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## Shark navigator nv356e

By now almost every vacuum buyer has seen Euro-Pro CEO Mark Rosenzweig's Oreck-style infomercials for shark navigator lift-away vacuum cleaners. TV infomercials feature hokey stunts like having Shark suck up eight billiard balls. I'm on record that dislikes the infomercial sales model, and generally avoid reviewing any vac sold through questionable methods like infomercials, door-to-door sales crews, and multilevel pyramids. But the Shark Navigator Lift-Away Pro NV356E has been very popular in part because it is a pretty good vacuum, with unusual versatility. Released in late 2011, Shark Navigator Pro was a runaway bestseller for Shark, with once-impulse-buy-islands in several large box stores, and retail space almost everywhere. I wasn't too impressed with previous Sharks, or with Shark customer support. But NV356 quickly rose up the charts, and still sells well after five years. As of this review (2015), nv356E is Amazon.com's number 29 that sells upright vacuum. I bought a Navigator Pro for testing when it was released. With its two-in-one breakaway wheel-less container, for use doing detailwork and stairs, Shark's Pro Lift Away is one of the best Sharks ever. And one of the most versatile vacuum cleaners anywhere. The Pro series is easy to distinguish from the old lavender-hued NV350 Lift Aways, some of which are still on retail shelves. The NV356 is cast in white with faux-chrome accent trim, which also distinguishes it from the newer NV500 Rotator (red trim). The NV356E is slightly higher than its predecessor Liftaway, due to the larger dirt cup. And the NV356E powerhead housing has chrome sheet metal around the brush view window. The Professional model includes a Swiffer-style hard floor Dust-Away attachment. User reviews are almost unanimous, and I agree, that the Dust-Away tool and larger dust containers make the Pro worth \$20 price premium over the older Liftaways, especially for those with wooden floors. Subtle variants Like other vacuum manufacturers, Shark marketing involves packaging a series of very similar products, with minor variations in accessories, tools, or benefits, each designed for a specific large box retail niche. NV356E was focused on Amazon.com, Lowe's Home Improvement, Bed Bath & Beyond, Macy's, and can be purchased directly from Shark. Shark NV355 was specially packaged for Canadian Tire and Walmart. nv357 was bundled with a Shark GI568 Iron for Sam's Club and BJ's Wholesale Club. And the NV356K, with an extra dust pad and another power brush, was on its way to Kohl's. Pro Reviews Some web reviewers have featured NV356E Liftaway. Vacuum-cleaner-advisor.com called Navigator Pro's best upright vacuum for 2012. Consumer Reports isn't as fond of Shark Navigators, giving the NV356E a 61, a decent, but not outstanding score. In a group of about 50 staked poles with points from 33 to 70, NV356E placed number 50. Some reviewers say the Navigator Liftaway NV356E suffers in comparison to the Dyson DC25 Ball, but the compilation is irrelevant. Shark NV356E sells for less than half the price of \$450 Dyson. While Shark has clearly tried to scale up the look and feel of the Pro version, Dyson's elegance is hard to match. I think too many pro reviewers lack the versatility of Lift-Away Shark, treating it like a regular upright. The secret so many professional reviewers miss is that the power head/brush roll detaches from the container, but also re-attaches to the wand for hard floor and under-furniture performance unmatched by other poles. User reviews There are over 9,143 Amazon user reviews online for Shark Liftaway Pro, averaging a real decent four point five star rating. 4.5 is about as good as this parameter gets. Despite the inevitable five star spamming, this exceptional buyer represents satisfaction. Negative reviews (one and two stars) are very rare, and average 8%, an excellent long-term average. I'm hard to remember another vac with low enough negative review percentages to match this. Despite dislikes the David Oreck-style infomercial, stonewalling customer service, and other cheesy marketing of Shark Navigator, our Shark NV356E test model has won our respect for years of use. It goes perfectly, never had any errors, must keep it clean. We call our NV356E Sharky. Due to the popularity of the lifting feature, Shark has started selling a wheelless pod-vac version and called it Shark Lift-Around. Shark Navigator Lift-Away Pros are subtle vacs that have hidden versatility, some debt that needs management, and unique maintenance needs that many users ignore at their own risk due to the weakness of effective long-term product support. Let's root them all out with a real Vacuum Cleaner Review. Filtering and emission Every Air-cleaner-power vacuum cleaner review