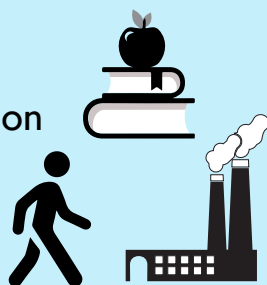


Six Questions to Ask Before You Buy a Lower-Cost Air Sensor

What is the purpose?

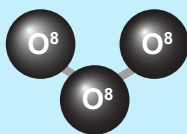
- Education and information
- Hotspot identification
- Personal exposure
- Participatory science



- Check weather and other conditions that may impact performance
- Periodically review and evaluate data for errors or problems

What pollutant or pollutants do you want to measure?

- Particulate matter
- A gas (ozone, nitrogen dioxide)
- Total volatile organic compounds (VOCs)



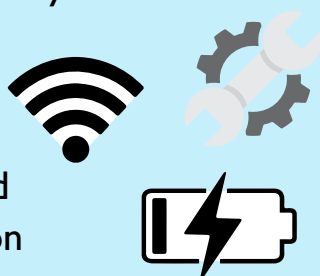
How much do lower-cost air sensors typically cost?

- \$150-\$1,500 (1-2 pollutants)
- \$500-\$2,500 (1-3 pollutants)
- \$2,500-\$10,000 (4 or more pollutants or 1 pollutant)



What are some of the features you should consider?

- Size, weight, and portability
- Demonstrated accuracy in the real-world
- Weatherproof
- Power source
- Storage capacity and wireless transmission
- Maintenance requirements



What should you look for in a user manual?

- Type of pollutants measured
- General operating instructions
- How to store and recover data
- Conditions of operation
- Expected performance
- Customer service support



How can you check the performance of your lower-cost air sensor?

- Compare results to a nearby regulatory monitor
- Conduct periodic quality control checks



Learn more about how to select and use an air sensor:

Air Sensor Toolbox --

<https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox>

Air Sensor Guidebook --

<https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox/how-use-air-sensors-air-sensor-guidebook>

