

Air Doctor

Technology: HEPA Filter
Activated Charcoal (2.2lbs.)
Chemisorbent media (impregnated with potassium permanganate)

Room Size: Maximum 2400 sq. ft.

Efficiency: 99.9% for particles ≥ 0.3 microns
99.95% for particles ≥ 0.003 microns

Air Delivery: 326 cfm

Price: \$629 plus shipping, promoted price can be as low at \$329
Filter Replacement Cost: UltraHEPA filter (\$59.95 plus shipping) every year, Gas filter (\$59.95 plus shipping) every 6 months.

Testing and Reviews:

Independent third-party testing confirms air delivery rates. There is no testing for performance against gases, chemicals and odor.

Bottom Line:

There is very little activated carbon in this unit. This unit does deliver very good particle removal including ultra-fine particles. If particle pollution is your primary concern this may be a good choice. If you are looking to also remove gases, chemicals and odors there are better options available.

Aireox 45D

Technology: Activated Carbon (4lbs.)
Chemisorbent Media (impregnated with potassium permanganate)

Room Size: Not Available

Efficiency: 99.26% for particles ≥ 0.3 microns

Air Delivery: 125 cfm

Price: \$359.95 plus shipping
Filter Replacement Cost: Carbon filter (\$94.95) every year.

Testing and Reviews:

There is no third-party testing published for this unit.

Bottom Line:

This unit is designed for chemically sensitive people and does not use any adhesives which could cause odor. It is primarily designed to remove gases, chemicals and odor but with just 4 pounds of carbon it is not nearly as powerful as some other brands. It has relatively low air delivery and does not have a HEPA filter so it is not likely to be effective at removing ultra-fine particles.

Airpura C600DLX

Technology: HEPA Barrier (not true HEPA)
Activated Carbon (26lbs.)

Chemisorbent Media (proprietary blend including potassium permanganate)

Room Size: Maximum 2000 sq. ft.

Efficiency: 95% for particles ≥ 1.0 microns

Air Delivery: 560 cfm

Price: \$899.98

Filter Replacement Cost: Pre-filter (\$39.98) every year, Carbon filter (\$349.98) every 2 years, HEPA filter (\$99.98) every 3-5 years.

Testing and Reviews:

Airpura does provide third-party testing that shows performance against virus, bacteria and mold. While they reference removal rates for gases based on a third-party test done by a distributor, they do not provide details of testing conditions so it is difficult to assess those removal rates.

Bottom Line:

This model is designed for chemical, gas and odor removal. The tradeoff is that it does not do much to remove fine or ultra-fine particles. Based on the very large amount of carbon combined with chemisorbent media it should be very effective at removing gases. If gases are your primary concern this is a good choice.

There are several Airpura models that address specific issues like mold and virus, formaldehyde, etc. If there is something specific you need to address you might want to look into those choices.

Airpura V600

Technology: HEPA Filter

Enhanced Activated Carbon (18lbs.)

Room Size: Maximum 2000 sq. ft.

Efficiency: 99.97% for particles ≥ 0.3 microns

Upgrade to SuperHEPA: 99.99% for particles ≥ 0.3 microns

Upgrade to ULPA: 99.99% for particles ≥ 0.1 microns

Air Delivery: 560 cfm

Price: \$799.98

Filter Replacement Cost: Pre-filter (\$39.98) every year, Carbon filter (\$279.98) every 2 years, TrueHEPA (\$179.98) every 3-5 years.

Testing and Reviews:

Airpura does provide third-party testing that shows performance against virus, bacteria and mold. Additionally, they provide testing that confirms the very strong performance of their HEPA filters. While they reference removal rates for gases based on a third-party test done by a distributor, they do not provide details of testing conditions so it is difficult to assess those removal rates.

Bottom Line:

This unit is very good choice for removing both particles and gases. The standard HEPA filter will remove coarse particles but upgraded filters are available to remove fine particles as well. It is not designed to remove ultra-fine particles such as wildfire smoke. With 18 pounds of carbon it should do a very good job of removing gases. This model does not include a chemisorbent media so it may not be as effective at removing low-weight gases such as formaldehyde.

Austin Healthmate Plus Jr.

Technology: HEPA Filter
Enhanced Activated Carbon (6lbs.)
Room Size: Maximum 700 sq. ft.
Efficiency: 99.97% for particles ≥ 0.3 microns
95% for particles ≥ 0.1 microns
Air Delivery: 200 cfm
Price: \$465 without wheels
Filter Replacement Cost: HEPA and Carbon filter (\$235) every 5 years.

Testing and Reviews:

Austin Air purifiers are sold on many sites and have positive consumer reviews. There is a lack of independent testing showing how it compares to the other recommended units but based on its technology and efficiency at removing particles, it is a solid choice.

Bottom Line:

The unit is designed for small spaces. If you have a small room, such as a child's room or nursery, this would be a good choice. It has about half the cleaning power as the full-size model so it is not meant to be used in larger spaces.