



DEAL WATCH: Arkfeld Ultra 3-in-1 flashlight \$119.99

Olight's proprietary OAL aluminum alloy and 1400 lumens in a flashlight? I think "YES!" | [Read Review](#)

[BUY NOW](#)

VACUUMS

YOU'RE VACUUMING ALL WRONG

Here's how to avoid the most common floor-care mistakes



Written by [Jonathan Chan](#), senior manager of lab operations with a decade of experience testing products.

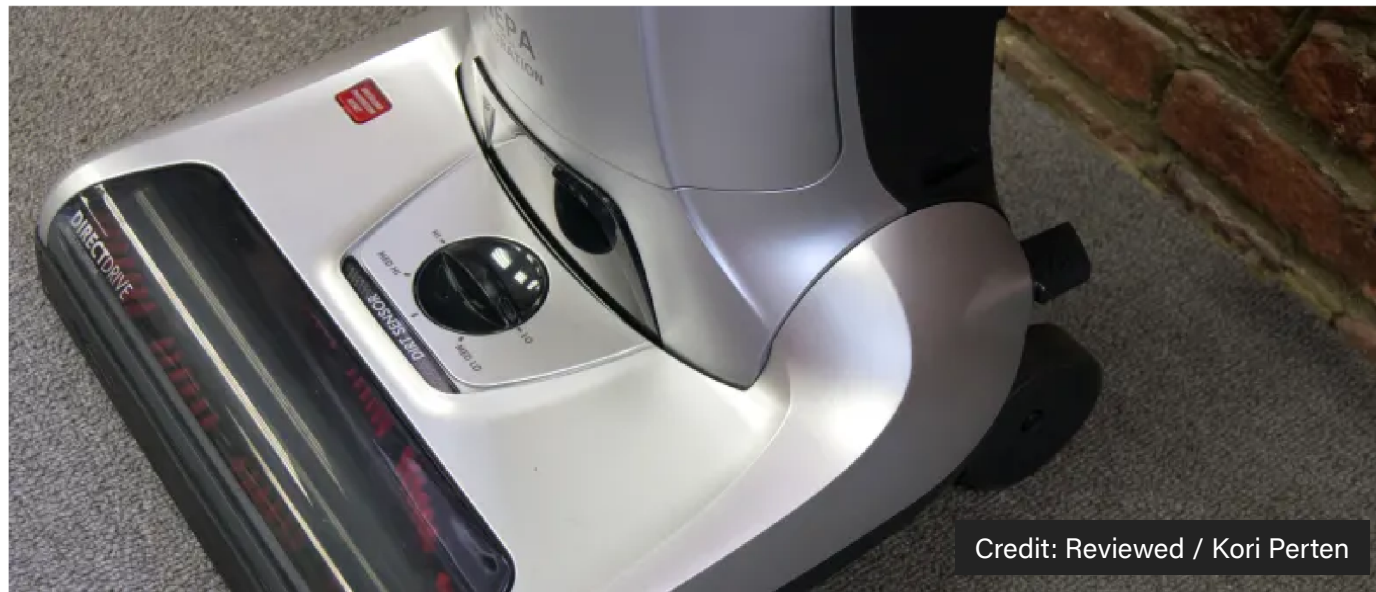
Updated July 30, 2018

Products are chosen independently by our editors. Purchases made through our links may earn us a commission.

Living a good life is about balancing dream chasing and unsung labors. These labors include cooking, looking after your kids, and of course, vacuuming. Floor care is a drag, there's no doubt about it. However, if you're not doing it right, then what should be a weekly chore becomes an insurmountable obstacle towards getting a clean house.

These are the most common vacuuming mistakes and how to avoid them.

3. Adjust the height



Using the right height means using your vacuum to its fullest potential.

Did you know your vacuum has height adjustments? If you roll your vacuum across a carpet and feel no resistance, then your height adjustment is probably off. Consult the manual for best practices. However, my rule of thumb is to start low and go higher until there is moderate resistance pulling back.

4. Empty the bag



You should empty the bag by the time it's half full.

If you smell an odor coming from your vacuum, it's time to empty the bag or dust bin. Those of you using a bagged vacuum should empty them when they're about *half* full.

5. Vacuum in multiple directions, not just back and forth



You should vacuum your carpets from at least two directions.

Carpet is made up of a mass of looped fibers. Vacuuming from only one direction will result in only half of the fibers getting clean. Based on our **extensive testing**, we find that most vacuums need at least three passes to get a surface clean.

6. Different vacuums for different needs



You need more than just your full-sized vacuum.

Yes, your full-sized vacuum has plenty of attachments but it's not optimum for every situation. For cleaning your car or very tight spaces, we'd recommend a handheld unit. We've tested well over 100 vacuums in our labs and we're sure you can find a model that fits your budget and style.

Read more: [The Best Canister Vacuums](#)

Read more: [The Best Cordless Stick Vacuums](#)

Read more: [The Best Robot Vacuums](#)

7. Replace the filter



You should replace the filter every six months.

A HEPA or washable filter is a nice feature to have. However, once the filter gets clogged, it starts to work against you. You should replace your filter once every six months. If your vacuum is overly noisy, spewing dirt, or not picking anything up, that's a sign that the filter needs to be replaced.

Prices were accurate at the time this article was published but may change over time.

The product experts at **Reviewed** have all your shopping needs covered. Follow Reviewed on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram**, **TikTok**, or **Flipboard** for the latest deals, product reviews, and more.

UP NEXT

You May Like

by Taboola

12 best Black Friday Apple deals you need to shop at Amazon

Get ahead of the Black Friday shopping rush by checking out the best Apple deals at Amazon right now.

The one thing you should never do to your towels

How to wash towels: Don't use dryer sheets or fabric softener. They can totally ruin your towels' absorbency. Here's what to use instead.

The PawSync Smart Pet Feeder is budget-friendly but is it worth it?

The PawSync Smart Pet Feeder is the most affordable and reliable automatic pet feeder on the market.

10 things you should never buy at Target

Certain products are overpriced at Target like a KitchenAid stand mixer, a Vizio M Series TV, a Cuisinart cookware set, and more. Here's where to get them instead.

Is 'Galaxy Watch Ultra' Samsung's best watch to date?

Samsung's first 'adventure-proof' watch promises a huge and durable screen, a ton of emergency features, and battery that lasts up to 100 hours.

9 things you should never buy at Trader Joe's

Sometimes the value just isn't there—these are the things you should never buy at Trader Joe's, from coconut oil to paper goods.

Sign up for our newsletter.

Get the best deals and the best advice dropped right in your inbox.

If you are a human, ignore this field

Enter your email



©2024 Reviewed, a division of Gannett Satellite Information Network LLC. All rights reserved.

Products are chosen independently by our editors. Purchases made through our links may earn us a commission.

[Appliances](#)

[Kitchen & Cooking](#)

[Home & Garden](#)

[Tech](#)

[Lifestyle](#)

[Parenting](#)

[Celebrations](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[About Us](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Licensing & Permissions](#)

[Ethics](#)

[Canada Edition](#)

[Send Feedback](#)

[The Best Right Now](#)

[Deals](#)

[Award Winners](#)

[How-Tos](#)

[How We Test](#)

[Videos](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility Statement](#)

[Your Privacy Choices](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Deals](#)

[Coupons](#)