leads away with emissions. If vac fails emissions tests or seems likely to be a particle leaker, the rest or review will be short. It was an initial plastic burglary smell that the Navigator was packed. With my test model, which sat on the porch for 24 hours, the plastic smell was soon imperceptible. Shark NV356E Lift Away is advertised to trap over 99.99% of dust and allergen particles between 0.3 and 0.5 microns that enter the vacuum. But with so much questionable marketing, I expected a disappointment at the filtering claims. Our Shark, which was selected randomly from a store (I never accept manufacturers loaners/gifts for reviews, they can be easily prepped or jumped up) surprised us with very good emissions tests. The weakest point on most non-industrial vacuum cleaners is dust compartment safety. This Shark has four points safe bin, plus it sits flat against the filter This minimizes leakage as the NV356E works. Many large box box vacuum is secured with just one latch. But the two latches that hold the trash can down are subject to breakage, and can loosen enough for some pollutants to leak as vacuum ages. There are videos on Youtube purporting to show NV356E's trash can distorting under users imposed clog conditions, but this seems to be a rare event in the real world. The NV356E has two pre-engine filters, a foam and a blanket, just under the container. For post-motor exhaust port there is a HEPA filter. Infomercials advertised the former Lift Away which has a HEPA filter, but buyers who didn't order directly from Shark found their Lift-Aways had cheaper substitutes in the lower filter box. After significant negative feedback, I think Shark has finally stopped doing this. The post-motor location of HEPA is important. Many HEPA filtered vacs have the filter before the engine, allowing carbon pieces from brush wear, and metal particles from motor bushings, into the exhaust air stream. Navigator Lift-Away does not have a carbon smell filter. When vac is idle, there is no dirt smell. But at the start-up there is a short period of dirty smell. Many user reviews mention smelling the dirt. I think this temporary smell is caused by dust particles that have settled on engine windings burning off. Keeping the dirt bin clean between uses will minimize odors. My only smell issue has been a bag of ginger (spice) that was spilled and vacuumed up. Sharky smelled ginger until the trash can and filters were washed. Exhaust Particle Testing I'm very picky about vacuum cleaner particle emissions, and won't run a dirty vac in my home. I've been pleasantly surprised with the Shark Pro sealed system and hepa filter train. My particle counter does not provide a zero reading at Shark's exhaust, but averages were around 2,000 .5 micron particles per cubic foot. These low exhaust particle densities qualify Shark NV356E as an acceptable allergy/asthma vacuum. I also get very close to a vacuum to check for leaks, like cracks in the vacuum body or loose-fitting joints. Shark's anti-allergen complete sealing system has gaskets on every joint, I couldn't find a single leak. Using the Navigator in a closed 10 of 16 rooms, there was no height in the surrounding 0.5 micron particle count after 20 minutes. Shark Lift-Away 356 has excellent filtration efficiency for a \$178 vacuum. I don't put much faith in allergy foundations, but Shark Liftaway is certified by the British Allergy Foundation. NV356E's Power and Suction on Shark Mats has backed away from failed attempts to replicate the Dyson multi-cyclone technology, which I think is overrated anyway, due to the long-term clogging of the smallest cyclone chambers. While the NV356E uses a rotating action, there is only one wire mesh screen on top of the chamber. The small upper cyclones that ruined any former Shark model are is ten amp vacuum. Most full size vacuum pull 12 amps, but shark pro has a narrow footprint and there is plenty of suction over the brush roll. Is Sharky's suction as strong as a Dyson DC41 Animal? No A couple of Hoovers and Bissells I have to the test have slightly stronger cravings, and while large on large mats, they tend to chew up throwing mats. I think Shark Lift-Away's suction is sufficient for all but the highest carpet piles. There is no suction loss provided the trash is not overfilled. The suction control, a practical rotating ring bleeding valve, is located just below the handle. Despite being molded in a contrasting dark gray color, this valve is often overlooked by users. Navigator Professional has two motors, one for suction, and another for rotating the brush roll. The important brush roller on/off switch is present, allowing for easy transitions from carpet to hard floors. Brushroll shutdown when upright is automatic, saving carpet from wear-spotting when vac is stationary. The Navigator NV356E has no