

Overbed tables



Photo: Space Tables

Snapshot

Highest priced unit:	\$320
Average priced unit:	\$180
Lowest priced unit:	\$92

Pricing Trends

2008-2009: Flat to +3%

2009-2010: Flat to +5%

2010-2011: +3% to +4%

Typical delivery time: Around 3 to 4 weeks

Typical delivery charges: Varies by location

Average life span of product: 7 to 10 years

Standard warranty: 1 to 2 years

Extended warranty: Not available

Average maintenance cost per year:

Routine cleaning, as well as parts that may include screws and tops

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Source: Crest Healthcare Supply, Direct Supply, Invacare Continuing Care Group, NOA Medical, RLPS Architects, Space Tables

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"The overbed tables must be adjustable and easy to clean. We use ones that have shelves on a side and a lip that prevents things from rolling off the top. We rarely use them for patients in bed, but use them as dressing tables and for meals eaten while in a chair."

Jeanine Niemoller, RN, Administrator Iverson Memorial Hospital Extended Care Facility, Laramie, WY

Buyer Notes

- Don't neglect considering the look of the overbed table: One vendor noted that facilities will often spend huge amounts of money on updated room sets and purchase a table that does not match. Consider custom colors.
- Investigate how easy it is to adjust the overbed table so that it can be as close as possible to the resident. Look at how far the base can lower.
- Tops of tables generally can be replaced if they become chipped or scratched. However, a provider may opt to purchase a new table rather than spend time and money on replacement parts.
- Possible amenities that should be considered include angles, drawers and mirrors. While some companies have upped the weight capacity for tables, they are meant to be for items such as Kleenex, glasses and a book — not a television.

**For a list of vendors go to the:
FURNISHINGS & FURNITURE section, page 96**