# The 10 Best Snow Blowers of 2022



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This post presents the 10 best snow blowers of 2022, based on your climate and budget. With the best snow blowers, you can enjoy snow in a whole new way. If you only experience occasional winter storms, hiring a local plowing service may be more effective in clearing your driveway in your region than digging with a shovel. Nevertheless, if you have more snowfall than that, you'll need to find a snow blower that's suitable for the volume of snow and the effort you intend to put into it.

With Linquip, you'll find plenty of information on snow blowers you can use to make an informed decision. Linquip gives you access to some of the most powerful engines available on the market right now, so you can do your job more efficiently. You can find more details about what Linquip can do for you on our page "What Are General Purpose Engines?"

Do you plan to purchase a snow blower in the near future? Using Linquip's extensive selection of <u>General Purpose Engines</u> products, you can easily find the right equipment for your needs. In the event that you are interested in getting a quote for a snow blower, the Linquip platform may be a great help for you. We will be able to provide you with free quotes from a number of <u>General Purpose Engines Companies and Suppliers</u> within a short period of time of submitting your information to our simple online form.

Snow is undoubtedly beautiful when it falls from the sky, but it can sometimes be a hassle to deal with. The task of clearing snow from your driveways and walkways is never-ending throughout the winter season in areas with a lot of snow. Getting the proper snow blower for the job is the best way to combat this constant snowfall.

There are a wide variety of sizes, price points, and capabilities of snow blowers available. Several factors will determine the right one for your home. A closer look at snow blowers will be taken in this post, along with the key criteria that should be considered when deciding which one to buy and the best models that are currently on the market.

### **Basics of Snow Blowers**

You can't beat the calm after a blizzard until you realize that you're responsible for removing all that snow. Fortunately, snow blowers make it easy to navigate an impenetrable winter wonderland.

A quick shovel might suffice (as long as you do it safely), but hauling snow over your shoulders can be grueling in some places. Using the right snow blower, you can have your driveway, street, or sidewalk cleared within minutes without much effort.

If you have the best snow blower, you may be able to enjoy playing in the friendly white stuff instead of getting grumpy every time you see snowflakes fall. Snow blowers may be the answer to hassle-free snow removal if you live in an area with regular snowfall.

It may seem like hard work, even if you have seen all the best tips in this guide to clearing snow and have purchased one of the best snow shovels. There is a possibility you will benefit from owning a snow blower if you have a very large yard or long driveway in your area that receives deep snowfall.

How do the two differ? Heavy-duty gas snow blowers are designed for clearing deeper snow in larger areas. On the other hand, when there isn't much snow to be cleared, electric snow blowers are a great, easy, maintenance-free option. Electric snow blowers are great for areas that receive regular snowfall — usually no more than five inches — since they are energy efficient, storage space-saving, and maintenance-free.

There are two types of gas snow blowers: a one-stage and a two-stage. As a result of the second's more power, it is able to clear deeper snow than the first. There are wired and wireless electric options, with wired potentially having more power.

# Types of Snow Blowers

The first thing most people think of when they think about snow blowers is the width of the path they can clear with one. There's no doubt that's important-especially if there's a large area to be cleared-but the real challenge is finding a snow blower that suits the region's

amount and type of snow.

It is common for snow blowers to be described as "one-stage," "two-stage," or "three-stage." These designations describe how they remove snow.

## Single-Stage Snow Blowers

In a single-stage snow blower (also called a snow thrower), a horizontal auger rotates rapidly at the front, scooping up snow and throwing it out of the chute. Snow is blown from the chute by the motion of the spinning auger. Even though this is a simple design, it does have limitations: single-stage snow blowers are generally incapable of dispersing snow farther than 15 to 25 feet away from them.

An auger blade on a single-stage blower skims the ground during operation, enabling the machine to effectively clear flat and smooth surfaces. Single-stage blowers are unsuitable for clearing gravel driveways due to their low blades, which tend to pick up small rocks and throw them out of the chute. Typically, a single-stage blower can clear 12 to 18 inches of light, fluffy snow, and both gas and electric models are available.

### Two-Stage Snow Blowers

A two-stage snow blower uses a powerful impeller fan and an auger to draw in snow and forcefully throw it out of the chute. They are usually fuel-powered. According to the fan power on a particular model and the weight of the snow, two-stage snow blowers can shoot snow up to 35 feet.