carpet pile-height adjustment, but performs well on most mats. User reviews say the Professional NV356E strong suction restores some lots to matted down carpets in high traffic areas. NV356 cleaned our carpets, many of which are outdoors on porches where they get very dirty, as well as all vac I have tested. However, there are problems with long bangs and fluffy shag rugs, buyers with large areas of fluffy carpet should read many 1-star reviews before making decisions. Hard floors and Shark NV356E Professional Dust-Away Tool Navigator NV356E also perform pretty well on bare floors as an upright, earning an excellent one from Consumer Reports. On the wooden floors of our cottage, Sharky does a very good job in an upright position. But it's in Lyft mode that Sharky gets to show off. (The Dust-Away tool can only be used in Away Lyft mode.) Shark's Dust-Away tool, with its microfiber cloths, has been criticized by some reviewers as useless. More eloquent pro reviewers have hinted that Swiffer-style DustAway is a gimmick that adds little to the top-of-the-line Shark's value proposition. Their tests didn't find much difference between upright power head and microfiber dust away attachment on hard floors. I disagree, and this is also a good illustration of the shortcomings of typical vacuum cleaner reviews that use a uniform large particle size for all tests. I think vacuuming should remove all particles from our habitat, NOT just the big stuff (20 micron and up visible particles). Polished bare floors, and simply unfinished deciduous trees like ours, make a good surface for micro-particle electrostatic adhesion. Only suction rarely gets 100% of these attracted particles, which can then release and become airborne when weather changes change the electrostatic attraction. To get hard floors really clean, and get under and around we really like the Lift-Away mode with Dustaway's Swiffer-like tablecloths. The proof is simple, just vacuum a hard floor with some strong-suction vacuum. Wash out Shark's dirt bin until it sparkles (see below), then walk across the area with washable microfiber cloth. Examine the canvas, which is inevitably dirty with fine particles that suction alone missed. There will also be dirt in the trash can. The Lift Away container has no wheels and must be worn almost all the time, which is more tiring than pulling a canister. Shark's website features a picture of a woman either running 100-foot-high obstacles or practicing herself to be a ballerina, while, & happily, vacuuming with her Lift-Away. Not possible. But I think the point, though exaggerated, is well taken – the NV356E is a highly customizable and versatile cleaning tool. I carry the Shark Container with my left hand, using the tools or Dustaway with the right. I like Dustaway's u-jointed swivel head, which can enter spaces as narrow as seven inches wide of dog-tracking at about a 60 degree angle to the wand. Pet Hair Pickup Pro reviewers say that the Sharks' pet hair pickup is just OK. Consumer Reports called NV356E only just on pet hair. While our test Liftaway did a good job cleaning up human hair, buyers with really strong throwing pets might consider a 12 amp vacuum cleaner. Area Mats Shark NV356E has enough suction power to lift area mats off the floor. If you are vacuuming carpet runners or throwing mats that are not secured, you need to reduce suction. The Professional can eat fringed area mats approached with brushroll spinning. Even with the brushing roll off and suction set to low, it still wants to tow lightly tossing mats. We have an entrance-area mat that picks lots of outdoor debris and is vacuumed almost daily. Standing on the edge of the carpet with your toes keeps it perfect for Sharky. Shark Lift-Away Pro Useability Initial unpacking and assembly of liftaway is simple, but not intuitive. Most user reviews note on the simplicity of assembly. No screws required, just snap the parts into place. The manufacturer's documentation is a little sparse as far as maintenance. Many user reviews complain in three ways switch location, about halfway up the container. Users must bend down to reach it in an upright position. But the power button is right under the left thumb in liftaway mode, where sporadic operation is most likely. There is no upright lock pedal, but only a touch of the left foot will gently pulling back releases upright lock. Extremely Maneuverable Part of the genius of the new Shark is the swivel steering. I think the NV356E controls as well as a Dyson ball, and I prefer its handling to all Dysons. Just a little wrist pressure from the left hand leans easily and turns the Shark into less This vacuum has no complex ball ball and is much easier to maneuver than rigid standard poles. User reviews say vacuuming carpet at full suction can get tiring as the Navigator Lift-Away