Pressure Washer Comparison Chart

The 5 best pressure washers for homeowners, side by side — plus the safe pressure for every surface.
From vitaldwelling.com — "5 Best Pressure Washers for Homeowners in 2026".

THE 5 PICKS, SIDE BY SIDE

Pick	Model	Power	PSI (max)	Flow	Best at
Best overall	Greenworks Pro 3000	Electric	3,000	2.0 GPM max	One washer for everything
Best value	Sun Joe SPX3000	Electric	2,500	1.2 GPM rated	First washer, tight budget
Best compact	Westinghouse ePX3100	Electric	2,300	1.76 GPM max	Cars and small spaces
Best gas	SIMPSON MegaShot	Gas	3,200	2.5 GPM	Big, dirty concrete
Best premium	Karcher K5 Premium	Electric	2,000	1.4 GPM	Durability and quiet

Cleaning units (PSI x GPM) predict speed better than PSI alone. PWMA-certified ratings are lab-verified.

SAFE PRESSURE BY SURFACE

Cars & trucks	1,200-1,900 PSI	40-degree tip, keep 12+ inches away
Vinyl siding	1,200-1,500 PSI	Spray downward, never up under the laps
Wood decks & fences	500-1,200 PSI	25/40-degree tip, keep it moving, no stripes
Concrete pavers	1,500-2,500 PSI	Fan tip, steady passes, protect the joint sand
Concrete driveways	2,500-3,200 PSI	15/25-degree tip or a surface cleaner
Paint prep	1,500-2,500 PSI	Only on sound paint you plan to repaint

NEVER use the 0-degree (red) tip on wood, paint, cars, or skin.

It concentrates the full jet into a cutting stream. Start farther back than you think, and keep the wand moving.

ELECTRIC OR GAS?

Electric: quiet, light, zero maintenance - cars, decks, siding, patios, most driveways. Needs an outlet.

Gas: more flow and speed on big stained concrete, works anywhere - louder, heavier, needs fuel and engine care.