adidas Vengeful Boost

The Vengeful Boost is the third new running shoe from adidas in as many seasons. Its siblings, the UltraBoost and UltraBoost ST, aimed at the top tier of the market, but here the goal was to protect the runner and his or her wallet. The upper is a uniform open mesh, covered with a soft and pliable lining that feels nice and gentle against the foot. The tongue is kept in place with a gusset, and the ankle collar has just enough padding for comfort. The midsole is full-length Boost TPU foam, with its long-lasting, bouncy feel and is topped by an EVA layer to smooth the ride. A well-shaped medial structure that adidas calls StableFrame improves the stability of the heel. The outsole is full-length rubber, with a full-contact bottom and low-profile lugs that offer good cushioning. The release of earlier Boost shoes offered lessons that the Vengeful Boost benefits from, so the openings in its outsole are effectively placed for flexibility and traction. Dollar for dollar, the Vengeful Boost provides a great combination of performance and value; in fact, it was enough to earn it our award for best shoe in the Motion Stabilizing category.

“Fit well without any extra material, [which is] fine by me because it was light. The ride is well-cushioned, stable, responsive. This was the best shoe I’ve run in over the past few years.”

New Shoe

Sizes: Men 6.5–13,14; Women 6–11
Weight: 11.4 oz. (men’s 11); 9.2 oz. (women’s 8)
Shape: semicurved
Construction: Strobel slip-lasted
Recommended for: low- to medium-arched feet with neutral biomechanics to excessive pronation

$110