seems to stick to the floor. I notice the NV356E tendency to tractor forward on mats, but adapting to this is not difficult. There are some weaknesses in Shark's narrow design. One is the very narrow cleaning path width - 9.25 inches. Vacuuming a large carpeted room will take longer with Sharky than with a Hoover Widepath or other 15-inch wide cleaner. Under Furniture A very large number of both users and professional reviews mention the annoyance of not being able to vacuum under furniture in an upright position because the container is too high. But here's an important subtlety of the Shark Liftaways. The Lift-Away feature, NOT upright, is intended to be used to get under furniture. For low clearance cleaning, it is necessary to dismantle the brush bar head and attach the magic wand to it. This set does cleaning under items with as little as 5 inches of clearance. We have some chairs with a four inch high crossbar that just barely traps the nozzle. The brushroll is turned off in this configuration, and the swivel function, while present, is a little harder to use. The wand/powerhead combination will stand upright, but we'll leave it not stowed that way (see tip-overs, below). Edge Cleaning Some reviewers note the NV356E does not have strong edge suction, leaving a narrow groove along walls unwrapped. Powerhead has a 1.2 inch wide suction-less area where the brushroll device attaches, on the far left. Since the cravng is supplied by a hose on the other end of the brush, the left side is a little weaker on edge cleaning. Using the right side, the side with the hose attached, will give better edge results. Weight and Carry The Pro is about three pounds heavier than its predecessor Navigators, tipping our scales at about 16 pounds. It's lightweight and maneuverable enough as an upright, but when converted into a stand-up container (Lift-Away mode), there are some handling issues that require user accommodation. Lift-Aways are NOT drag-behind containers, the only wheels are on the powerhead. This means that users must carry, and constantly tend, the eight-pound Lift-Away section, with one hand. Some users dislike the lack of wheels/towing/rolling, but I find this quite convenient, much easier than using a conventional upright with tools. It's true that wearing the container is an obstacle, but I've developed a drag-and-drop rhythm that works well. The container will fall over unless continuously brought with it. I think liftaway beats almost any conventional upright vacuum for detail work and stairs, perfect for working up the stairs to our loft. Older or physically impaired users may find the container a little too heavy. Cord Management Shark NV356E has a thirty foot wind cord, a five foot increase compared to previous previous I notice the cord is a medium-duty variety, not thin or twist/kink-prone. Years of moderate use have produced no cord issues. But Shark's plug is not a grounded three-prong type. Some user reviews report light electric shocks from what are apparently defective Navigators. Hose and scope The most common user review complaint, for this Shark as well as almost any cheap upright, is that the hose is too rigid and short, limiting the upright ability to reach in remote spaces. Some former Sharks, like the Shark Navigator Deluxe Edition, had better range. Some user reviews mention ordering the 10-foot extension hose from Shark Navigator NV22, only to find it doesn't fit the 356E. But this is another area where Lift-Away capacity gets neglected. The container, once lifted away, can be transported in spaces an upright could not walk, supporting tool use in uncomfortable places. Tip-Over Prone Every vacuum design has flaws. Shark Lift-Away's combination of a higher container, very narrow footprint and short hose, makes Shark Professional prone to fall when using the hose and attachments. Users should anticipate tip-overs, keeping the NV356E under close control in both upright and lift-off modes. Buyers should know, in advance, that continued falls are one of the most important life-shortening of the bagless vacuum cleaners. Knowing this danger, I have allowed Shark to fall only once (to observe the process), and recommend switching to Lift-Away mode for attachment use. Trying to roll upright configuration by tugging on the hose, which is generally done with standard poles, can also tip shark. Many user reviews express extreme frustration with a Navigator that has fallen and broken. I think shark flexibility is worth the effort, but admit to babysitting to avoid tipping. Dirt Bin A key reviewer complaint with former Navigators was smaller dirt bins. So Shark designers doubled bin capacity, making it three inches longer in NV356E, setting up the top-heavy scenario. Shark Pro dirt container capacity, to the filling line, is 0.55 liters, about 4.5 