

INTRUMENT BUYERS GUIDE

Need to purchase an instrument? Here is some helpful information!

PIANO

A **digital piano** has weighted keys and is meant to simulate a real acoustic piano. Some have built-in speakers, while others need to be plugged into an amplifier. A **keyboard** does not have weighted keys and can come in many sizes, ranging from 25-88 keys. **A keyboard is a great place to start!** As your child continues, you'll want to consider upgrading to a digital piano with weighted keys. If you have a **traditional piano**, we recommend getting it tuned every 2-5 years.

Keyboards:

\$80 - Casio Casiotone SA-51 (32 keys) or SA-81 (44 keys) (only for ages 5 and under)

\$120 - Donner 61 Key Keyboard

\$140 - Casio Casiotone CT-S200 (61-Key)

Digital Pianos:

\$300 - Alesis Concert 88-key Digital Piano

\$480 - YAMAHA P71 88-Key Digital Piano

\$900 - Casio Privia PX-770 - 88-Key Digital Piano

\$900 - Yamaha Arius, 88-Key Weighted Action Digital Piano

Other piano gear you may need: Keyboard stand, keyboard stool, music stand, and possibly an amplifier if the keyboard doesn't have built-in speakers, headphones.

UKULELE

Ukuleles typically come in 4 different sizes - soprano, concert, tenor, and baritone. We recommend starting your child with either a **soprano** or **concert** size.

Great beginner ukuleles:

\$70 - Kala Makala (or KA-15C) Soprano Ukulele

\$90 - Lanikai (LU21-S) 4-String Soprano Ukulele

\$90 - Kala KA-15C Satin Mahogany Concert Ukulele

Other ukulele gear you may need: Ukulele bag or case, picks (soft), additional ukulele strings, tuner (you can use a phone or ipad app), music stand.

MORE ON THE BACK



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GUITAR

Guitars come in different sizes - full-size, 3/4 size, and 1/2 size. We typically recommend full-size for ages 10+ and 3/4 size for ages 9 and under, and occasionally 1/2 size for age 5. We are not a fan of the 3 string guitar alternatives on the market. We'd rather have them rock on a ukulele! If purchasing a brand new guitar, you may need a guitar technician to give the guitar a "set up" for ease of playing and consistent tonality (Typically \$100-200).

Smaller guitars (recommended for 9Yo and under):

\$170 - Loog Pro VI Acoustic kids guitar (smaller than a 1/2 size at 29" long)

\$180 - Yamaha JR1 FG Junior 3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar

\$450 - Taylor BT2 Baby Taylor Acoustic Guitar (professional quality small guitar)

\$450 - Martin LXX2 Little Martin Koa (professional quality small guitar)

Standard guitars (recommended for ages 10+):

\$220 - Fender CC-60S acoustic guitar

\$240 - Yamaha FG800J acoustic guitar

\$550 - Yamaha STORIA II Concert acoustic

Left handed guitars? They do exist, but you'll have to search a little harder! Let us know and we can help.

Other guitar gear you may need: Guitar bag or hard case, guitar strap, picks, additional guitar strings, tuner (you can use a phone or tablet app), and music stand.

DRUMS

An **acoustic drum set** has real drumheads and metal cymbals, while **electronic drum set**, which are meant to simulate an acoustic drum set, must be plugged into a power source and plugged into an amplifier to be heard. Electronic drum sets can have less of an authentic drum sound but can be volume controlled or even played through headphones, reducing noise in the home.

Acoustic Drum Sets:

\$400 - Ludwig Questlove Pocket Kit 4-piece Drum Set

\$480 - Pearl Roadshow Jr. 5-piece Complete Drum Set with Cymbals

Electronic Drum Sets:

\$230 - Donner DED-80 Electronic Drum Set

\$400 - Alesis Nitro Max Mesh Electronic Drum Set

Other drum gear you may need: Headphones (Option: \$87 - Vic Firth SIH3 Stereo Isolation Headphones), Drum Sticks: Size 5A, Drum throne (seat).

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