

# PIANO/KEYBOARD PURCHASE TIPS FROM PINEAPPLE MUSIC STUDIO



When purchasing an instrument, you are investing in your child's education. **Music students who start lessons with a quality instrument have a much higher rate of lesson longevity and enjoyment than those that have an inadequate instrument. Starter instruments do not have to be top-of-the-line, but they do need to be able to adequately perform what the student is learning.** A quality instrument will help your student know you are invested in this venture, bring joy in practicing, and help both of you to weather the bumps in the road that come with learning a new skill. While you don't need to spend thousands of dollars right away, finding a quality instrument to start is important. Your student will be much more inclined to practice on a quality instrument!

Here are a few options to consider:

- **Electric piano:** This is a fantastic option for those looking to have the benefits of a piano but at lower price point, smaller footprint and less upkeep.
- **Keyboard:** These can run quite the range on cost, but should have at the very least:
  - full keyboard (88 keys)
  - weighted or "full" keys (this allows the student to play dynamics (loud/soft) )
  - pedal
  - bench of the proper height

You student would need all of these elements within the first few lessons. While this type of instrument is generally the least costly, it will be outgrown in a few years.

- **Piano:** Buying a piano is an investment, but used ones can be more accessible than you think. You can often find decent pianos for sale in the paper, Craig's list or through a local piano tuner. We often are contacted about used pianos that people are trying to sell as well. Many local piano showrooms offer liquidation deals throughout the year that drastically reduce the price.
- **Renting a piano:** This is a fantastic option for those not quite sure where to begin! Jacob's Music has a great student piano rental program that is worth checking out. After the first 6 months of renting, you have the option to keep renting, buy the piano or put your money towards another instrument. They pay for the piano delivery, tuning and any upkeep it would need. They provide a beautiful upright piano in excellent condition. You can find out more information by checking out their website: <http://www.jacobsmusic.com/rentals.php> .

**We also recommend:**

**Chris LaBarre, Piano Store/Tuner**

**CJ's Pianos (Phoenixville, PA)**

484-928-0222

cjspianos@cjspianos.com

*Chris does a fantastic job with piano sales, tuning and repair. CJ's Piano's now also offers piano rentals! They have a beautiful showroom featuring the fantastic Hailun piano as well as other new and used options. If you are buying a used instrument from a private seller, Chris would be able to let you know if you are getting a good deal and if the piano needs any work. Mention we referred you for a special discount!*

**Most importantly- when considering an instrument purchase, do your homework!**

**Please reach out to us with any questions, and we would be happy to help guide you!**