

Things to consider

Number of keys

A full-size keyboard has 88 keys.

Weighting of the keys

To give a keyboard a realistic feel, which is important for serious piano study, the keyboard should have weighted keys. More expensive keyboards will have a more realistic feel across the range of the keyboard by subtly adjusting the weight of each key. Less expensive keyboards will weight keys in larger groups delivering a less realistic feel, but still suitable as a home practice instrument. An unweighted keyboard will not feel like a real piano and should be avoided as long-term practice instruments if possible, but can be suitable for learning note names/keyboard layout, and for pairing with a computer (if it is MIDI compatible).

Sound - Sampled vs. Synthesized

Generally, more expensive keyboards will use sampled sounds which will be more realistic and less expensive keyboards will use synthesized sounds.

Accessories to consider

Keyboard Stand

Sustain Pedal

Adjustable Bench

Some good options at a range of prices

\$120 - [Casio CT-S200, 61-Key Keyboard](#) *Unweighted, 61 Keys

\$240 - [Alesis Recital, 88 Key Digital Electric Piano](#)

\$380 - [Casio, 88-Key Digital Piano](#)

\$500 - [Yamaha P45, 88-Key Weighted Action Digital Piano](#)

\$650 - [YAMAHA P125, 88-Key Weighted Action Digital Piano](#)

\$1500 - [Yamaha P515B, 88-key Digital Piano](#)