

How much do you spend a year on coffee at Starbucks or the other coffeehouses that sell your favorite brew by the cup? Plenty, we'd bet, perhaps enough to burn a hole in your pocket.

But we may have a money saving solution for you.

David Gregg, senior editor of BehindTheBuy.com, visited The Early Show with a flavor and cost comparison of the latest single-serve home coffee machines and travel mugs for your java drinking on the go. Gregg says the machines he cites deliver a coffee shop-worthy brew while saving you money in the long run.

PRIMARY REASONS PEOPLE GO TO COFFEEHOUSES:

- Always Fresh
- Favorite Flavor/Brew/Variety
- Convenient/Instant Gratification
- Consistent in quality of product

PRIMARY REASONS PEOPLE LIKE SINGLE-SERVE COFFEEMAKERS OVER CARAFE-BASED MACHINES AND/OR GOING TO A COFFEEHOUSE:

- Always Fresh -- can't get stale or acidic by sitting in a pot like carafe-based machines
- Simple to Use/Convenient/Instant Gratification
- Variety/Always choose your favorite brew
- Cost Less Per Serving Compared to a Coffee House
- Consistent quality--Single serve machines are computer controlled therefore they deliver just the right mixture of all of the variables (exact temperature of water, controlled pressure and volume of water to maximize flavor extraction, perfectly premeasured portions, built in filters) that are needed to deliver a good tasting beverage.
- More Options than Carafe Based Machines (not everyone in the office or family drinks decaf, caffeinated, flavored coffee). You would need to make multiple carafes to keep up with the variety of preferences.
- No Cleanup compared to Carafe Machines (just neatly and easily discard cartridge or pod)
- Most single serve machines make more than just coffee (tea, latte drinks, espresso, cappuccino, hot chocolate)
- Certain single serve machines (Keurig and all pod based machines) even give you the option of creating your own pods or cartridges using your own brew so you are not limited to using the pods and cartridges made by the company and its licensees
- No waste compared to making too much coffee in a carafe based machine

RECENT CHANGES IN THE SINGLE SERVE COFFEE MACHINE MARKETPLACE:

- greater variety of machines to pick from
- prices dropped per serving
- greater variety of colors
- ability to create your own pods and cartridges from your favorite coffee so you are not locked into buying replacement pods and cartridges from manufacturers and their licensees
- huge variety of flavors/name brand blends
- many machines now deliver all types of hot beverages - brew coffee, tea, hot chocolate, latte drinks, espresso, cappuccino

AVERAGE COST FOR A SINGLE TRIP TO NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED COFFEEHOUSE:

\$3.25

COST FOR 1 PURCHASE PER 5 DAY WORK WEEK: \$16.25

COST PER MONTH: \$65

COST PER YEAR: \$780

*This is based on an average price of a cup of coffee from three nationally recognized coffee houses (Dunkin Donuts, Caribou Coffee, and Starbucks). David is assuming the lowest daily/weekly consumption of one-a-day for five days-a-week

The following product descriptions were prepared with information provided by the manufacturers:

Flavia Fusion Drink Station

The single-serve FLAVIA filterpacks seal in perfect freshness with every cup. Unlike other single cup coffee makers, revolutionary FLAVIA technology brews direct from pack to cup, guaranteeing that every drink is completely pure and "untainted" by previous brews. The FLAVIA Fusion drinks station brews any variety of drinks without the waste of a whole-pot coffee maker or clean up of an espresso / cappuccino machine. It is so convenient you can spend more time enjoying your drinks. Some of Flavia's main features include: availability of 30 different types of drinks, built in water filter ensures purified hot water, easily removable water tank with a large capacity that requires minimal filling and accommodates different cups and mug-even a big travel mug.

PRICE: \$100 www.myflavia.com

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING: \$0.50

Nescafe Dolce Gusto Coffee Machine By Krups

This new single-cup coffee machine was designed with a professional 15-bar pressure [comparable to coffee shop machines], which guarantees a perfect cup and fine milk froth every time. A custom control lever lets you decide the strength of your coffee drink. Exclusive KRUPS Thermoblock technology heats the water fresh every time, in less than a minute. The KRUPS Thermoblock has multi channels, which gives a greater heating capacity and produces a more even temperature. Easy to use and clean machine that prepares each drink variety in less than one minute.

Stainless steel drip tray adjustable for any height of cup or travel mug. The machine employs a stylish and sleek design that will stand out on any kitchen counter. The NESCAFÉ Dolce Gusto coffee machine comes complete with a one year warranty from Krups. Colors: Green - Black - Red

PRICE: \$170 www.dolce-gusto.us

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING: \$0.50

SENSEO Coffee Machine By Philips

This uniquely designed coffeemaker brews a single serving of fresh gourmet coffee at the touch of a button, in under a minute. Because the appliance uses pre-measured coffee pods, the system is hassle-free, easy to clean, and guarantees a fresh, flavorful brew each time. The machine's mild 1.2-bar pressure system and special spray head produce an optimally balanced coffee-filtering process, while its patented "frothing chamber" ensures a frothy coffee layer.

