

# Breathalyser Direct

The UK's Leading Breathalyser Suppliers

## WHICH BREATHALYSER WORKS BEST ? AL7000 GETS TOP RATING

This article originally appeared in Norway's Click Magazine



CLICK journalist MAY BLÅSE: Captain Frank Schröder measures Clicks Janicke Ulvatne. © with a Drager 6810 Police Issue Breathalyser.

**Do you use a breathalyser?** We have tested four new and one used - with startling results. Christmas is approaching, and many people will enjoy the festive season, but how do you know if you are safe to drive ?

In recent years, several thousand people have not take any precautions before getting behind the wheel after a night out. We have tested four of the most popular new breathalysers on the market and a second hand CA2000 model

New products vary in accuracy and function, with the price not always reflecting the accuracy of the machine. There are many thousands of consumer breathalysers in use in homes. Of the five machines that we tested, three of them use 'semi conductor' type sensors with the other two using 'fuel cell technology'.

The usual advantage of fuel cell sensors is that they have a longer lifespan before needing recalibration and the sensor is usually more robust and alcohol specific so theoretically is not

influenced by other things, such as cigarette smoke or exhaust from cars).

There used to be a huge number of breathalysers on the market, varying from budget keyring devices (normally very poor accuracy) to more serious breathalysers as we tested.

## Our Test:

Test Person: Janicke Ulvatne is 36 years old, 1.63 meters high and weighs 55 kilograms.

She drank three glasses of white wine (alcohol content 10.5) between the hours of 8:00 and 9:15. The test began about an hour later. At that time, Janicke was well aware of the influence the alcohol had had on her system and she blew twice into each test device.

As a reference machine, we used a Dräger 6810 (Police Issue) device - a highly sophisticated measuring device that is calibrated regularly. With us on the test was Police captain Frank Schroeder.



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## Results:



**Product: Alcoscan AL7000 Manufacturer: Alcoscan**

UK Price: Approx £93.00

Rating:

1 2 3 4 5 **6**

Good performance, easy to use.

Test 1: 0.41

Test 2: 0.48

Drager 6810: 0.34

## Conclusion

Very good result.

The difference between the AL7000 and the reference device is small, and when the error is just over, you have an extra margin of safety.

The AL 7000 also has a big advantage in that you can replace the sensor module, and thus do not have to resubmit it for calibration.

Easy to use, with straightforward instructions.

Good design.



**Product: Safeway Manufacturer: Safeway**

Price: UK Price Approx £150

Rating:



Test 1: 0.40

Test 2: 0.41

Drager 6810: 0.36

## Conclusion

Very good result.

The device, was closest to the correct measurement.

The Safeway 500 was a little over the Drager device.

Fuel cell technology makes sure it is alcohol specific.

Bulky design, but easy to use.



**Product: Alcoscan AL9000 Manufacturer: Alcoscan**

Non UK Price: Approx £150

Rating:

1 2 3 **4** 5 6

Very good result.



**Product: CA5000 Pro Manufacturer: CA**

Non UK: Approx £85

Rating:

1 **2** 3 4 5 6

This particular model read 50% higher than the Drager Test unit.



**Product: CA2000 (Old Unit)**

Price: Approx £50

Rating:

**1** 2 3 4 5 6

This device was a 5 year old unit that had never been recalibrated and the results were very inaccurate because of this. You need to recalibrate breathalysers regularly to maintain accuracy levels.

This article is a translated and abridged article from the original Nowegian version. We take no responsibility for errors in the translation. The original version is here:

