

How To Pick The Best Pitching Machine

If you're looking to step up your hitting skills, a pitching machine is the best way to do it. The beauty of a pitching machine is that it allows you to improve your hitting skills on your own time, wherever you'd like.

The majority of pitching machines nowadays are portable, plug into any standard wall outlet, and are affordable. But, with the introduction of new technology and innovation, it has become increasingly difficult to determine which pitching machine is right for your age, skill level and budget.

My name is Kevin and I am the owner here at Anytime Baseball Supply. I have been working in the baseball and pitching machine industry for years, have sold thousands of pitching machines, served thousands of customers & baseball teams, and have attended numerous baseball trade shows. I either personally own, have used or demoed all of these pitching machines in this article. We stay in the know of baseball technology so you don't have to.

Without further ado, let's see what the best pitching machines of this season have to offer!



BEST BASEBALL PITCHING MACHINES

The most commonly used pitching machines are baseball pitching machines. Our customers ask us all the time, what are the best pitching machines for baseball? We ask them back, "what is your budget, and how old is the player that will be using it?" We carry pitching machines for all different ages, skill levels and budgets.

Helping you or your kid improve their hitting skills and get to the next level is our top priority, and with these top 3 best pitching machines for baseball, it's never been easier.



JUNIOR HACK ATTACK 3 WHEEL MACHINE

With a major league quality and a youth design, the Junior Hack Attack by Sports Attack is the best baseball pitching machine on the market for serious youth players. Its 3 wheels and 3 separate motors gives you full control over what type of pitch it throws; right and left handed breaking balls, sliders, fastballs and more. From personal experience, I would say this pitching machine gives you the most bang for your buck.

PROS

- Throws fastballs, right and left handed breaking pitches including curveballs, sliders and split fingers, all at speeds of 70+ MPH
- Lightweight and portable
- Great accuracy and control with every pitch
- Capable of fungo drills; grounders, fly balls, line drives, catcher's pop ups and more.
- Machine Style: 3 Wheel
- 5-year manufacturer's warranty

CONS

High price point



HEATER DEUCE 95 MPH 2 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

One of the most versatile pitching machines on the market, the Heater Deuce 95 pitching machine can throw consistent pitches anywhere from 15-95 mph. This machine can pitch both fastballs and curveballs, giving your players a wide variety of pitches that they can face. With unique features like this, this pitching machine will make a home run hitter out of any batter!

PROS

- Comes equipped with automatic ball feeder that holds up to 12 baseballs
- Pitches fastballs and breaking balls at 15-95 MPH
- Suitable for both children and adults
- Capable of infield & outfield drills; grounders, pop ups and line drives
- Voted best pitching machine for the money and best value pitching machine

CONS

- High price point
- Does not come with transport wheels, making it difficult to move around



JUGS BPI BASEBALL PITCHING MACHINE

Take batting practice to the next level with the Jugs BP1 pitching machine. Everyone who plays ball knows the classic blue pitching machines and the name Jugs. There's a reason we've all seen these pitching machines before - because they're the best. The BP1 can pitch baseballs at variable speeds of 15-70, consistently and precisely. It also features a 360 swivel head design, allowing you to aim the machine up or down for grounders, pop ups or line drive drills.

PROS

- 15-70 mph speed range.
- Generally used by Pitching Machine Leagues, High Schools, & Youth Leagues.
- 360 degree movement for fly balls, pop-ups and ground balls.
- Softball and combo pitching machine options available
- Plugs into standard wall outlet
- Weights only 75 lbs.

CONS

Doesn't throw curveballs or sliders

BEST 3 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINES

When it comes to wheels on a pitching machine, the more the merrier. In fact, the best pitching machines built are all three wheel pitching machines. With three wheels, a pitching machine can throw harder, more consistently and with a wider diversity of pitches, including right and left handed breaking balls, split fingers, fastballs and more! Let's take a look at the best 3 wheel pitching machines for this upcoming season!





HACK ATTACK 3 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

Easily the best pitching machine on the market, the Hack Attack 3 wheel pitching machine has everything you need to take your hitting skills to the next level. With three independently rotating motors controlling each pitching machine wheel and 3 separate dials to control the speed of each wheel, you have full control over each and every pitch!