It is possible to use two-stage blowers for both wet and fluffy snow, and in practice, they are capable of clearing swaths from approximately 12 inches to 30 inches across (or more). Since their auger blades do not touch the ground, two-stage snow blowers are better suited to gravel driveways than single-stage models.

## Three-Stage Snow Blowers

One of the biggest players in the snow removal industry is the three-stage snow blower. As well as an auger and fan, they include a powerful accelerator for grinding chunks of ice and ejecting snow and slush. There is no surprise that a three-stage blower can toss lightweight snow a distance of over 50 feet.

It is possible to clear paths up to 40 inches wide with these muscle-bound machines. It might be wise to invest in a three-stage blower if you require heavy-duty snow removal. The price of these models is often very high, so keep that in mind.

# **Snow Blowers Buying Guide**

It can be tempting to buy a snow blower when there is a lot of snow on the ground for shoveling. The driveway is cleared in no time at all by them. To choose a model that meets your needs, it's important to understand the key features of these machines before investing. Depending on how much snowfall occurs, how much sidewalk or driveway needs to be cleared, and how sloped the area is, the best snow blower will be determined.

Based on our evaluation of many products available on the market, we have used the following main criteria, which are not necessarily arranged in any particular order.

## Size and Weight

Most electric snow blowers weigh between 30 and 65 pounds, followed by cordless models that weigh between 50 and 75 pounds (though some weigh much more). On the other hand, a gas-powered snow blower can weigh 100 to 300 pounds or more, making it the heaviest of all snow blowers.

# **Terrain Type**

Inflated sidewalks and driveways are easy to clear with most snow blowers, but pushing a heavy snow blower up an incline can be challenging for even the fittest.

Consider buying a snow blower that can self-propel if there is a slope to navigate. This type of snow blower uses wheels to move forward, so all that's needed is to guide and follow along. You should use a two-stage or three-stage snow blower when clearing snow from a gravel driveway to prevent rocks from flying.

#### Fuel

Snow blowers can be classified into three types based on their power source: electric, gas, and diesel, like most outdoor maintenance machines. There are advantages and disadvantages associated with each of the options.

A single-stage electric snow blower usually clears light snow up to about eight inches deep and is small and affordable. With an extension cord, they must be plugged into an outlet. The range and performance of these devices are, therefore, limited, making them best suited for areas with little snowfall and short sidewalks and driveways. Since electric snow blowers are lightweight, they can also be used to remove snow from decks and steps. Plus, these machines do not produce fumes or give rise to concerns about fuel storage.

A gas- or diesel-powered snow blower has a lot more power than an electric blower, and its operator is not limited by an extension cord. With a blower like this, it's possible to remove deep, heavy snow all along a driveway, then continue down the sidewalk to remove snow from the driveway of a neighbor.

A battery-operated cordless snow blower is a relatively new snow removal tool and is looking quite promising. They operate fume-free, just like an electric blower, but they don't require an extension cord. It should be noted, however, that the high-capacity battery has a limited runtime of about 30 minutes before it needs to be recharged. A spare battery can often be swapped in, allowing them to continue past 30 minutes.

## **Clearing Width and Depth**

Single-stage snow blowers (also called "snow throwers") remove snow in swaths of eleven to twenty-two inches. The swath of a two-stage snow blower can be up to 30 inches wide, and a three-stage snow blower can provide a 40-inch wide swath. It should be noted, however, that only single-stage and two-stage models can be used at home. A three-stage blower is considered a commercial machine.

### Wheels or Tracks

The snow can be slippery, especially if it has melted and refrozen. In this situation, track-drive snow blowers excel, even when self-propelled snow blowers can't keep up.

The tracks on a track-drive machine dig in and help pull the machine in the event of heavy or slippery snow, rather than wheels that are likely to lose traction. There is also a significant price difference between a gas-powered snow blower and a track-drive blower. Gas-powered snow blowers are usually priced lower than track-drive blowers.

## **Additional Features**

Some of the best snow blowers are equipped with features that make their use more convenient and enjoyable. The following accessories are designed to enhance the experience of using a snow blower:

- **Heated handle:** A heated handle keeps the user's hands warm during cold temperatures.
- **Lights:** They make it possible for the user to begin removing snow before dawn.
- **Speed controls:** There are speed controls for adjusting the speed at which the self-propelled wheels turn.
- **Automatic safety shutoff:** A safety shutoff is automatically implemented when the handles are released, preventing the user from losing control.
- **Electric starter:** An electric starter eliminates the need to pull the starter cord and makes starting easier.

