

Rosie, the Wyze Robot Vacuum

By Jasmine Blue D'Katz, Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

www.lcace.org

jj1450xl (at) yahoo.com

For the past, several weeks I have listened to several attendees on Tech for Seniors talk about the Wyze Robotic Vacuum and comparing it to the Roomba models. This new vacuum is more affordable than other brands and uses a new top-notch laser system to map an efficient cleaning route, unlike other models that use the bump and turn technique.

Using a laser sensor to map your home has been used in the more expensive models, but I now have this feature for as little as \$249.99. In addition, I can use the app to select certain rooms and send the vacuum straight there or create virtual walls to cordon off areas I want the vacuum to avoid. For example, the Wyze works quickly and methodically, effectively collecting debris and cat hair from the kitchen hardwood floors and the carpeting in the living room.

This mapping is done with the several group sensors that map my home and navigate around obstacles. The most notable of these sensors is the Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) scanner on the top. The scanner casts thousands of invisible laser points to measure the surroundings and generate an editable map of my home floor plan. Once the map is created, I can label each room and select which one I want cleaned and send the vacuum directly there. Creating virtual walls will keep the vacuum from areas I want it to avoid, like a mess of cords under my home theater system. The vacuum even avoids falling down the stairs and automatically returns to its base station when done.

The Wyze Robot Vacuum offers three suction levels: quiet, standard, and strong. Although I chose the most powerful level, it may pick up more dirt, but is slightly lower.

Download the Wyze app (available for Android and iOS), create an account, give your vacuum and name (Rosie), and once fully charged, I was ready to start cleaning. Unfortunately, the vacuum only took passes to generate a map of my rooms, unlike other models, which take two or three passes.

The Wyze vacuum's battery life is about 110 minutes in the standard mode. This has sufficient time to clean my house, but if the battery runs low, the vacuum will return to its docking station to charge, then pick up where it left off, but I have not had that problem since it is only cleaning two rooms of my house, the living room and kitchen.

Rosie did an excellent job of cleaning along the edges of the walls on its first pass. The app makes it easy to edit the map, but since it only vacuums the two rooms, I did not need to edit or give the rooms names. The app also allows you to adjust the suction levels, view the cleaning record, and create cleaning schedules. For example, I generally set my Wyze to clean early morning three times a week.



Maintenance is as simple as using the included brush to wipe off the dustbin and HEPA filter, occasionally removing and cleaning the main and edge brushes, and wiping off the sensor on top of the vacuum. Depending on usage, Wyze recommends swapping out the main brushes every six to 12 months, and I will keep that in mind since I have only had mine for a few weeks.



[Wyze Robot Vacuum](#)

[Watch the video](#)