PROS

- Throws fastballs, right and left handed curveballs, sliders, and split fingers at speeds up to 100 mph
- Comes with built in transport wheels for portability
- Practice all kinds of fielding drills; Deep fly balls, slicing line drives, catcher's pop-ups with reverse spin, & grounders.
- Overall Best 3 wheel pitching machine
- Comes with a 5-year manufacturer's warranty against defects and workmanship

CONS

High price point



SPINBALL WIZARD 3 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

Much like the Hack Attack, the Spinball Wizard 3 wheel pitching machine is one of the best pitching machines out there. It also features 3 wheels with 3 separate motors spinning independently with control knobs for each wheel. The Spinball Wizard 3 wheel can throw fastballs, right and left handed curveballs, sliders, 2 and 4 seam fastballs and sinkers all at pitch speeds of 40–100 mph.

PROS

- Easy to use Smart control panel allows full control over every pitch
- Throws pitches from 40-100 MPH
- Free freight shipping
- Almost instant recovery time
- Comes with built in transport wheels for portability
- Durable steel frame and legs
- Warranty: 5-year manufacturer's warranty

CONS

Expensive





JUGS BP3 3 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

Designed by the best pitching machine engineers, the Jugs BP3 can really do it all. This 3 wheel pitching machine can pitch at various speeds of 40-90 mph, and incorporates a changeup that keeps batters guessing at the plate. The machine can be operated from a remote control, making things easy on the coach and parents.

PROS

- 40-90 MPH speed range.
- Large 3" LCD display set the digital speed you desire by simply turning a knob.
- Changes between fastball and changeup giving your hitters a "real" pitcher vs. hitter experience.
- Throws the following nine pitches: Fastballs and changeups, right and left-handed curveballs and sliders, right and left-handed cutters and split-finger fastballs.
- Realistic 64" delivery height.

CONS

Hard to transport

BEST 2 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINES

Just a step down in performance and price from 3 wheel pitching machines are 2 wheel pitching machines. Two wheel pitching machines have many of the same capabilities as their more expensive counterparts, but with less power and less break on the breaking pitches.

This doesn't mean two wheel pitching machines aren't a good option. In fact, they're amongst the most popular pitching machines out there. Their compact size, strength and lower price point are attractive to players ages 10 and up, parents and coaches alike. Let's take a look at the best 2 wheel pitching machines on the market!





HEATER DEUCE 75 MPH 2 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

Drastically improve your hitting skills with the Heater Deuce 75 2 wheel pitching machine. Perfect for kids ages 10 and up, this 2 wheel pitching machine can pitch fastballs and breaking balls at speeds of 75 mph and up, as well as infield and outfield drills. With its easy plug and play design, the Heater Deuce can plug into any standard wall outlet.

PROS

- Pitches fastballs and breaking balls at 15-75 MPH
- Throws grounders, line drives and popups
- Suitable for both children and adults
- 12 Ball Automatic Feeder
- Fully Enclosed Wheels for Safety
- Adjustable Pitch Height

CONS

No transport wheels, sold separately





SPINBALL WIZARD 2 WHEEL PITCHING MACHINE

Spinball really designed a pitching machine to get the most out of every working part and dollar spent. Arguably the best pitching machine for its value, the Spinball Wizard 2 wheel pitching machine is an excellent 2 wheel pitching machine with capabilities of pitching fastballs, right and left handed curveballs, and sliders at speeds of 40-100 mph!

PROS

- Control dials allow you to create any type of pitch
- Throws pitches from speeds of 40 MPH-100 MPH
- Baseball/ Softball combo machine option available
- Changing from baseball to softball is very easily
- 5 year manufacturer's warranty

CONS

• Can be difficult to transport





JUGS BP2 BASEBALL PITCHING MACHINE

With so many options on the pitching machine market, it can be hard to find a machine that meets your needs. But, this machine from Jugs is designed to simplify batting practice and make sessions easy for both players and coaches. It has 6 pre-set pitch positions so batters can get varied repetitions. And since the positions are pre-set, you don't have to waste time setting up and programming the machine.