#### **Price**

There are many types of snow blowers, and their prices range from around \$100 to \$5,000. Your choices are significantly narrowed down if you determine your budget before shopping.

A two- or three-stage model is much more expensive than a one-stage model because they are more efficient and perform better. Additionally, more powerful engines, wider cutting widths, and deeper cuts will cost more.

## **Best Snow Blowers Reviews**

To help you choose the best snow blower for your needs, we examined the most popular models available on the market in terms of design, performance, size, functionality, safety, and value. Your shopping decisions can be informed by these valuable, real-world insights. In the following, you can read the descriptions of the top 10 models as well as their strengths, weaknesses, and specifications.

# 1. PowerSmart PSSAM24 Snow Blower 2-Stage Self Propelled



PowerSmart PSSAM24 Snow Blower (Reference: powersmartusa.com)

#### Pros

- For a two-stage snowblower, this is a very affordable option.
- In comparison with other gas snowblowers, this one is quite lightweight.
- The operation and start-up of the device are easy.
- The product is relatively compact and can be stored easily.

#### Cons

- Reversing the machine is a lot faster if you do it yourself. Users complained about how slow the reverse function is.
- The product was delivered with a missing shear pin, and several users had to purchase one separately.
- There were some users who had difficulty following the instructions that came with the product when it came to assembling it.

## **Specifications**

Item Weight	143 Pounds
Power Source	Gas Powered
Maximum Throw Distance	40 Feet
Clearing width	24 inches
Clearing depth	20 inches
Engine Type	4 Cycle
Product Dimensions	32.3 x 24.8 x 22 inches
Number of Speeds	6

When you compare PowerSmart's PSSAM24 with other top picks in this list, you'll see that it's very affordable for a two-stage snow blower. It offers more than enough power for its price tag.

With its 24-inch path clearing capability, the PSSAM24 is a great choice for large areas with heavy snowfall owing to its ability to clear 20-inch-deep snow in one pass.

PSSAM24 can handle heavy snowfalls and diverse terrains around your property in addition to handling heavy snowfalls. The machine's adjustable metal skid shoes allow it to clear snow from paved and gravel driveways while causing no damage to surfaces.

There are six forward and two backward speed settings on the easy-to-operate variable speed system. Snow can be discharged in any direction up to 40 feet away with a 180-degree discharge chute.

Even in single-digit temperatures, users praise the PSSAM24's ease of starting. With this model, there is an electric start feature that will work reliably even if the manual pull-cord start doesn't work.

Even though this gas snow blower isn't the best or worst on the market, it's convenient, affordable, and gets the job done.

### 2. Ariens ST28DLE Deluxe SHO Gas Snow Blower



Ariens ST28DLE Deluxe SHO Gas Snow Blower (Reference: **ariens.com**)

### **Pros & Cons**

### **Pros**

- An accessible adjustment mechanism is fitted to the metal chute.
- It has an electric start with a push button.

- There is a small fuel tank with an unsightly fuel gauge.
- $\bullet~$  It is difficult to manage an auto-turn steering system.
- Rusting can occur if the steel is not maintained correctly.

## Specifications

Item Weight	300 pounds
Power Source	Gas Powered
Maximum Throw Distance	55 Feet
Clearing width	28 inches
Engine Type	4 Cycle
Product Dimensions	58 x 30 x 45 inches
Number of Speeds	6 forward, 2 reverse

If you want a powerful, reliable snow blower that can handle heavy snow, choose the Ariens Deluxe Two-Stage Self-Propelled Snow Blower. Since 1933, Wisconsin-based Ariens has manufactured outdoor equipment and is known as the "King of Snow." Featuring a powerful 254-cc engine and a 28-inch clearing width to handle up to 12 inches of snow, this high-end gas-powered snow blower is everything you need or want.

Though this model is on the pricey side, its two-stage operating system and 14-inch steel augers allow you to move through snow up to 21 inches deep with ease. Self-propelled, it offers six forward and two reverse speeds, as well as auto-turn steering to guide you around driveways and sidewalks.

