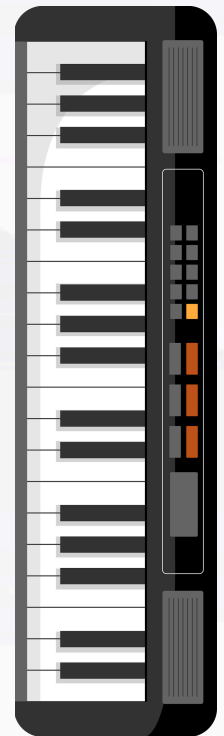




GUIDE TO BUYING YOUR FIRST GUITAR OR KEYBOARD



**BY JAMES PEDEN
JP MUSIC ACADEMY**



GUIDE TO BUYING YOUR FIRST GUITAR

BY JAMES PEDEN- OWNER OF JP MUSIC ACADEMY

Choosing the right instrument can be challenging for beginners. This guide will provide insights into which instruments to consider and what factors to keep in mind when making your selection for learning.

GUITAR:

When considering whether to choose a Nylon, Steel String, or Electric Guitar, it's essential to understand the characteristics of each type. All three serve as viable options for beginners. If your goal is to learn guitar solos or incorporate effects, an electric guitar may be the most suitable choice.

However, as a beginner, adjusting to guitar playing can take time. It often involves acclimating your fingers to the strings, which might result in some discomfort initially. Regular practice is crucial for developing finger strength and familiarity with the instrument.

For those just starting out, opting for a Nylon string guitar is advisable due to its softer feel on the fingers. This can make the initial learning phase smoother and more comfortable. As skill levels improve, transitioning to a Steel String or Electric Guitar remains an option down the line.

I have selected my top three guitars for each type Nylon, Steel and Electric. Valencia, Ashton, Fender, & Yamaha are excellent choices for beginners. If you're seeking superior quality, Yamaha and Fender stand out as the best option, with better quality parts and wood used you will have a guitar that will sound better and stand the test of time. Valencia serves its purpose well but is likely to experience wear over time. Ashton occupies a middle ground in terms of quality.

Tip: It's essential to bring the student into the store, as there are various sizes available for guitars. For younger children, a 1/2 size guitar may be necessary. Students aged 11 to 13 may require a 3/4 size, while older students typically need a full-size 4/4 guitar.