PROS

- Set pitch speed from 45-90 mph
- Select a pitch with the simple turn of a knob
- Realistic pitch height and delivery
- Pitches fastballs, sliders, curveballs, and splitters
- Voted best pitching machine for little league

CONS

No transport wheels, sold separately

BEST I WHEEL PITCHING MACHINES

One wheel pitching machines are great for youth baseball player or anyone looking to step up their batting skills. One wheel pitching machines can generally only throw fastballs, and mild breaking pitches, as well as grounders, pop ups and line drives. Let's take a look at the best one wheel pitching machines of this season!







FIRST PITCH BASELINE COMBO PITCHING MACHINE

The first and best one wheel pitching machine on our top pitching machines list, the Baseline pitching machine can throw baseballs and softballs without any modifications to the machine, making it a great option for pitching machine leagues. This also makes for a perfect machine for coaches and parents with kids in both baseball and softball (either slow pitch or fastpitch)!

PROS

- Great pitching machine for 12 year olds and up!
- Pitch baseballs or softballs without having to change anything on the machine
- Weighs only 50 lbs.
- Comes with a 5-year manufacturer's warranty

CONS

Can't throw breaking balls



HEATER SPORTS REAL BASEBALL MACHINE WITH AUTO BALL

The thing we love about the Heater Real baseball machine is that it has most of the same qualities as our other top 10 pitching machines, but with a much lower price tag. A great backyard baseball pitching machine, the Heater Real baseball machine can throw fastballs up to 52 mph, has an easy plug and play design, throws infield and outfield drills, comes with a one-year manufacturer's warranty and costs only \$449.00!

PROS

- Perfect for players in Little league and up
- Great for pitching, as well as infield and outfield drills
- Overall great value
- Comes with a one-year manufacturer's warranty
- Lightweight and portable pitching machine design

CONS

Can't throw breaking balls





HEATER SPORTS BASEHIT REAL BASEBALL PITCHING MACHINE

Last but not least, the Heater Sports Basehit definitely deserves a spot on our best one wheel pitching machine section. Another great backyard pitching machine, we had to vote this one as the best home pitching machine. With pitching capabilities up to 45 MPH, the BaseHit Real Baseball machine is great for kids from ages 5 all the way up to adults. The BaseHit's revolutionary design incorporates a fast spinning motor and small covered wheel to pitch balls with the world's most compact pitching machine ever developed.

PROS

- Variable speed control & dual bearing electric motor pitches baseballs up to 45 mph.
- 6" Wheel cushions the balls and pitches consistent strikes every time
- Automatic Feeder delivers a ball every 10 seconds
- Rugged composite pitching machine housing to protect you from spinning wheel
- Adjustable pitch height knob to get the pitch height you want.

CONS

- Can only throw up to 45 mph
- Can't throw breaking balls

BEST COMBINATION PITCHING MACHINES

Need a pitching machine for baseball and softball? If you have a son in baseball and a daughter playing softball, or if you coach multiple leagues, you're going to need a combo pitching machine. The best combination pitching machines are the ones that can quickly switch from baseball to softball, throw hard and consistently.







FIRST PITCH XL COMBO PITCHING MACHINE FOR BASEBALL

One of the most versatile pitching machines on the market, The XL combo pitching machine does it all. The First Pitch XL pitching machine can pitch baseballs, 11" softballs and 12" softballs at speeds of up to 80 mph. Easily switch from pitching baseballs or softballs without having to make any modifications to the combo pitching machine.

PROS

- Throws up to 80 mph
- Easily change between pitching baseballs and softballs with no changes to the pitching machine
- Throw grounders, pop ups and line drives
- 5-year manufacturer's warranty

CONS

Can't throw breaking pitches



JUGS COMBINATION PITCHING MACHINE

One of the best baseball and softball combo pitching machines out there, this Jugs machine is loved by parents and coaches all over the country. The Jugs combo pitching machine comes with two sets of legs, one set is long, for baseball - and the other is short and curved for softball. Changing the legs takes only a few minutes and makes this a preferred pitching machine by many.

PROS

- Comes with 2 sets of legs one for baseball and one for softball
- Plugs into any standard 110V outlet
- 360 movement makes outfield drills a breeze
- Switch between baseball and softball in a matter of seconds

CONS

- High price point
- Does not come with transport wheels



HEATER SPORTS COMBO PITCHING MACHINE

The Heater Real Ball Combo Machine is one of the most popular and high quality Heater Sports pitching machines. This pitching machine can throw baseballs at 60 mph and softballs up to 56 MPH at variable speeds. This makes the Heater Real Combo the most affordable baseball and softball combination pitching machine. This pitching machine can throw slow or fast pitch softball and easily convert over to baseballs in minutes.