liters. User reviews say that NV356E's bees are easy to dump. I like the relatively solid construction, top and bottom doors, and four point anchoring of Shark's dirt bin design. (See our bin-washout method during maintenance, below). Noise I like the relative quiet when vacuuming hard floors with the brush off. Combined with the simple handling, this actually makes Sharky my favorite vacuum to actually use (as opposed to testing). User reviews agree that nv356e is pretty quiet in hard floor mode. Of course the Navigator is higher with brushbar motor running for carpet, and high frequency whining of the brush head motor is noticeable. There's also some heat blowing out of the filter screen, but Shark Lift Away is a cool vacuum, partly due to its (lighter) ten amp amp Consumption. Using NV356E with Tools Here again, professional and user reviews often miss the versatility of Lift Away, judging Shark solely as an upright. Consumer Reports called Shark Airflow for tool mediocre. I don't agree. This is a break-away container, and is thoughtfully designed to be used as such. We have 13 steps and two landings to reach our two bedroom loft. Vacuuming these stairs with any other upright machine is a slow, tedious, and dangerous process. Lifting off, these stairs take about two minutes. I love Shark's suction control ring, which I rarely slip, but cover/reveal with the index finger on my right hand to vary the suction for tools. Triggering pet hair power brush, which takes some time to get right, allows to vacuum our throw pads without ever getting the brush stuck or pillowcase inhaled. There are also finger-guided suction ports on eight inch and 24 inch cracking tools. I prefer to cover these ports with cellophane tape to focus finger suction control at the main ring. Using in this way, there is enough suction to repeatedly open the clog-bypass port's spring-loaded diverter door, which makes a very distinctive sound. While there is no extension wand, I find the 24-inch croch tool handy for extending lift-away range to make ceiling fan blades and difficult to reach blinds. I think other reviewers have overlooked these very attractive, perhaps overly subtle features. The stout crack and small brush tools are stored on vacuum, but many reviewers say the eight-inch crevice tool falls off. Pushing it properly all the way will stop fall-offs, but is boring. There is a first hack that feels like the tool is stored, but I found that just pushing it up a little higher makes it stay good. While I like the air-powered pet hair brush attachment, it lacks a swivel, and must be carefully adjusted to the rod and used slightly rigidly. Lift Away is easy to store, I just loop the cord like a lasso and drape it on the handle, ignoring the cord storage clips. I recommend storing Shark clean and dry, as described below. Maintaining Shark Navigator Lift-Away filters While the NV356E Lift-Away from Shark does not have any real cyclones (a nice screen instead), the centrifuges for circular airflow in the lower chamber, which extends the manufacturer's recommended time between washable filter maintenance. Shark says users only need to handwash the sponge's pre-filter every three months. While this is a strong selling point (some vacuum prefilters need to be washed after each use), I think Shark exaggerates, or at least tell buyers just what they want to hear. I wash our Sharky's foam filters more often, when visible discoloration or accumulation is noticeable, at least every month. user reviews mention 24-hour drying time and say they dislike dislike nv356E's mushrooms. Shark ads say that users will never have to buy filters, but lots of them may be sold on Amazon. Other reviews note the fragility of this filter, I recommend to handle all vacuum parts carefully. Keeping this foam prefilter clean is the first step to a longer vacuum life. A partially occluded prefilter creates back-pressure, strain the engine, and deprive it of cooling airflow. This filter is visible every time lift-away dirt containers are dumped. I think this may be the easiest filter train to maintain anywhere. Keeping the foam prefilter clean, and the chamber back pressure low, keeps the secondary prefilter, the felt one, from getting dirty. Designers of Sharks have cleverly installed a spring-loaded pressure relief valve in the filter train. This valve is opened to recognize cooling air to the engine when upstream clogs or tools suck cloth cut off suction. Many competing vacuum cleaners are simply waiting for the overheated power button to kick off when there is a clog. Allowing the engine to overheat repeatedly shortens vac life. A small rectangular valve, almost imperceptible on the side under the prefilters, will open and allow the airflow to bypass. With the foam and fabric filters removed for washing, it is easy to look into