




Choosing an Ironing Board


 Our grandmothers' and mothers' ironing boards were constructed of wood. Technology has brought the expanded metal (mesh) ironing board tops which allow steam from our modern irons to flow through our textiles and escape. These vary in construction and in price. Here are some important features to insure that your ironing task is met with the qualities of safety, efficiency, and convenience - the same qualities you would ask of your kitchen appliances.

- 1) A sturdy ironing board is a safer ironing board. Choose one with minimal wobble, one which doesn't readily tip.
- 2) An adjustable ironing board is a more comfortable ironing board. It allows you to stand or sit at a desirable height.
- 3) A level ironing board is an efficient ironing board. A level top minimizes the chance of an iron toppling over and aids in squaring large sections of textiles.

Special Notes:

- Inspect the welding underneath. Some ironing boards have several sharp areas where one could cut a finger reaching underneath to change a cover.
- Operate the release mechanism for collapsing the ironing board for storage. Is it friendly and easily maneuvered?



 The standard dimensions of ironing boards are 54" long and either 14" or 15" wide. There are many variations appearing on the market every year.

Normally, wider ironing boards sacrifice length and can be more difficult to iron shirts and pant tops at the wider tapered end. Personal preference should determine what it is you use your ironing board most for and if you're lucky enough to have the room for storage, you may choose to have both types.

Ironing board covers are readily available ranging from cottons, cotton canvas, or special reflective material. These are individual choices. Foam is being used extensively for padding. Many professionals prefer complete natural fibers for both the cover and padding. Check out the Topic on this web site for "Making a Custom Ironing Board Cover."

Note: Do not create excess padding, as this may make iron prone to topple over rather than set firmly on board.

- Avoid setting up ironing board in a traffic area, especially with children or pets who can be injured.
- Allow ample room for iron cord to reach far end of ironing board.
- Use adequate lighting.
- Allow iron to cool in a safe place.

