What is Consumer Reports?

Since debuting as a pamphlet in 1936, Consumer Reports has been one of the most popular magazines in the U.S. The online companion to the magazine is produced by the same nonprofit Consumers Union and comes with the same guarantee of unbiased ratings and product reviews.

The library subscribes to both Consumer Reports and ConsumerReports.org, so you can browse the magazine and take advantage of the additional content and powerful features available only to website subscribers.

How to access ConsumerReports.org:

1. From the library’s website www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org, select Research & Learning on the top menu, and then Quick Links.
2. Select ConsumerReports.org.
3. If you are outside of the library, enter your Lincolnwood library card number.

From the homepage:

FIND THE BEST CHOICES

We rigorously test products and services—and work to make the world healthier, safer, and more sustainable.

Search

Enter search term

Access alphabetic index

Browse by category

RECENTLY TESTED PRODUCTS

Car Batteries   Dishwashers   Humidifiers   Snow Blowers
Once inside the site, a search icon appears at the top of every page, while the categories appear as a horizontal menu:

**Searching ConsumerReports.org:**

As you type in the search bar, you *may* see suggested results pop up:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Car</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car batteries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View all search results for &quot;car&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

You can either select one of these suggestions to go directly to that entry, or finish entering your search terms to view full search results.

On the full search results page, a menu on the left-hand side of the screen allows you to **Narrow Results** by Content Type (Models, Buying Guide, News & Articles, or Videos) or Section (Appliances, Cars, Money, etc.).

**Viewing Results:**

Most product pages consist of an **Overview** of the number of products rated, the kinds of tests performed, and the characteristics rated. Select **Ratings** (or Ratings & Reliability) to view all brands and models, or proceed to **Recommended**, to view only those that achieve high scores. Some products also feature a **Buying Guide**.

A key to the ConsumerReports.org ratings appears on every **Ratings** page:
For some products, you can filter results using a selector. 

From the product ratings page, select an individual brand and model for detailed information: Ratings Report Card, Reviews, Specs, and more. You can also select up to five models to compare in a chart:

Price & Shop:

This feature offers ad-free online shopping. Once you locate a product you wish to buy, ConsumerReports.org can provide a list of retailers in order of price, lowest to highest. Only after you select a retailer will you be redirected to that retailer’s site for your transaction.

If you would like more help using Consumer Reports, or any other library resource, just ask one of our Information Services Librarians. You can also set up a one-on-one appointment by emailing infoservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org or calling us at 847.677.5277.