Simply fill the removable 32-ounce water reservoir with water, insert a pod, and lock the lid into place. Colors: White- Black - Blue - Red

PRICE: \$70 www.senseo.us

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING: \$0.30

Keurig Mini Personal Coffee Brewer

Make a fresh cup of gourmet coffee or tea in less than three minutes with this single-serve brewing system. The unit uses Keurig's patented K-Cups, which offer over 70 varieties of pre-measured gourmet coffee and tea from a variety of premium brands. In addition, its patented one-touch technology ensures precise control over the brewing, without the hassle of grinding beans, measuring coffee, handling filters, or cleaning up. Simply open the lid, insert a K-Cup, close the lid, and push the button. The coffeemaker requires fresh water for each cup and brews one 8-ounce cup at a time. A variety pack of 10 K-Cups comes included. Perfect for the office, vacation home, or college dorm room, the portable single-cup brewing system measures 11-1/2 by 10 by 13-1/4 inches and carries a one-year limited warranty. Colors: red, black, white.

PRICE: \$80 www.keurig.com

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING: \$0.58

Bosch Tassimo Single Serve Coffee Machine

The Bosch Tassimo Single Serve Coffee Machine delivers fully automatic operation and an integrated LED display panel mean so you can trust it to deliver a superior beverage, without the usual hassle and mess of traditional coffee makers. The T DISC is easily inserted into the brewer

and operates with one touch of a button. The TASSIMO guarantees first-cup freshness every time, no matter what was brewed in the unit previously. The taste remains consistent and there is no flavor transfer. The brewer can even make real milk cappuccinos and lattes, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. The advanced water filtration system also ensures that the water used is the best quality. Choose from over 40 beverages and flavors from 12 of the most popular brands.

PRICE: \$140 www.boschappliances.com

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING

COFFEE (C) - \$0.40

CAPPUCINNO (CP) - \$1.25

Nespresso Essenza C90 Single Serve Espresso Machine

Nespresso has developed a unique extraction system specially adapted to capsules. It controls every vital setting when preparing a perfect espresso. Nespresso machines have been designed with renowned partners and designers, and bring out the taste and aromas of coffee by combining quality of design with ease of use. The Nespresso C90 Essenza Manual Machine is part of the Nespresso compact line, which features a modern, compact, and practical design. The machine deploys technology essential for preparing an outstanding Espresso, and is easy to use. A high pressure pump (19 bars) extracts all the aromas and develops a smooth crema in the cup. This machine uses a thermobloc which heats water to 187° and 196° during extraction and empties the remaining water after each use so that the water is fresh for each preparation. A simple system perforates the capsule and soaks all the ground coffee to optimally filter the coffee. A functional handle system allows for easy coffee preparation. Automatic ejection of used capsule makes removal a non-issue.

PRICE: \$200 www.nespresso.com

AVERAGE COST PER SERVING: \$0.55

Cuisinart Grind and Brew

The newest Cuisinart grind and brew is the BURR grind and brew with a bean hopper that's \$199. And other Cuisinart Grind and Brew models are lower priced, without the bean hopper feature. If you opt for the latter, I'd recommend the Grind and Brew with a thermal carafe for \$129 (second link below). Links below will give you a quick overview of each:

This is the only carafe machine onset. David picked it bc it is the closest to convenience in a carafe machine - it does a grind and brew.

RECOMMENDED TRAVEL COFFEE MUGS

(recommendations based on ability to maintain temperature, ergonomics (comfortable to grip and hold), and how spill proof it is)

Thermos Nissan Tea Tumbler With Infuser

Virtually unbreakable, this lightweight, vacuum-insulated thermos travels to work or your favorite recreation spot. On arrival, and for hours afterward, coffee, tea, or soup will still be hot. At a compact 7 inches this thermos has a tapered body for firm gripping and tough, nonslip, black plastic top and bottom. There's a choice of two twist tops, one for coffee and another, with a stainless steel strainer, for tea--each has a sip-hole, and a cap twists onto either to prevent spills. Fine threading ensures tops and cap seal tightly, while the smooth interior cleans with sponge or cloth.

PRICE: \$23 www.thermos.com

OXO Good Grips LiquiSeal Travel Mug

No more spills! Enjoy your hot beverage on the go with the OXO Good Grips LiquiSeal Travel Mug. Our Mug features three silicone seals to insure no spills. Just click to open and click to seal from a simple button. Double wall construction improves thermal retention to keep your beverage hotter longer, and the no-drip drinking spout is contoured for comfort. A soft, non-slip grip gives you a secure hold when on the go. Accommodates a wide variety of car cup holders. PRICE:

\$10 www.oxo.com