering and features in each class.

Choosing an outboard motor for your boat is an important decision. Here, then, are 15 of today's best outboard motors, ordered by horsepower from low to high, defaulting to alphabetical order for like power ratings.

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