The horsepower and well-designed auger system of this self-propelled snow blower have earned it high marks among users. For example, it consistently cut through and cleared snow even after larger storms. Gas-powered but electric push buttons ensure that the unit starts quickly, even when it's cold.

# 3. Troy-Bilt Arctic Storm 34XP Two-Stage Gas Snow Thrower



Troy-Bilt Arctic Storm 34XP Two-Stage Gas Snow Thrower (Reference: **troybilt.com**)

### **Pros**

- The engine is powerful enough to handle thicker snow drifts.
- It has a large clearing width.
- Simple controls are available for power steering.
- It is easy to maneuver and makes smooth turns.
- There have been reports from users that it works well on sloped driveways.
- It is equipped with heated handles to make the user's experience more comfortable.

#### Cons

- It has been reported that users are not satisfied with the effectiveness of the headlight.
- There is an impressive distance that can be thrown with this type of blower.

### **Specifications**

Item Weight	250 pounds
Power Source	Gas
Clearing width	34 inches
Clearing depth	23 inches
Snow throwing distance	30 feet
Item Dimensions	51.63 x 38.63 x 34.75 inches

Troy-Bilt's Arctic Storm 34XP snow blower is designed for heavy snowfalls. With its massive 34-inch clearing width, this machine will help you clear a large property quickly.

In addition, the powerful 42occ engine can remove snow up to 23 inches deep with ease, along with the durable serrated steel augers, which can handle both wet snow and packed-in snow.

Although the Arctic Storm 34XP is a professional-grade machine, its controls are simple enough for most homeowners to understand. Power steering with "Touch N Turn" can be controlled with a trigger, and the four-way chute control is electric, making it easier to adjust.

Additionally, this model offers an electric push-button start, so starting the engine in freezing temperatures is more straightforward than pulling a cord.

A wide array of terrain can be dealt with by the Arctic Storm 34XP, which is equipped with large 16-inch "X-Trac" tires for extra traction. In addition to its ease of maneuverability (which is quite surprising considering its size), users also rave about its ability to turn on a dime.

# 4. Troy-Bilt Squall XP Single Stage Gas Snow Thrower



Troy-Bilt Squall XP Single Stage Gas Snow Thrower (Reference: **troybilt.com**)

## **Pros**

• It is not necessary to mix gas and oil with a 4-cycle engine.

- It has an ergonomic handle and features that make it easy to use.
- It is equipped with dual LED headlights.

#### Cons

- Whenever there is a fresh layer of snow on the ground, rubber augers are a better choice.
- There is no reverse speed on this machine.
- This product should only be used on paved surfaces.

## **Specifications**

Item Weight	103 pounds
Power Source	Gas
Clearing width	21 inches
Clearing depth	13 inches
Snow throwing distance	20 feet
Item Dimensions	29.88 x 23.75 x 25.13 inches
Number of Speeds	1 forward, 0 reverse

An efficient, reliable snow blower like the Troy-Bilt Squall 21-inch Single-Stage Gas Snow Blower will last you for years. This gas-powered snow blower weighs only 103 pounds and is easy to maneuver. With its 208-cc engine and 21-inch clearing, it can handle snow up to six inches deep.

You can adjust the rotation angle up to 190 degrees using this snow blower's manual pitch E-Z Chute control. Snow can only be thrown 7-10 feet, but for smaller properties, this will be sufficient. Single-stage models are quieter and more comfortable to operate than multiple-stage models. The low vibration levels significantly reduce arm fatigue and make it easier to use the blower.

This snow blower is fantastic as it has many features, one of which is its design, which includes an ergonomic handle that folds down easily for storage, as well as contrasting colors that add both a visual and practical element. It is also one of the lightest models available.

It's easy to start the snow blower-and probably one of its best features. Getting it started is as simple as inserting the key, opening the choke, pressing the primer three times, and pulling the pull-start.

# 5. EGO Power+ SNT2405 24 in. Self-Propelled 2-Stage Snow Blower



EGO Power+ SNT2405 Self-Propelled 2-Stage Snow Blower (Reference: **egopowerplus.com**)

### **Pros**

- You will enjoy all the benefits of using an electric device over a gas one.
- Cordless snowblowers are lightweight in comparison to corded snow blowers.
- As compared to most gas snow blowers, it can throw snow a longer distance.
- There is a 200-degree rotation controlled by the discharge chute.

