

Gear for beginners

Note: Text **in green** indicates the gear I'd choose in each category if I were a beginner drummer.

Acoustic drums

Under \$650

Pearl Roadshow (hardware and cymbals included but not the throne)

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/RS525SC-ABG--pearl-roadshow-5-piece-complete-drum-set-with-cymbals-22-inch-kick-aqua-blue-glitter>

Pros:

- great value for the money
- all in 1

Cons:

- cheap cymbals
- drumheads won't be great
- no throne

Around \$1000

Pearl export (hardware included. No throne, no cymbal)

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/EXX725S31--pearl-export-exx-5-piece-drum-set-with-hardware-fusion-configuration-jet-black>

Pros:

- a kit you can keep for years
- great for beginner/intermediate drummers
- hardware included
- easy to resell

Cons:

- no throne, no cymbal
- drumheads probably won't be great

Yamaha Stage Custom (hardware included. No throne, no cymbal)

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/SBP2F57-CR--yamaha-stage-custom-birch-drum-set-cranberry-red>

Pros:

- a kit you can keep for years
- great for beginner/intermediate drummers
- hardware included

Cons:

- no throne, no cymbal
- drumheads probably won't be great

Electronic Drums

Under \$500

Alesis Nitro Mesh

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/NitroMeshKit--alesis-nitro-mesh-electronic-drum-set>

Pros:

- price
- mesh heads
- real bass drum pedal

Cons:

- does not feel super robust

Under \$800

Roland V-Drum TD1DMK

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/TD1DMK--roland-v-drums-td-1dtk-electronic-drum-set>

Pros:

- mesh heads
- Roland quality & module interface
- real bass drum pedal (not included)

Cons:

- bass drum pedal not included

Drumsticks

Wood

Oak is very hard. Good for heavy playing, but does not absorb vibrations very well. It might break cymbals more often.

Maple is light, which is good for your wrists and cymbals but makes it very fragile.

Hickory is a great wood: not as hard as oak but stronger than maple. You feel it in your hand but it's not too heavy and still absorbs vibrations very well.

I suggest you start with Hickory.

Size

7A: light playing. Good for jazz or quiet songs.

5A: standard playing. Super versatile, start using those and adapt later.

5B: heavy playing. Versatile but heavy in the hand.

Brand

There are a bunch of great brands out there. I've used Vic Firth, ProMark and Vater. They're all great. I currently play Vater as I find them a little heavier, I love how they feel in my hands.

Vic Firth might be the more "standard" one and you'll find their sticks in any drum store.

Vic Firth 5A

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/VF5A--vic-firth-american-classic-drumsticks-5a-wood-tip>

Cymbal packs

Under \$400

Meinl HCS

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/HCSB141620--meinl-cymbals-hcs-bronze-complete-cymbal-set>

Under \$600

Meinl Classics Custom

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/CC141620-18--meinl-cymbals-classic-custom-bonus-cymbal-box-set-free-18-inch-crash>

Under \$1000

Zildjian K Custom

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/KCustHybPack--zildjian-k-custom-hybrid-cymbal-box-set-14-inch-hihats-17-inch-crash-21-inch-ride>

Hardware

Packs

Under \$300

Pearl HWP535

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/HWP535--pearl-hwp535-5-piece-50-series-hardwar-e-pack-double-braced>

Under \$600

Tama HV5WN

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/HV5WN--tama-iron-cobra-600-hardware-kit>

Throne

Under \$70

Tama HT130

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/HT130--tama-ht130-standard-drum-throne>

Under \$160

Gibraltar 9608SFT

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/9608SFT--gibraltar-9608sft-round-top-softy-throne>

Under \$250

Roc N Soc Nitro gas

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/NROR--roc-n-soc-nitro-hydraulic-throne-red>

Pedal

Under \$70

Pearl P530

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/P530--pearl-p530-single-bass-drum-pedal>

Under \$150

Tama Iron Cobra HP600D

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/HP600D--tama-iron-cobra-600-single-pedal>

Under 270\$

Pearl Eliminator Redline P2050C

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/P2050C--pearl-eliminator-redline-single-bass-drum-pedal-chain-drive>

Accessories

Practice pad

Evans RealFeel

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/RealFeel6--evans-6-inch-realfeel-mountable-pad>

Dampening to control undesired tones

RTom Moongels

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/VF5A--vic-firth-american-classic-drumsticks-5a-wood-tip>

Earplugs

Vic Firth hearing protection

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/VicPlugLg--vic-firth-high-fidelity-hearing-protection-large-size>

Isolating headphones

Shure SE215

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/SE215--shure-se215-sound-isolating-earphones-clear>

Vic Firth SIH2

<https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/IsoHdphV2--vic-firth-sih2-stereo-isolation-headphones>

Apps

Pro Metronome

iOs

<https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/pro-metronome-le-meilleur-m%C3%A9tronome-gratuit-%C3%A0-ce-jour/id477960671>

Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eumlab.android.prometronome&hl=fr&gl=US>

Google Sheets for the Practice Journal

iOs

<https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/google-sheets/id842849113>

Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.docs.editors.sheets&hl=fr&gl=US>