

# Electronic Drums VS Acoustic Drums

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## Electronic Drums VS Acoustic Drums – Which Is Better?

For many years, there's a debate between electronic drums vs acoustic drums. Which is better? Which sounds better? Why drummers prefer acoustic drums?

I will share with you my honest opinion about which one I believe is better for recording purposes and for mixing purposes.

## Recording With Acoustic Drums

To get a great sound with acoustic drums is difficult.

Taking into consideration one of the laws of mixing that the “80% of a great sound comes from the source of the sound” then we can easily say that in order to get a great sound we need:

- **Expensive and High-Quality Drums:** Each and every part of the drum kit must be of high quality.
- **Expensive – High Quality Mics,** for each and every separate drum and lots of room mics to capture the room sound and use it in our mix.
- **A Custom Made Room** that we must have spent thousands of dollars for proper acoustic treatment and soundproofing. (lots of bands move abroad to record their drums in specific studios just for the sound that their specific ROOM MICS have to offer!)
- **Lots of cables, room to place the drums, room for the console** that will support this complex connectivity.
- *And the list goes on and on...*



## The Reasons I Prefer Electronic Drums As a Music Producer

Today's music technology is superb.

It's so easy for someone with a home studio to own all of the above, **to achieve a \$10.000+ drum sound in his mixes** and he can even sell that sound – or give it away – as sound **samples**.

With just 2-3 clicks we can have professional sounding drum sounds and the quality of our mix can easily **make the listener think that we recorded the drums in a professional recording studio.**

Even the most famous producers that don't have financial problems, like to use samples, so they can create new sounds, experiment or even save time creating a specific sound from scratch. They just load the sample and they are ready to go!

I think there's a misunderstanding about the electronic drums and I think this misunderstanding comes from the drum players themselves.

They claim that they prefer acoustic drums cause they love the way the drum hit feels when the drum stick hits the drums, which is something that I cannot disagree with.

While I do agree with the above though, we must not forget that we can find in the market fantastic electronic drum kits that instead of their usual "plastic" feel they have the acoustic kit feel.

As you can imagine, the prices for these kits are beyond cheap... But they really worth it! Especially for production purposes they really really rock.

We help the drummer to play on an electronic drum kit the... "acoustic" way, plus we have the professional sound we're looking for without the drawbacks I've mentioned before (thousands of dollars for cables, drum kit, room, soundproofing etc)

## **Electronic Drums Are Acoustic Drums Inside A Sample**

When people hear the phrase "electronic drums" it comes to their mind a weird, fake, not polished drum sound.

These days are over though. We live in 2013 and we need to realize that the way we record, mix and master evolves too.

What I am doing right now is to let my drummers record on acoustic drums because they are used to them. I also have the opportunity to record with high quality drum kits, but I like to experiment.

I keep 70% of the sound that the acoustic kit provides me with and I can also use some high quality professional sounding samples. The result? Outstanding!

What's your opinion? Leave a comment below!

**Here's a video that shows us that electronic drums are in fact acoustic drums inside a sample.**

**Yeah the sound of the "old era" of the electronic drums was poor and unprofessional. But now we can have a professional sounding acoustic kit... saved in our hard disc drive!**