- In comparison with gas, it is not very powerful.
- The run time of the battery is limited by its capacity.

• In some cases, users have reported that it is difficult to use when going downhill.

### **Specifications**

Item Weight	149.9 pounds
Power Source	Battery Powered
Clearing width	24 inches
Clearing depth	20 inches
Snow throwing distance	50 feet
Item Dimensions	49 x 26 x 45 inches

One of our top picks is the EGO SNT2405 battery-powered snow blower. The two-stage operation of this snow blower is similar to that of gas models, unlike most other electric snowblowers. Despite not being comparable to many gas counterparts in terms of power, its 56-volt battery is impressive for a cordless electric tool.

The SNT2405 also has a large clearing width and depth for a battery-powered blower, measuring 24 inches and 20 inches, respectively. This snow blower can throw snow as far as 50 feet, even farther than most gas models.

The Ego Power+ SNT2405 is lightweight, which is one of its major advantages. In addition to its low weight, it's self-propelled, allowing it to be moved forward and reversed at a variable speed.

Because of that combination, even those with limited upper body strength should have no problem maneuvering this blower around their yard.

Although electric snow blowers may have poor construction quality, you shouldn't still have any issues with them. Its materials are steel and composite, making it weather-resistant and durable. It was better than expected, according to users who acknowledged the robust quality of construction.

### 6. CUB CADET Snow Blower 2X 26 HP



CUB CADET Snow Blower 2X 26 HP (Reference: **cubcadet.com**)

### **Pros**

- The product is easy to handle.
- It is easier to pull through the snow with large tires.
- There is oil included in the package.

### Cons

It's expensive.

## **Specifications**

Item Weight	227 pounds
Power Source	Gas
Clearing width	26 inches
Snow throwing distance	60 feet
Number of Speeds	6 forward, 2 reverse

As well as an auger to collect snow, two-stage snow blowers have an impeller, which acts as a fan to force snow through the discharge chute. Although two-stage models tend to be more expensive, the Cub Cadet Two-Stage Gas Snow Blower is capable of throwing snow significantly farther, making it an excellent choice for clearing large areas of snow.

With its 243cc engine and 26-inch clearing width, this gas snow blower is self-propelled and has six forward speeds and two reverse speeds. One-hand chute control allows you to adjust the chute angle and direction easily, and it can clear up to 21 inches of snow. With serrated steel augers, it cuts through snow and ice quickly, and it is easy to handle and performs well, and this makes it a great value for the money. As an added bonus, thanks to the dual LED headlights, it is possible to use this snow blower at night as well as during the day.

## 7. Husqvarna ST427T Two-Stage Track Drive Snow Blower



Husqvarna ST427T Two-Stage Track Drive Snow Blower (Reference: husqvarna.com)

### **Pros**

- It has tracks that give it better traction on inclines.
- Power steering is included in order to make maneuvering easier.
- It provides the owner with a pleasant experience with heated handles.

#### **Cons**

- It's relatively expensive.
- Considering the price, this snow thrower hasn't an impressive distance.
- Even for a gas snow blower with two stages, it is heavy.

## **Specifications**

Item Weight	374 pounds
Power Source	Gas
Clearing width	27 inches
Clearing depth	23 inches
Snow throwing distance	40 feet
Package Dimensions	48 x 48 x 48 inches

Husqvarna's ST427T has tracks that provide enough traction on steep slopes to operate like the Ariens Rapidtrak. There are other professional-level features that make this model capable of working in all kinds of conditions, too, including an impeller fan made of cast iron, a fuel injection engine, and a durable control panel made of steel.

Its heavy-duty construction is complemented by features designed to make it convenient for users. Using the trigger-operated power steering, you can easily maneuver this 374-pound monster around an area you're trying to clear.

Also included in this blower are a hydrostatic transmission and an electric starter. Heated handle grips and bright LED headlights are also some of the other features that aren't necessarily deal-breakers but are nice to have nonetheless.

Despite not being the most impressive on our list, Husqvarna's clearing width and depth of 27 and 23 inches are suitable for large properties. It's definitely an expensive pick.

