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Subject: Thoughts on Digital Pianos

Posted by [LizardBat](#) on Sat, 27 Aug 2011 10:48:41 GMT

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Does anyone here own or use a digital piano? I'm thinking about getting one for my home studio, but I'm a little dubious. Can someone give me their opinions on them, please. I have space for either a digital piano or an upright acoustic piano or maybe a spinet style piano. Thanks!

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 27 Aug 2011 14:13:31 GMT

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Electric pianos have gotten soooo much better since the days of analog Korg, Roland, Arp and Moog synthesizers. Back then, seemed to me the sound to have - if you wanted an electric piano - was the Fender Rhodes. But it didn't sound anything like an acoustic piano. Now days, some of the modern digital pianos with sampled instruments are really good. Much more portable too, and no need for periodic tuning. That said, it's still hard to beat a real acoustic grand piano. Can you fit maybe a baby grand?

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos

Posted by [audioaudio90](#) on Tue, 30 Aug 2011 17:12:36 GMT

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I think an acoustic piano is better, but the portability, smaller size and improved quality that Wayne mentioned make a digital piano a viable option.

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos

Posted by [Thermionic](#) on Mon, 05 Sep 2011 19:38:10 GMT

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In my experience, an acoustic piano recording can sound knockout IF you have the right mics and (especially) the right room acoustics. Of course, I do tend to compare piano recordings to the stuff I've heard come out of a friend's studio. He has a Yamaha grand that sounds absolutely stunning, and the right acoustics to record it. It's downright magical.

But, I personally almost never have access to such ideal conditions, so I generally MUCH prefer digital pianos. No mic placement or acoustics problems, no tuning, no maintenance, no worrying about humidity and temperature, or any of the stuff that comes with an acoustic piano. You just plug it in, choose your preset, set the levels, and let 'er rip.

And, however good an acoustic piano may sound, it's still a one-trick pony. You just can't beat the

plethora of tones available from a digital piano, that will cover any song or musical style imaginable. It also requires very little EQ'ing. You just add some appropriate compression and reverb.

Roland and Kurzweil are IMO the best. However, there's a great disparity in tone between the different Roland models. Play several, and find the one you like.

Just my 2 cents.

Thermionic

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos  
Posted by [chrisR](#) on Sat, 14 Jan 2012 00:52:45 GMT  
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A little late, probably...

I have a Casio Pixma 310, and I'm no piano player, but I really like it. It has good sounds when played through a good system, and the action is reasonably close to a real piano.

Chris

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos  
Posted by [likearecordingbaby](#) on Wed, 27 Jun 2012 19:32:33 GMT  
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I think they're convenient if you're pressed for space, have a budget, etc. They're easy to learn on and mimic an actual piano close enough.

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on Digital Pianos  
Posted by [Nymeria](#) on Sat, 30 Jun 2012 20:52:18 GMT  
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They are better than they used to be, but I wish digital pianos had hammer-weighted keys so they can mimic the feel of playing an acoustic piano.