Household & Furniture

- hOmelabs Compact Laundry Dryer Review
- Tresanti Adjustable Height Desk ODP10557 Review
- Midea Duo 14,000 BTU Portable Air Conditioner Review

hOmelabs Compact Laundry Dryer Review

About

The hOmelabs Compact Laundry Dryer is a 3.2 Cubic Ft dryer that runs off a typical 120 Volt North American power outlet.

Purchase Date: 2021-04-10

Review Date: 2022-04-10

Update: This product no longer appears to be sold.



Review

This is a 120 Volt dryer, so just know that it will not dry as much nor as fast as a 240 Volt dryer. 120V is not drawback for this unit as you would only purchase it if you need a 120 Volt dryer.

Usage

At 3.2 Cubic feet, this dryer fits more clothing than a lot of other compact 120 Volt dryers. Less dryer loads is a good thing when you're already doing small loads.

I highly recommend that you spin dry your clothes before putting them in this dryer. With less heat output than a standard dryer it can take a very long time if your clothes go in soaking. Many hours.

You'll want to find a way to vent it outside. The easiest way is to pipe the exhaust air out a window. You can use either dryer ducting or even the tubing for a portable A/C.

Like any dryer, don't overload it and remember to clean out the lint. But beyond that, there's not much to say. It's a dryer and it works well.

Issues

There are very few drawbacks with this device, so I will mostly be nit-picking.

Occasionally the onboard chip will become confused and refuse to start the dryer. You can tell this has happened because it no longer beeps when you turn the dial, and of course it will not start. Unplugging and re-plugging in the dryer solves this issue instantly. When you place your dryer, make sure you can get to the power outlet easily for when this issue occurs (once every month or two).

The automatic sensor does not always do an excellent job of detecting how much time items need to dry. Sometimes it will end with clothes still damp, and other times it will continue drying for half an hour past what is necessary. I have not noticed a particular pattern here. I will often check on the clothes after it's been running a while, but not always. This is helpful to mix up the clothes and prevent some items from getting balled up and staying wet in the smaller drum.

The lint trap gets loose very quickly with use. After a year, this has not caused any issues beyond me dropping it in the dryer and spilling some lint inside, but it does speak to overall potential build quality.

Decision □□

This dryer was a wonderful worthwhile purchase. If you need a dryer that runs off 120 Volts, but is still somewhat large and effective, this is a great choice.

If you're currently hang drying your clothes, as soon as you buy this you'll wish you bought it earlier.