the engine chamber and see the spring and bypass duct. This should be clean and free. Air rushes into the rectangular port, and the noticeable sound it makes when it is open should not be ignored. The shark shall NOT continue to run until the entire airway is complete. There are three filters, and some owners never detect the HEPA filter down low behind the exhaust grill. HEPA can also be washed, but should be gently tapped or vacuumed with a soft brush without touching before gentle washing. I inspect HEPA every month, and find that when the washable upper filters are well maintained, (post-motor) HEPA collects mostly fine dark carbon particles from the motor brushes. Shark's lifetime claims can come true, with good maintenance, HEPA may not actually need to be replaced for years. Dust Bin Cleaning - Washout Method Shark NV356E has a larger bin, but how fast it fills depends on the type of dirt that is vacuumed. With any bagless bin, long hair, the ball comes up and load the container pretty quickly, while fine sand can be picked up for a much longer time before dumping is required. Users who dump the trash can, which is quite easy to clean because Lift-Away has two dirt bin doors, will notice fine dust accumulating inside the container. This makes it harder and harder to tell when it is actually full, and some debris tends to accumulate in the upper small chamber and screen. When hair and dust get stuck in the upper chamber, or the wire mesh filter gets dirty, users report having to use their hands to remove the mess. Dirt on hands and a cloud of particles to breathe is the result. I think these nasty particles are completely unnecessary with so-easy-to-wash Shark Lift-Away is no-cyclone dirt bin. Some dirt vessels, mainly those with closed cyclone chambers (Dyson) cannot be washed. Others must have each stain of dirt gently removed from cyclones using a toothbrush and pick (Hoover). All moisture must be kept away from these cyclones (and HEPA filters), or the small pores will be covered and clog earlier than normal. But Shark has eliminated the small cyclones, using a nice wire mesh screen instead. This arrangement makes the NV356E dirt bin perfect for my wet dirt-bin emptying technique. As the pictures show, this can be done in the sink. I gently support bin doors to prevent excessive weight on the latches, then fill bins about a third full of water. Mild sloshing will dampen all the dirt in the trash can, including fine particles. Unhealthy fine particles will NOT go airborne when they are wet. Hair generally comes ball up with the water, coming out in a large lump without embedded dust. Using a dish-spray attachment or garden hose to thoroughly clean the wire mesh filter is also recommended. Users often miss the subtle and gradual occlusion of fine pores in the touted vacuum cyclone chamber, an important starting point for the suction-loss-overheating death spiral that sniffs out so many innocent vacuum lives. The laser particle counter next to the sink shows a steady background particle concentration, with NO dust clouds from the dustbin. Gently rinse the cutout and gently wipe the now crystal clear plastic with a towel. Allow a few hours to dry with both doors open before reinstalling the bin. Keeping the dust container clean makes it easy to see how much particles and debris are in the cup. A clean dirt cup makes a bagless vacuum less of an eyesore when sitting idle, and lowers the ability of odor-causing microorganisms to breed in vacuum. Replacement Parts List An important question buyers should ask, even for no filters to buy NV356E, is where can I buy filters for this vacuum cleaner? Shark website, sharkclean.com, displays spare parts and filters for the Navigator Liftaway Pro series (NV355, NV356, NV357). Attachments are interchangeable between the standard Shark Navigator Lift-Away Vacuum and shark navigator lift-away pro vacuum. Dust-Away Swiffer-like microfiber-cloth covers for hard flooring the tool can also be washed (without fabric softener), but never returns to its hospital-white original appearance. They can be put in dryers on low heat, but I just put them on deck in the Texas sun. These Dust-Away pillows cost ten dollars each. Brush Roll The proven weak part of Shark Lift-Away is the powerhead, Shark's motorized floor nozzle. This is a sealed device with NO users interchangeable parts inside. It breaks, you bought it, for \$60. So our maintenance efforts look to be shark power head. Keeping the brush free from windings - hair, yarn, carpet fibers ... - is important to keep the stress load on brush roll layers low. Scissors are the tool of choice for clearing Sharky's brushes. I can't overemphasize this point enough – powerhead is no deposit-no-return, users don't replace belts, nor Shark. Belt Shark comes with a Lifetime Belt and a brushroll