



## Guides

# The 9 Best Commercial Popcorn Machines in 2021 for Business or Home Use

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Welcome to the Thomas guide to the best popcorn machines in 2021. Thomas has been connecting North American industrial buyers and suppliers for more than 120 years. When you purchase products through our independent recommendations, we may earn an affiliate commission.

Whether providing a snack to customers or selling it at your place of business, popcorn is one of the easiest ways to increase your profit margin and, let's face it, everyone loves popcorn, so purchasing a [commercial popcorn machine](#) is always a good investment. If you're searching for the best [popcorn maker](#), we've scoured the market to find all the top machines, from old-fashioned [carts](#) and the classic theater-design popcorn makers to high-volume [stainless-steel machines](#) that can comfortably accommodate the demand at a cinema or theatre.



Whether in catering or entertainment, a commercial popcorn machine is a good investment

Image credit: Amazon/Nostalgia Store

## Types of Commercial Popcorn Machines

Professional popcorn makers have two kinds of kettles; stainless-steel or aluminum. Stainless steel is more durable and has overall better quality, making it more expensive. There are also three popcorn capacities—low, medium, and large—that gauge the volume of popcorn your machine is capable of producing with each use.

A popcorn maker with a capacity of up to eight ounces is excellent for an office, a kid's birthday party, or smaller catered events. Anything over 12 ounces is perfect for small movie

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theaters, fundraising events, or other medium-traffic areas. Machines that can produce 16 ounces or more are standard in large movie theaters, stadiums, and other heavy traffic areas.

## Thomas' Top Picks for the Best Commercial Popcorn Machine

**Best Commercial Popcorn Machine on Amazon:** [Olde Midway Popcorn Machine Maker](#)

**Best Vintage Popcorn Machine:** [Nostalgia Concession CCP510 Professional Popcorn Cart](#)

**Best Stainless-Steel Commercial Popcorn Machine:** [Paragon Contempo Pop Professional Popcorn Equipment](#)

**Best Commercial Tabletop Popcorn Machine:** [Olde Midway Commercial Popcorn Machine](#)

**Best Budget Commercial Popcorn Machine:** [Paramount Popcorn Maker Machine](#)

**Best Small Commercial Popcorn Machine:** [Great Northern Matinee Movie Theatre-Style Popcorn Machine](#)

**Best Classic Commercial Popcorn Machine:** [Paragon Classic Popcorn Machine](#)

**Best Large Commercial Popcorn Machine:** [Great Northern 16-Ounce Popcorn Machine](#)

**Best Commercial-Grade Popcorn Machine:** [Paramount Commercial Popcorn Kettle Popper](#)

*Prices listed in this article were as shown on [Amazon.com](#) as of March 2021.*

### 1. Best Commercial Popcorn Machine on Amazon—Old Midway Popcorn Machine



Olde Midway has crafted [this popcorn machine with a 10-ounce stainless steel kettle](#) and tempered glass for safety. The over 31-pound machine comes with stainless steel accessories including a popcorn scoop, tablespoon measure for oil, salt shaker, and a measuring cup.

There are three switches, including a warmer, heater, and stirrer to ensure crisp and warm popcorn every time. The kernel tray catches unpopped kernels guaranteeing that customers receive a perfect, kernel-free serving. "This machine is fabulous," raved one buyer. "We use it every week. [It's] so easy to use and clean."

**BUY NOW:** [US\\$171.99, Amazon](#)

### 2. Best Vintage Popcorn Machine—Nostalgia Popcorn Machine

## Popcorn Machine



This [traditional red vintage design popcorn](#) cart comes with 13-inch wheels and a handle for easy portability. It even has the capability to convert into a tabletop unit. The eight-ounce stainless steel kettle is easily removable for refills or cleaning and the glass is tempered for optimal safety.

The kernel tray separates raw kernels from popped corn for ideal servings, and all the machine's accessories can be safely stored in the container below the popper. One happy customer reviewed, "The popcorn that comes with this is pre-packaged and pre-measured... Just heat the machine for three to five minutes, turn it off, pour the popcorn and oil into the canister, turn it back on, and voila!"

BUY NOW: [US\\$178.99, Amazon](#)

### 3. Best Stainless-Steel Commercial Popcorn Machine—Paragon Popcorn Machine



Made entirely from durable stainless steel with an aluminum kettle, this [Paragon popcorn machine](#) is easy to clean and designed to last. The eight-ounce kettle is able to produce over 18 servings of popcorn per hour, making this appliance just as good as larger volume kettles.

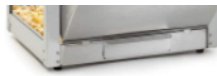
Its aerated warming shelf with a built-in heating function keeps the popcorn warm while separating the unpopped kernels to avoid any nasty surprises. One happy customer explained that it's "easy to wipe down between uses or do a full cleaning to get spotless. Warming deck keeps everything warm and fresh [and the] non-stick kettle is easy to clean."