The Rest

My Purchase Price (including tax and shipping): **$337.87**

hOmelabs Compact Laundry Dryer



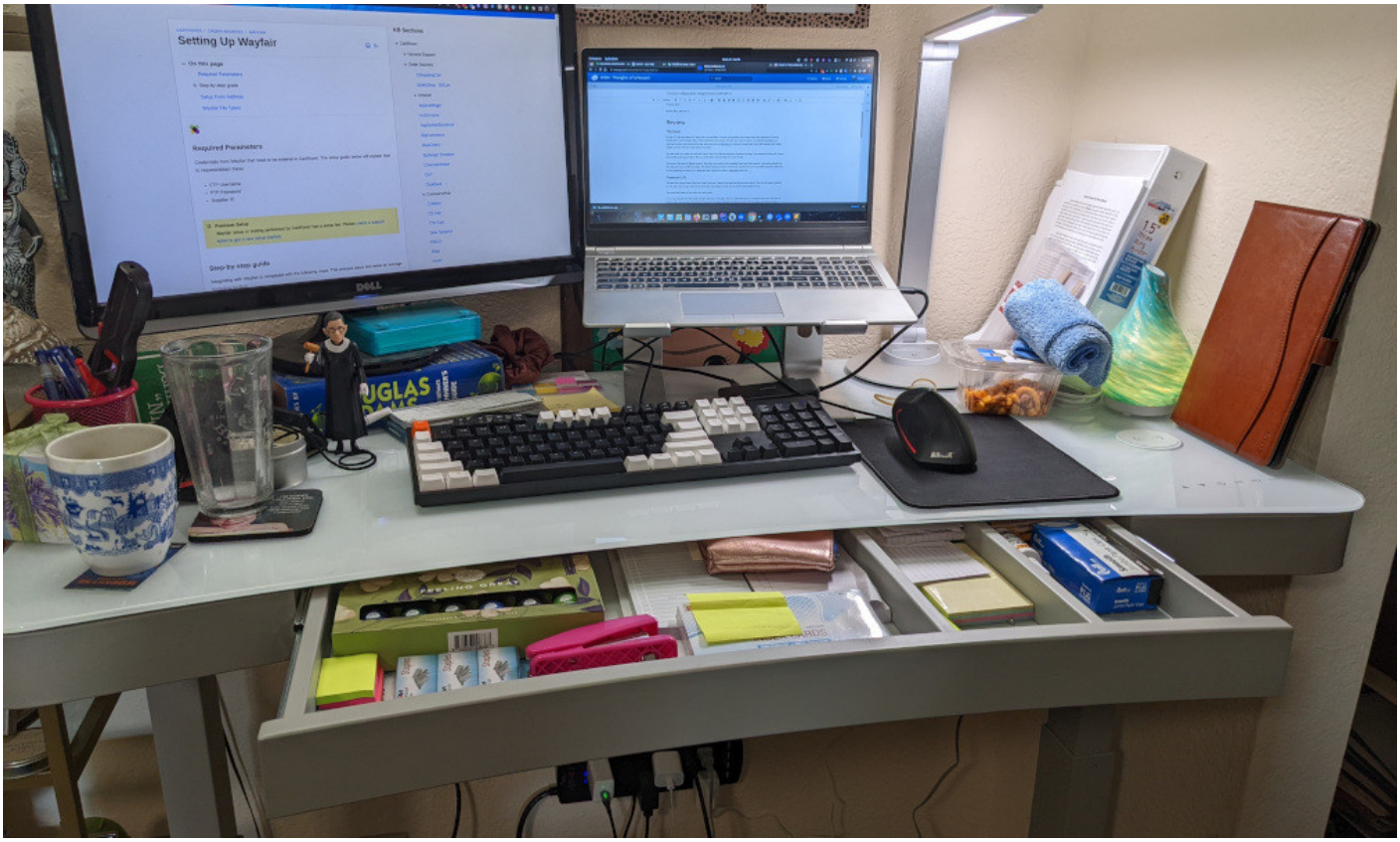
Tresanti Adjustable Height Desk ODP10557 Review

About

The Tresanti ODP10557 is a 47" x 25" motorized adjustable height glass-top desk that raises up to 47".

Purchase Date: 2021-10-01

Review Date: 2022-01-21



I never said I wasn't messy.

Review

The Desk

At only 47" wide and about 25" deep, this is a small desk. If you're in the market for a larger desk, look elsewhere. If you're looking for a more compact desk, or don't need the extra space, then the size is not an issue. I can easily fit my laptop, an external monitor, and a lamp on the top, with room for my Keychron C2 keyboard, mouse-pad, and a little random junk. Okay, maybe I do have a bit too much stuff on my desk.

The desk feels very solid and well built. While I don't love the horizontal bar between the legs, I do understand that such a heavy desk needs good support down there, and I do often rest my feet on or over the bar.

The front of the desk is slightly concave. This helps you stand or sit marginally closer and feels natural. I was unsure about it at first, but have come to like the shape. The shallow pullout drawer on the front matches the curve and while it doesn't allow you to store anything too large, it is a huge plus and is greats for papers, notecards, pens, etc.

Powered Lift

This desk has a good range from low to high, however it does not go quite as high as some others. This has not been a problem for me, but if you tall you will want to check the max height to make sure it will be comfortable for you.

The speed and power of the motor are quite good.

I do not particularly love the touch sensitive buttons on the glass. They are extremely prone to accidental presses. Because of this the table comes with a physical lock button on the side to disable the touch controls. This just feels a bit clumsy. I have gotten used to pressing unlock, hitting my preset height, and them immediately re-locking.

The addition of two USB ports on the side is nice, but if you have the desk near a wall like I do then they are rendered useless.

There is a wireless charging pad on the top of the desk as well. This is nice to have an I do use it, but I would use it more often if the positioning of it was more natural. It's not in a place I find easy to position my phone on and would use it more often if it was, but this is not a major issue.

Issues

The glass top of this desk is not very scratch resistant. In less than a year there are scratches in the top surface. I would not say we have been particularly rough or gentle with this desk. It has been used on and off as a work-from-home station. The scratches are small and while not very noticeable on their own, they cast a shadow on the white subsurface if you have an overhead light, making them very noticeable. I'm surprised there are nearly half-a-dozen visible scratches already,

even if they are fairly small.