overload switch off circuit, complete with red/green jam indicator light. Sharky will be turned off if a dull fringe or sock gets eaten. This is supposed to prevent belt wear/burn when the brush is stuck. The bad news is that if it is broken, the solution is a new powerhead, not a new belt. Wheels The two small wheels on the front of the Shark powerhead should not go unnoticed. User reviews say these can wear prematurely if hair or other debris winds around them. If the small wheels fail, the powerhead will pull and need to be replaced. Shark/Euro-Pro Service and Warranty As readers have seen, I really like the Shark NV356E. But Shark does NOT have a good reputation for warranty and service. The infomercial marketing model suggests improvements will be slow going forward. Shark NV356's original buyer sits under shark's five-year purchase certificate guarantee. This is different from the 10-year warranty touted at Navigator infomercials. A warranty claim involves costs. USER PAYS shipping and \$20 for return postage, insurance is recommended as in-transit damages are not covered by the warranty. Shark customer service is reported fluent and courteous, but parts, especially powerheads, are often on backorders more or less indefinitely. Quality design Hajna navigator Lift-Away Professional is of course manufactured in China. We believe the quality is better than most large box vacuum cleaners in the under-\$200 range. & It's a bit of the apparent fragility that plagues under \$100 vacuum cleaners. Our primary subuterous vacuum survival criterion, dirt bin safety, is fully met with a four-point mount and decent, but not bulletproof, lock. The durability and life of the four latches for the dust cup are likely to set the life expectancy of nv356. Shark unit/powerhead is also prone to other quality issues, a small percentage of lemons will cope with shipping in China. Without matte height adjustment, bristle wear can be a problem. Please note that liftaway mode survives the downfall of the power head. Since Lift-Away is so tip-over-prone, lots of users crash this vacuum cleaner repeatedly, likely generating many damage issues. It takes a little getting used to tending (I call it babysitting) the high-centered vacuum to prevent falls – users should get into the store expecting this. Some user reviews mention short life of the pet air powered brushes where multiple pets are involved. The list above is the single parts source, there is no exploded diagram for parts parts to local vacuum shops or do-it-yourself repairers. I love fixing old vacuum cleaners, and find this faux-pas disappointing. But I think that's the future of vacuum cleaners, shark's just getting there faster. For all practical purposes, despite market acceptance, Shark's Lift-Aways is throwing away vacuum cleaners. But show me the under-\$200 competitor who is still running after five years. There are lots of dumpster bait in this price range. Some pro reviewers make sustainability comparisons with Miele, Sebo, Kirby, Dyson and Riccar vacs costing many hundreds more. I think these are clearly irrelevant. The right question is Does the durability of the newest Shark compare favorably with other vacuum cleaners that sell for \$160? Competitors are the flagships of the Hoover and Bissell product lines, with sustainability issues of their own. Despite the errors I think the Lift-Away Sharks have a quality-to-price ratio as high as any off-shored vac. Since small parts are not available, some NV356's will be discarded prematurely, as the cost of a replacement module makes a new vacuum more feasible. Shark Lift-Away NV356. Conclusions Pros extremely good \$178 price point vacuum very low particle and noise emissions good suction and very good suction control spin handling, controls very easy Lift Away gets into gaps and under more furniture Dust Away hard floor attachment really works, saves wear on powerhead low maintenance costs, but NOT zero maintenance NV356E is the best Shark ever, now cheesy marketing needs to catch up on lack of parts and support too heavy, tip-over prone cleaning path too narrow for big carpet jobs powerhead life a be short wide open spaces very high pile carpets vacuum maintenance challenged acceptable low budget allergy/asthma vacuum hard floors more than all carpet buyers on the fence between a container vacuum and an upright cluttered smaller spaces with furniture poles wide , msrp reached \$269. I like the NV356 better now, selling well under \$160. I think the extremely versatile Shark Liftaway NV356E represents really good value, among the best mass market vacuum. Amazon.com Shoppers Are Encouraged to Browse the Shark Navigator NV356E Professional Lift-Away Vacuum Cleaner on Amazon.com Site Navigation Sitemap End Shark Navigator Lift-Away Pro NV356E Review. go to Website Page