JP'S TOP PICK
NYLON



VALENCIA 100



ASHTON SPCG44



YAMAHA C40



TOP 3 GUITARS

FOR BEGINNERS

JP'S TOP PICK
STEEL STRING



ASHTON SPD25



FENDER CD60



**YAMAHA
GIG MAKER 310**

JP'S TOP PICK
ELECTRIC GUITARS



ASHTON AG232



FENDER STRAT SQUIER



YAMAHA PACFICIA

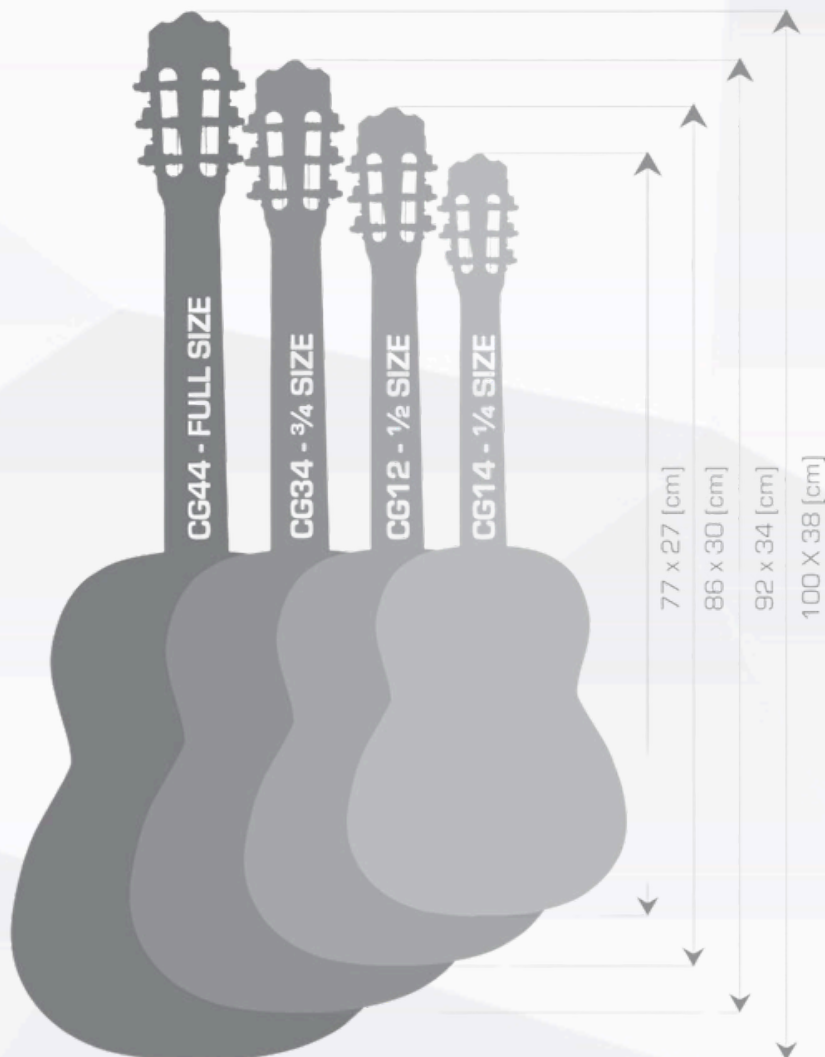


WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- DOES THE GUITAR STAY IN TUNE?
- IS THE GUITAR NECK STRAIGHT?
- HOW FAR ARE THE STRINGS FROM THE FRETBOARD?
- CAN YOU COMFORTABLY REACH THE ENTIRE FRETBOARD?
- DON'T BUY GUITARS FROM DEPARTMENT STORES OR SUPERMARKETS.

GUITAR SIZE GUIDE

SIZE GUIDE



AGE	1/4 SIZE - 2-5 year olds	1/2 SIZE - 5-8 year olds
SUITABILITY	3/4 SIZE - 8-12 year olds	FULL SIZE - 12+ to adults



GUIDE TO BUYING YOUR FIRST KEYBOARD

BY JAMES PEDEN- OWNER OF JP MUSIC ACADEMY

Choosing the right instrument can be challenging for beginners. This guide will provide insights into which instruments to consider and what factors to keep in mind when making your selection for learning.

PIANO/ KEYBOARD:

When selecting your first keyboard, it's important to steer clear of certain retailers. Stores like Big W and Kmart typically offer instruments that are better suited as toys rather than tools for learning.

When choosing a keyboard, prioritise quality instruments that feature touch response. This capability allows you to control the volume based on how lightly or forcefully you press the keys; softer touches produce quieter sounds, while firmer presses yield louder notes. In contrast, less expensive models often come with a single sensitivity setting, which can limit your ability to convey expression and emotion in the music you play.

Here are my top three recommendations for keyboards and digital pianos to consider for purchase.

CASIO CTS200 OR CTS300



YAMAHA PSR-E383



YAMAHA PSR-E438



YAMAHA PSR-SX720



**JP'S TOP PICK
KEYBOARDS**

**SECOND HAND
MODELS:
PSRE373 OR 363
OR PSRE473**

**IF YOU ARE SEEKING IMPROVED
REALISM AND SOUND QUALITY,
CONSIDER THE YAMAHA PSR-SX720 OR
PSR-SX920 SERIES.**

CASIO CDP-S110



YAMAHA P45



YAMAHA DGX670



THIS INSTRUMENT OFFERS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, FEATURING 88 KEYS THAT REPLICATE THE FEEL OF A PIANO WHILE PROVIDING THE VERSATILITY OF A KEYBOARD. YOU CAN EASILY MODIFY SOUNDS AND INCORPORATE VARIOUS DRUM BEAT STYLES INTO YOUR COMPOSITIONS IT'S IDEAL FOR THOSE SEEKING A BLEND OF TRADITIONAL PIANO EXPERIENCE WITH ADDED CREATIVE POSSIBILITIES IN THEIR MUSIC-MAKING.

LOCAL SHOPS:

WEBSITE

PAKENHAM MUSIC

www.pakenhammusic.com.au

EVOLUTION MUSIC- LYNBROOK

www.evolutionmusic.com.au

SKY MUSIC- SPRINGVALE

www.skymusic.com.au

**JP'S TOP PICK
DIGITAL PIANO**

LINKS TO READ MORE ABOUT KEYBOARDS & PIANOS➤

Yamaha:

Home Keyboards- Beginners to Intermediate

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/keyboards/portable_keyboards/index.html

Portable Digital Pianos- Light Weight Keys

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/keyboards/piaggero/index.html

Arranger Keyboards- Yamaha- Professional

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/keyboards/arranger_workstations/index.html

Digital Pianos & Pianos- Beginners to Professional

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/pianos/index.html

DGX670-

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/pianos/portable_grand/index.html

ARUIS-

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/pianos/arius/index.html

Casio:

Keyboards- Touch Sensitive

<https://casioau.com/collections/casio-music-touch-sensitive-keys>

Digital Pianos

<https://casioau.com/collections/casio-music#>

LINKS TO READ MORE ABOUT GUITARS>

[Valencia- Nylon String:](#)

<https://valenciaguitars.com/100-series/>

[Ashton Guitars:](#)

<https://www.ashtonmusic.com.au/products/guitars-1>

[Yamaha:](#)

Steel String Guitars

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/guitars_basses/ac_guitars/index.html

Electric Guitars

https://au.yamaha.com/en/products/musical_instruments/keyboards/piaggero/index.html

[Fender:](#)

Steel String Guitars

<https://www.fender.com/en-AU/acoustic-guitars/?srule=price-low-to-high&start=0&sz=18>

Electric Guitars

<https://www.fender.com/en-AU/electric-guitars/?srule=price-low-to-high&start=0&sz=20>