The front pullout drawer on this desk is a big plus that many much more expensive models do not have. That said, the drawer is very stiff to open and close. You have to give it a decent amount of force you the drawer to close completely. This is a bit of a nit-pick, but it bugs me every time I use the drawer.

While I have not personally experienced this issue, I have read many reports of people unable to raise or lower the desk all the way because the sensors get out of sync. From my reading of this issue it is easy to fix by resetting the desk sensor. Example:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2EuTVUHKk4

Decision □□

This desk can often be purchased for an exceptional deal. It is definitely worth the price if you're looking for a sit/stand desk that is on the smaller size and won't break the bank, but is still well made. The issues I have listed are all pretty minor, just be careful not to scratch it.

The Rest

Search for this desk by name online and you'll find it available from many outlets. I purchased mine from Costco.

Midea Duo 14,000 BTU Portable Air Conditioner Review

About

The Midea Duo 14,000 BTU Portable Air Conditioner is available as just an AC or also with a Heat Pump. It comes with a dual hose and window attachment piece

Purchase Date: 2023-04-23

Review Date: 2024-03-01



Review

Installation

While this looks similar to many portable AC units, there are a few important differences that make installation trickier:

- The unit weighs about 75 lbs so you won't want to be moving it around a lot, even with its tiny wheels
- The hose is a custom shape so you won't be able to extend it without buying custom hose from Midea. The hose it does come with is quite short.
- The window attachment is flimsy and easily broken. It fits better in vertically closing windows than in horizontal ones.

In my personal experience, the window hose attachment came with a broken clip and never fit correctly. It took **10 Months** of hounding Midea support to get them to send a new window attachment.

If your window is not close to the floor, you will need to raise the unit up for the hose to reach the window. I purchased a small table for this purpose.

Unless you have drain nearby for some strange reason, you will need a container for it to drain into. Depending on many factors these can fill very quickly or slowly. I recommend a large water jug.

Usage

The unit itself is quite good and efficient at providing both cooling and heat. Unlike a traditional AC unit it can run at different strengths, meaning it does not need to constantly click on and off to keep temperature. It can run at a low and quiet setting keeping the room at a more consistent temperature and only runs high and loud when extra cooling is needed (like right when it first turns on).

The app and wifi control are pretty good. One of my favorite features is the ability to set a nighttime "Sleep Curve" where you can schedule the desired temperature throughout the night. The physical remote is also very good and can be used as a remote room thermometer for the unit to get a better temperature reading across the room than what the unit measures itself.

I do wish that this unit had better integration with other smart home ecosystems. You're limited to turning the device on and off through Google/Amazon, but I'm unable to perform anything more intelligent like you would be able to do with a smart thermostat. This may be asking a lot for a portable unit, but it feels held back by it's decent app and lack of integrations outside the Midea ecosystem.

Issues

Midea customer support is atrocious in my experience. I got the runaround for 10 months with promises they would send me the piece that arrived broken. I finally got lucky and got a hold of someone who spent the time to get me the proper replacement part. If you have something more fundamental broken than just a plastic clip, have fun with the return process of a 75lb AC unit.

If you cannot put your Midea unit within two feet of a window, it won't work. You'll likely find yourself fighting with the window attachment and needing to raise your unit off the ground. Both of these issues make the unit not really portable.

Drainage is a real issue with this device. If you only use it for cooling, you can use a single drain, but if you use other feature like heating or dehumidifying, there are separate drains for each! Apparently they want you to move the single provide drain tube around every time you use a different feature. I am not able to comprehend why everything cannot drain to the same place and you may find yourself needing to buy extra drain tubes to use all the features. It is not practical to cap the drain and move the unit to drain as needed. The unit will fill with water much too quickly at times.

The heating functionality uses a heat-pump that could be a lot more efficient. It apparently cannot run if the temperature falls below the low 40s Fahrenheit. This may make the heating functionality useless for most people.

Decision □□

I'm truly mixed on my final recommendation here. The unit itself performs well and is almost great, but the downsides make this less practical than expected. For the price, I would expect better drainage, better window attachments, and better company support.

If you have a drain situation setup, and your unit can be within two feet of a window, this may work great for you. Don't call it portable though.

This is a good first step at an inverter heat-pump style portable AC unit. Hopefully the next generation will resolve the quality of life issues and improve the heating capabilities.

The Rest

My Purchase Price (including tax and shipping): $719.39

Product Link: https://amzn.to/40k9Mm8