PROS

- Affordable price point
- Pitches Baseballs up to 60 mph and softballs at 56 mph
- Pitches 11" & 12" Softballs
- Converts Easily from Baseballs to Softballs
- Lightweight design for portability

CONS

Can't throw breaking balls

BEST PROGRAMMABLE PITCHING MACHINES

When budget isn't an issue, and losing isn't an option, baseball teams buy a programmable pitching machine. Programmable pitching machines are at the cutting edge of baseball technology, and have the most to offer any baseball player looking to drastically improve their batting average and performance at the plate. Let's take a look at the best programmable





ELITE EHACK ATTACK PROGRAMMABLE PITCHING MACHINE

The most advanced and best pitching machine ever made is the Elite eHack Attack. This programmable pitching machine features a 12" LCD screen that allows you to navigate through a preset library of pitches, create your own pitches, and create pitch sequences. This machine has so much to offer, we really recommend looking at the eHack Attack pitching machine product page to learn more!



SPINBALL IPITCH PROGRAMMABLE PITCHING MACHINE

Next in line is the iPitch. Much like the eHack, the iPitch features a large screen that allows you to sift through pitches, create pitch sequences, and program your own pitches. We love the pitch sequence option because it keeps the batter guessing what pitch will come next, and that is what will take your players to the next level. We recommend checking out the iPitch pitching machine product page for more info.





I HACK ATTACK PROGRAMMABLE PITCHING MACHINE

Quickly sift through the eight different preset pitch types and defensive drills to pick the right pitch or drill you want to work on with your team. If you don't like the preset pitch and defense drills, you can easily change them by making adjustments to the machine. This thing is so advanced that we recommend checking out the I Hack Attack product page for more info.

BEST PITCHING MACHINE FOR CATCHERS

Training your catcher for the next big game is no easy task. Finding someone to throw hard and consistently to them can be a difficult thing to pull off, which is why many coaches have started relying on pitching machines for this.

The pitching machine that is a good fit for your catcher depends on their age and skill level. For young kids 5-10, they just need a machine to throw hard and straight. Something like the First Pitch Baseline, or the Deuce 75 baseball pitching machine will do.

For players 12 and up, they will need something bigger and stronger. Around this age range, kids will start seeing breaking pitches like curveballs and sliders, so you'll want a machine that can keep up. Overall, we thing the Junior Hack Attack pitching machine is the best pitching for catchers of that age range. Although, for adult players you might want something even more powerful, like the Jugs BP3 machine.



BEST HOME PITCHING MACHINES



Every young player needs a backyard pitching machine. A pitching machine for home can really be the difference in striking out or hitting a dinger at their next at bat. They younger a kids starts learning how to hit, the more fun they will have playing baseball.

Our best backyard pitching pitching machines are from brands like Heater Sports and First Pitch pitching machines. These two brands create awesome pitching machines for home use, while keeping quality and budget top of mind. These pitching machines also pair well with and backyard batting cage as well.

Our customers really like the Heater BaseHit and the Heater Real Baseball pitching machines as they both are budget friendly, consistent and portable. Our customers also love the First Pitch XL and the Baseline for their backyard cage setups. If you want a workhorse that you don't plan on moving around, check out our Iron Mike baseball pitching machines.

For more information, be sure to check out our collection of backyard pitching machines.

FINAL WORDS

A pitching machine is an essential piece of baseball training equipment that need only be purchased only once in your lifetime. Considering the prices of the machines and the amount they will help develop your baseball skills, it is absolutely worth researching and educating yourself on which pitching machine is right for you.

When making your buying decision, the most important factors to consider are price point, age and skill level, which pitching machine style is right for you, portability, machine longevity and warranty.

You came to this page looking for the best pitching machines, but now you might be wondering, "what are the best pitching machine balls?" We get this question often, and we do recommend using approved balls for your pitching machine. Using the correct balls will give you the best performance and cause the least wear and tear to your machine.

If you have any questions regarding which pitching machine is right for you, feel free to contact us here, or give us a call at (888) 466-0009 to get help from one of our expert staff members.

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