

Best Laser Level 2026

QUICK REFERENCE | DEWALT vs MILWAUKEE vs BOSCH vs MAKITA

Quick answer: All four are green-beam, 3-plane 360° self-leveling lasers, matched for a fair comparison. Makita has the tightest confirmed accuracy ($\pm 1/16"$ at 33'); Bosch is the only one with Bluetooth app connectivity.

Laser Level Types

Type	Best For
Dot / Point	Transferring a single reference point
Cross-Line	Cabinets, tile, shelving, drywall
3-Plane / 360°	Whole-room alignment (what this guide compares)
Rotary	Large exterior grading, foundations, driveways

Real Specs by Brand

Feature	DeWalt DW089LG	Milwaukee 3632-20	Bosch GLL3-330CG	Makita SK700GD
Accuracy	Not confirmed	$\pm 1/8"$ at 33'	$\pm 3/32"$ at 30'	$\pm 1/16"$ at 33'
Visibility	100'-165'	250' (diameter)	200'-300' (pulse)	115'-230' (w/ detector)
Runtime	Not confirmed	15+ hours	Not confirmed	14 hours
Battery	12V/20V MAX	M12	12V or 4x AA	12V max CXT

Accuracy at Distance

Tool	at 33'	at 66'	at 100'
Milwaukee 3632-20	1/8"	$\sim 1/4"$	$\sim 3/8"$
Bosch GLL3-330CG	3/32"	$\sim 3/16"$	$\sim 5/16"$
Makita SK700GD	1/16"	$\sim 1/8"$	$\sim 3/16"$

Calculated from published accuracy ratings, assuming linear scaling. DeWalt omitted -- accuracy not independently confirmed.

Red vs Green Beam

Green is up to 4x brighter to the human eye, visible in daylight and bright rooms, but drains batteries faster. **Red** costs less and lasts longer per charge, but washes out in bright light. Green is the clear professional default for daily jobsite use.

Laser Safety

Most consumer/pro laser levels are Class II (under 1.0 mW) -- the blink reflex offers some protection, but continuous exposure can still cause damage. Never stare directly into the beam. Tinted glasses do not offer sufficient protection against direct exposure.

Recommended Models at a Glance

Brand	Model	Best If...
DeWalt	DW089LG	Already on 12V/20V MAX
Milwaukee	3632-20	Longest confirmed runtime (15+ hrs)
Bosch	GLL3-330CG	Want Bluetooth app control
Makita	SK700GD	Tightest confirmed accuracy

Do You Need a Detector?

A laser detector lets you find the beam beyond where you can see it -- outdoors, in bright light, or at long range. All four tools support detector accessories. For typical indoor trim and layout work, you likely won't need one.

Common Mistakes

Buying red beam for daylight or bright-room work

Red lines wash out in bright light. Green is worth the extra cost for daily use.

Assuming a laser detector is included

Extended visibility ranges usually require a separate detector accessory.

Not accounting for green's shorter battery runtime

Green diodes drain batteries faster -- factor this into your battery planning.

Overbuying accuracy you don't need

All four comfortably exceed what most trim and layout work requires.