

# The Best Budget Gear To Improve Your Beat Production

You might have recently started toying with the idea of making beats or just want to try it out as a hobby.

You've picked up your favorite DAW and now you are looking for some equipment to make beats with.

I'll be honest, music equipment can be quite pricey if you are trying to produce studio quality sound.

But I've spent some time checking out and analyzing all the gear that you can get within a budget.

Most modern systems can easily handle any DAW. All you need are two more things -

1. Headphones
2. MIDI Keyboard

You can add more to this depending on what you intend to do; a mic if you want to add vocals to your beats or even an audio interface. But you can add those later in the future when your budget allows.

For today, we will only focus on headphones and MIDI keyboards.

Now, you probably have some type of headphones, but are they good enough? If you can't listen to your own sound with clarity, then there's a need for an upgrade.

For the MIDI, you can *technically* get away with it by using your computer's keyboard, but that's not the best way to compose your chords and drums.

A MIDI will help out a lot and also increase your workflow.

So, the question is — how to get the best for your buck to produce beats that sound a whole lot better?

It's quite simple, I've got you covered with a list of budget equipment that will suffice for your beat making at home.

## Headphones

### 1. Audio-Technica ATH-M30x – Price: \$69

Audio-Technica is quite popular for their studio level products. Their design quality is also worth the value.

Pros:

- Comfortable even after many hours of usage.
- Good noise cancellation.
- Balanced sound.

Cons:

- Average build quality.
- Large cups can make your ears warm after some time.

### 2. Sennheiser HD 200 – Price: \$69

Sennheiser has been a renowned audio equipment brand for years now. There is no doubt that people love their products and they have quite the pleasing design.

Pros:

- Light weight.
- Balanced sounds.

Cons:

- Average build quality.
- Average noise cancellation.

### 3. Sony MDR-ZX110NC – Price: \$29

Sony is popular for their build quality and loudness. I know what you're thinking, why would I mention bass boosted headphones?

Because these are one of the few headphones that do not exaggerate the bass over other sounds .

Pros:

- Good build quality.
- Comfortable even after many hours.
- Better price-performance.

Cons:

- Unbalanced sound output.
- Poor noise cancellation.

## **MIDI**

MIDI Keyboard Controllers are equipment that do not produce any sound of their own, but the sound generated from the computer or your DAW.

They are easy to use as they come plug-n-play ready, you only have to set up your instruments in the DAW.

Most MIDIs within the same price range have similar features. They are only different in designs, and extra bells and whistles that they come with.

1. M-Audio Keystation 49 II – Price: \$99
2. Akai Professional MPK MINI MKII – Price: \$99
3. Nektar IMPACT LX25+ - Price: \$99

These are some of the basic devices that I recommend if you are spending within a small budget.

They are not spectacular when it comes to sound designing, but they get the job done while producing a satisfying output. These are the tools that I have used myself in the past.

It is better to have something rather than nothing, at least until you can upgrade your equipment for better production.

If you have any personal favorites of your own, please do mention in the comments below. Someone may find it helpful, and as the saying goes — *sharing is caring*.