Robot Vacuums: Roborock vs Shark vs iRobot

A robot vacuum is a little disc that vacuums your floors by itself. You press a button — or set a schedule — and it roams the house, steers around furniture, and drives itself back to its charger when it is done.

The three brands, simply

- Roborock — about $280 to $2,000. The one you have not heard of.
- Shark — about $120 to $800. The familiar American brand.
- iRobot Roomba — about $170 to $1,200. The original.

Head to head, in plain words

- Finding its way. Roborock's laser mapping is the fastest and most precise — it learns your home in one run. iRobot's new flagships now use laser plus a camera too. Shark's pricier models have laser navigation; the budget ones find their way more simply and take a little longer.
- Mopping. Roborock leads here — real scrubbing mops, and heated-water pad washing on the flagships. iRobot's new 2026 flagships mop with a heated roller and are catching up fast. Shark's 2-in-1 models vacuum and mop in one pass, but the mopping is simpler.
- Emptying itself. All three sell bases that suck the dustbin clean for you, so you go weeks without touching dirt. Look for “self-empty” or “Plus” in the name.
- The phone app. All three have apps for schedules, “don't go in there” zones, and naming rooms. All three answer to Alexa and Google voice commands. Roborock's app gets the most praise from reviewers.
- Pet hair. This is the big one for many homes. Shark's brushroll is famous for never wrapping hair. Roborock's zero-tangle system and iRobot's rubber brushes solve the same problem their own way. Any of the three beats a bristle brush.

Note: Prices change Robot vacuum prices move around constantly — sales and holidays shift them all the time. The prices above are what these cost in late 2026. Check before you buy.

Which one is right for you?

- Mostly hard floors, and you want real mopping — Roborock. Nothing else mops this well.
- Pets, and you want the best value — Shark. The self-cleaning brushroll earns its reputation.
- Deep carpet cleaning, or you trust the original brand — iRobot's new 2026 models, especially the Max 875 Combo.
- Spend as little as possible — a Shark ION or the Roomba 105 Combo. Both do the daily floors just fine.

The full step-by-step setup for each brand — unboxing, the app, the first mapping run — is in the paid robot-vacuum guides in the store.

When to call Sean instead

- You want help choosing the right one before you buy.
- The app will not connect to the vacuum.
- It keeps getting stuck in the same spot.
- You want a cleaning schedule set up for you.

Sean has set up iRobot and Shark himself — call him at (813) 770-6082.

Need a hand? Call Sean at **(813) 770-6082**.