



Science & Lab Tables Buying Guide

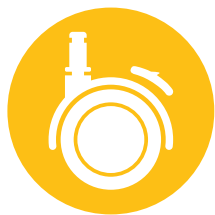


Most school science labs require workspace that can tolerate chemicals, high heat and/or heavy use. Science and lab tables are specifically built for this type of environment and can withstand hands-on, messy (and potentially dangerous) experiments. Lab tables come in a variety of tabletop materials, with varying degrees of chemical resistance. Grade level, types of chemicals and equipment used can help determine what type of science table is best for your lab, and if other features like sinks should be considered too.

Tabletop Material Comparison

	High-Pressure Laminate	Chemical Resistant Laminate	Phenolic Resin	Epoxy Resin
Best for	Basic science classes; areas requiring little resistance to chemicals/heat sources	K-12 school science labs; areas requiring moderate resistance to chemicals/heat sources	High school and college labs	High school, college and professional labs
Durability	Durable in basic lab settings with harmless experiments	Moderate	High; won't chip, peel or crack	Very high; won't scratch or stain
Chemical Resistance	Low	Moderate; resistant to basic chemicals and heat sources	Moderate to high; resistant to most chemicals used in high schools and college labs	High; resistant to most chemicals used in professional lab and college settings
Temperature Resistance	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High
Price	\$	\$\$	\$\$	\$\$\$

School Outfitters Tips



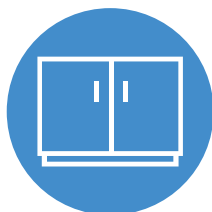
Mobile science tables are a great option if your classroom space is limited or requires flexibility, as they can be easily rearranged or pushed out of the way when not in use.



Some science tables contain sinks with self-contained plumbing systems; these are ideal if plumbing installation is unnecessary or simply not an option.



Consider a demonstration mirror on one or more tables to allow students in the back to see lab demonstrations from different angles. These mount on crossbars above a science table or workstation.



Tables with built-in storage keep lab supplies organized and accessible and are a great option if classroom storage space is limited.

Table Configurations



High Pressure Laminate Science Table

A science table best suited for early elementary or classes that do not work with chemicals, like art, is a high-pressure laminate, or HPL table. This material is known for its durability and impact resistance. Through a multi-step process using high pressure and heat, six to eight layers of resin-infused paper with a clear overlay are combined. This is then bonded to a substrate like particleboard or fiberboard.

[Shop High Pressure Laminate Science Tables](#)



Chemical Resistant Laminate Science Table

This table is often suitable for middle school science classes and beyond, as experiments tend to involve more complex processes with chemicals that could potentially damage untreated surfaces. A special resin is applied over the high-pressure laminate surface, making it resistant to weaker chemicals and lower heat sources.

[Shop Chemical Resistant Laminate Science Tables](#)



Phenolic Resin Science Table

For high school and college lab work, a phenolic resin science table is a great option, as it has a special coating making it impervious to most chemicals used during experiments. Phenolic resin tabletops are composite panels processed together under high heat and pressure. Phenolic resin is highly durable, able to withstand extreme temperatures like dry ice and stain and scratch resistant. Plus, it's waterproof.

[Shop Acid Resistant – Phenolic Science & Lab Tables](#)



Epoxy Resin Science Table

Epoxy resin is an adhesive that hardens to form one solid surface, making a science table non-porous, resistant to highly caustic chemicals and high heat. This surface is the ideal in university and medical laboratories due to its exceptional durability. It looks like new after years of use as it also resists scratches and stains.

[Shop Epoxy Resin Science & Lab Tables](#)



Science Workstations

There can be many pieces of lab equipment students work with during class. Having convenient and adequate storage can help with organization and efficiency. Science tables can be equipped with drawers and cabinets to hold supplies when not in use. Some even have built-in book boxes to store a student's personal belongings. To help keep items secure drawers and cabinet doors have locks.

[Shop Science Workstations](#)



Mobile Science Stations

Mobile science stations can feature all the amenities of stationary workstations but have the added benefit of heavy-duty, locking casters. These stations can be easily pushed together or pulled apart as needed for project work and are ideal if your lab space requires flexibility.

[Shop Mobile Science Stations](#)



Adjustable-Height Science Tables

The ability to raise or lower a table's height ensures every student can be accommodated during class. For physics experiments, choose a style where one side can be lowered to create an incline table. Many can also be adjusted without the use of tools or have the option to add locking casters for easy mobility.

[Shop Adjustable-Height Science & Lab Tables](#)



Instructor Desks

Science instructor desks can range from basic tables with laminate tops to fully equipped workstations with chemical resistant tops, built-in storage and rods for demonstration mirrors. With so many sizes and styles available, you're sure to find a desk that meets your instructional needs.

[Shop Instructor Desks](#)

MAS Certification



MAS Certified Science & Lab Tables

Products that are MAS Certified meet the stringent standards for low chemical emissions set by Materials Analytical Services, LLC, an industry-independent organization and leader in emissions testing development and compliance.

Products that are MAS Certified contribute to healthier indoor air. MAS certification is recognized and accredited by LEED and BIFMA.