













RATINGS

GOOD: ★★★

FAIR: ★★

POOR: ★

RATING FOOD STORAGE CONTAINERS

Brand		Testing Criteria	Testers' Comments
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED			
Topperware Rock 'N Serve Medium Deep Container		PRICE: \$12.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Well designed (handles, flat lid, vent for microwaving), with performance almost to match. We're concerned about durability, though, as cracks developed during 100 dishwasher cycles. These cracks caused leaking during a second submersion test. Some testers found it tricky to seal at first.
Rubbermaid Stain Shield Square Container		PRICE: \$4.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Handsome, sturdy container with wide rim for easy handling. Lives up to marketing claims of stain resistance. Odor control performance not perfect, though.
Genius VakSet: Four Vacuum Storage Containers with Pump		PRICE: \$57.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Impressive performance comes with some caveats: hassle factor of extra pumping step; vacuum-release method, which some may find unintuitive; containers rendered essentially useless if pump is lost.
Rubbermaid Seal'n Saver		PRICE: \$4.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Staining was only problem encountered in this sturdy container with excellent seal.
RECOMMENDED WITH RESERVATIONS			
Betty Crocker Servables Container		PRICE: \$3.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★ DESIGN: ★★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Decent, easy-handling container that didn't stand up too well to submersion and staining tests. So don't sink it, and store tomato products in another container.
GladWare Containers/Deep Dish Size (pkg. of 3)		PRICE: \$2.89 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Despite some staining and minor leaking, good overall performer, which surprised us given its flimsy feel. We were shocked that its performance improved after 100 washings, particularly in shaking test. A good value.
Ziploc Brand Containers/Large Rectangle (pkg. of 2)		PRICE: \$2.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Only odor protection was truly subpar; bread smelled like onions at end of day one. We're not crazy about flimsy feel and lack of handles or rim, but you can't argue with this container's performance. Stained less after 100 washings than when brand new.
Sterilite Ultra Seal		PRICE: \$3.29 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: We were stunned that performance improved with use, but it did. Less leakage, less staining, and better odor protection after 100 dishwasher cycles.
Snapware Snap N' Serve: Clear Stainproof Six-Piece Food Storage Container Set		PRICE: \$19.97 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Cracked during 100 dishwasher cycles, which impaired seal in submersion and odor protection tests. Has handles, but too small to help much when moving container hot from microwave. We're concerned about durability.
NOT RECOMMENDED			
Tramontina Stainless Steel Gourmet Collection Storage Containers		PRICE: \$29.75 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★★★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Despite good performance on virtually all tests because of its superhero seal, testers found it so difficult to affix lid to container securely (and, occasionally, to remove it, too) that we would avoid this model. Besides that, it's not microwave safe.
Pyrex Storage Plus/Rectangle Dish with Lid		PRICE: \$5.99 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Stain resistant for sure, but also heavy and hard to handle when hot. Seals poorly. Odor protection was minimal, and we wouldn't store liquids in it.
SK Enterprises: Vacuum Seal Storage Containers (set of 3)		PRICE: \$19.94 PERFORMANCE, NEW: ★ PERFORMANCE, USED: ★★★ DESIGN: ★★	TESTERS' COMMENTS: Vacuum mechanism seemed flimsy and fussy to operate. It failed us occasionally, especially if fine food particles such as sugar got into seal. Then, midway through testing, mechanism broke and never worked again.