BUY NOW: [US\\$534.37, Amazon](#)

### 4. Best Commercial Tabletop Popcorn Machine—Olde Midway Popcorn Machine







With a 12-ounce kettle and tabletop design, [this Olde Midway popcorn maker](#) is a great medium-volume machine that has all the accessories you'll need to make that perfect batch of popcorn, including half-cup and tablespoon measurers, salt shaker, and popcorn scoop.

It has three controls that allow for warming, heating, and stirring the popcorn. One buyer exclaimed, "Great popcorn machine for our booster club. We use this at every home game... Easy to use, easy to clean [with] plenty of room inside to scoop popcorn into bags."

BUY NOW: [US\\$271.99, Amazon](#)

## 5. Best Budget Commercial Popcorn Machine—Paramount Popcorn Machine



As the most compact, affordable, and lightest model on our list, [this Paramount popcorn machine](#), although better suited to smaller businesses and home use, can make an excellent batch of popcorn ranging from 2.5 to eight ounces. Weighing in at under 11 pounds, this no-frills model is made of plastic with a ceramic-coated, non-stick kettle, and more than 2,000 happy customers on Amazon have sung its praises.

"I made a batch of popcorn with a six-ounce pre-made pack, and it tastes just like it came from a theater," wrote one satisfied buyer. "[It] and only took me about 10 minutes to fully clean. For the price, you can't go wrong!"

BUY NOW: [US\\$92 \(Was US\\$119.99\), Amazon](#)

## 6. Best Small Commercial Popcorn Machine—Great Northern Popcorn Machine



The Great Northern Red, [matinee popcorn machine](#) has rave reviews on Amazon and is a firm customer favorite in the popcorn machine department. It has three switches (two for heating and one for stirring), an eight-ounce stainless-steel kettle, a kernel separator, and weighs only 25 pounds, making it ideal for carrying to parties or events.

It also comes with a popcorn scoop, a measuring spoon for oil, and a three-year warranty. One of the thousands of enthusiastic reviews reads, "It's easy to set up, easy to use, and easy to clean. The directions are written right on the glass door as to proportions of oil and popcorn, order to turn switches on, etc."

BUY NOW: [US\\$179.99, Amazon](#)

## 7. Best Classic Commercial Popcorn Machine—Paragon Popcorn Machine



For fans of the traditional, [Paragon's classic-design 14-ounce commercial popcorn machine](#) is a good choice. Featuring 130 pounds of stainless steel, tempered glass, and hydraulically-controlled, aluminum kettles that come in 14-20-ounce sizes, this device can pop corn within five minutes allowing it to make 240 one-ounce servings every hour.

One purchaser, a theater owner explained, "We were at a little under five minutes per batch and the ready light would come back on immediately after dumping the kettle. The popcorn was perfect, very light and [of] equal size, with very little in the old maid tray, and none in the body of the machine itself."

BUY NOW: [US\\$786.73 \(Was US\\$1,103\), Amazon](#)

## 8. Best Large Commercial Popcorn Machine—Great Northern Popcorn Machine



At 16-ounces, this is [Great Northern's largest stainless-steel kettle](#), able to pop a whopping seven gallons of popcorn in every batch. Made of powder-coated stainless-steel with tempered glass, this heavy-duty machine is made for high-volume output. Having three standard controls for heating, warming and mixing, along with a warming deck and an old maid drawer for those annoying unpopped kernels, this maker has everything you want in a commercial popcorn machine.

One shopper commented, "I work for a company that employs about 400 people and when we hold an event, we love making fresh popcorn! With this machine, I popped enough for 400 people in one hour."

BUY NOW: [US\\$377.74, Amazon](#)

## 9. Best Commercial-Grade Popcorn Machine—Paramount Popcorn Machine





Preparing up to 30-ounces of popcorn at a time, and weighing over 100 pounds, [this Paramount popcorn maker](#) is the highest-volume and heaviest machine on our list and serves as a great movie theater popcorn machine. The machine comes with a popcorn scoop, and an easily removable 20-ounce stainless-steel kettle that works with the standard 110 volts—perfect for even the busiest movie theaters.

With six controls for ventilation, stirring, and heating, and different settings for either the 20- or 30-ounce kettles, the ideal batch of popcorn is assured every time. One buyer wrote, “Just what we need for our micro movie theater and bar in Las Vegas. Easy to set-up and cooks pretty fast. Clean-up is a breeze!”

**BUY NOW:** [US\\$489.99, Amazon](#)

## Best Commercial Popcorn Machine 2021—Summary

For medium gatherings, our top choice is the [Olde Midway 12-ounce Commercial Popcorn Machine](#). For larger output and maximum capacity, we suggest the [Great Northern 16-ounce Commercial Popcorn Machine](#).

We hope our review of the best commercial popcorn machines has been helpful. For more [similar suppliers](#), including suppliers of [concession equipment](#), [confectionery supplies](#), [cotton candy machines](#), and [catering equipment](#), consult our [additional guides](#) or visit the [Thomas Supplier Discovery Platform](#).

### Sources

- <https://www.webstaurantstore.com/guide/517/types-of-popcorn-and-popcorn-machines.html>

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