### 8. Earthwise SN71022 Snow Thrower



Earthwise SN71022 Electric Corded Snow Thrower (Reference: amazon.com)

#### **Pros**

- You will be able to enjoy all the benefits of electricity over gas.
- Considering that it is a corded electric model, it has a very large cutting width.
- $\bullet\,\,$  Snow can be thrown as far as some of our top gas snow throwers.
- In terms of ease of use and comfort, this product is excellent.

- In heavy, wet snow, it often does not perform well.
- Compared to some of the other cordless electric picks, this one has a slightly weaker motor.

### **Specifications**

Item Weight	42.7 pounds
Power Source	Corded electric
Clearing width	22 inches
Clearing depth	12 inches
Snow throwing distance	30 feet
Package Dimensions	22.5 x 40.5 x 44.5 inches

In case you don't get too much heavy snow each year and have a smaller yard, you might want to look into the Earthwise SN71022. The best corded electric single-stage model you'll find for the money is this one.

You can clear your driveway or yard faster with this corded electric option because of its 22-inch clearing width, which almost rivals some of our top gas picks. Furthermore, it can remove drifts of up to a foot deep as well as throw snow more than 30 feet.

Do not expect this to be a heavy-duty machine. You are likely to be disappointed if you purchase the SN71022 expecting to remove huge swathes of heavy, wet snow with it. When it comes to light use, nearly all users had no complaints about the performance of the blower.

To sum it up, this model from Earthwise is reliable when used properly. It has a simple control system and an adjustable auxiliary handle to make it easier for users to use.

# 9. Snow Joe SJ625E Single Stage Snow Thrower/Blower



Snow Joe SJ625E Electric Walk-Behind Single Stage Snow Thrower/Blower (Reference: **snowjoe.com**)

### **Pros**

- It is affordable.
- Sustainability is a key feature of this product.
- The design is light in weight.

In the case of large driveways, this product is not suitable.

## **Specifications**

Item Weight	35.7 pounds
Power Source	Corded electric
Clearing width	21 inches
Clearing depth	12 inches
Snow throwing distance	20 feet
Package Dimensions	26.5 x 23 x 42.5 inches

This eco-friendly, budget-friendly snow blower will help you clear an impressive amount of snow in a short amount of time despite its lightweight and compact design. Simply charge up the device, and you'll be ready to go.

This electric snow blower is powered by a 100-volt, 5.0 Ah lithium-ion battery that can be recharged over and over again. With this battery, this snow blower is able to clear a path that is 21 inches wide and 12 inches high. In addition to the battery and charger that comes with this model, you can choose to add an additional battery (sold separately) if you feel that thirty minutes of the running time is not enough.

In addition, you will be able to see where you are going with dual 5-Watt LED lights, even at night when the sun is not shining.

As opposed to gas-powered snow blowers, the Snow Joe requires no maintenance, so you don't have to worry about your snow blower malfunctioning even if you leave it in the garage for months. Despite its smaller size, this pick is capable of moving 800 pounds of snow per minute, making it a powerful snow shovel that is worth putting to the test.

### 10. Greenworks Corded Snow Thrower



Greenworks 13 Amp 20-Inch Corded Snow Thrower (Reference: **greenworkstools.com**)

# **Pros & Cons**

### **Pros**

- The cost is reasonable.
- The chute can be rotated 180 degrees.

- This is not an ideal solution for larger jobs.
- There is a possibility that this model will last less than more expensive models.

### **Specifications**

Item Weight	30 pounds
Power Source	Corded electric
Clearing width	20 inches
Clearing depth	10 inches
Snow throwing distance	20 feet
Package Dimensions	31 x 21.6 x 37 inches

Investing in a snow blower can be costly. But it is extremely difficult to beat the price of the Greenworks Corded Snow Thrower. With the Greenworks, you will be able to clear paths up to 20 inches wide that are buried under 10 inches of snow, as well as sidewalks, walkways, and even small driveways. All of this and more is offered to you with zero yearly maintenance fees or any complex bells and whistles to worry about. It does not require any gas, oil, or batteries to work—you just plug it into an outdoor extension cord, and you're ready to go with a modest motor that draws 13 amps.

Its practicality does not mean it sacrifices power or user-friendliness. This model comes with a convenient 180-degree directional chute, which can be adjusted from behind the handle, which is a feature that is found in more expensive models. However, you shouldn't expect to toss a lot of snow a long distance, and you shouldn't expect the lightweight plastic construction to withstand harsh handling for many winter seasons to come.