



## Jacob Flint DJ Gear Buying Guide

### Laptop vs. Standalone

#### Laptop-Based DJ Controllers (Budget → Pro)


Tier	Gear & Link	Price (Est.)	Good For
Beginner	<a href="#"><u>Numark Party Mix II</u></a>	\$120	DJing with your phone, aux cable speaker
Entry Level	<a href="#"><u>Pioneer DDJ-FLX2</u></a>	\$170	DJing with your phone, aux cable speaker
Budget Pro	<a href="#"><u>Hercules Inpulse 500</u></a>	\$300	DJing with big speakers(PAs)
Mid-Tier	<a href="#"><u>Pioneer DDJ-FLX4</u></a>	\$350	DJing with big speakers(PAs)
Club Ready	<a href="#"><u>DDJ-GRV6</u></a>	\$829	DJing big systems, 4 channels of audio
Pro-Level	<a href="#"><u>DJJ FLX10</u></a>	\$1,600	Highest end laptop Controller

#### Standalone DJ Units (Budget → Pro)

Tier	Gear & Link	Price (Est.)	Notes
Budget	<a href="#"><u>Numark Mixstream Pro Go</u></a>	\$700	Battery-powered; Engine DJ
Entry Level	<a href="#"><u>Denon DJ Prime Go</u></a>	\$1,100	Compact, built-in battery
Mid-Tier	<a href="#"><u>Pioneer XDJ-RR</u></a>	\$1,100	Rekordbox prep; entry-level CDJ feel
Club Ready	<a href="#"><u>Pioneer XDJ-XZ</u></a>	\$2,300	Closest to club standard, 2 Deck mixing, performance pads
Pro-Level	<a href="#"><u>XDJ-AZ</u></a>	\$3,200	4 deck mixing, gated cue points, Streaming ready
Pro-Level	<a href="#"><u>Pioneer CDJ-3000 + DJM-A9</u></a>	\$7,000+	Industry standard

## How to access music

One major difference between laptop DJ setups and standalone gear is how you get your music:

 Laptop-Based Controllers(XDJ-AZ, OPUS Quad Standalone have access to streaming)

Most modern DJ software like Rekordbox, Serato, and djay Pro supports streaming services including:

- TIDAL
- SoundCloud Go+
- Beatport Streaming
- Beatsource

This means you can:

- Build crates with millions of songs instantly
- Discover new music on the fly
- Practice without buying every track upfront


Important: You still need a stable internet connection, and some services limit offline access.

## Standalone Systems

Most standalone units (like XDJ-RR, Prime Go, or CDJ setups) do not support streaming — or only do so under specific conditions.

This means you'll need to:

- Buy your tracks from platforms like Beatport, Traxsource, or Bandcamp
- Organize your library on USB drives or SD cards
- Stay on top of file management and backups

 **Pro Tip:** If you're just starting out or mixing at home, streaming can save money. But if you're planning to play clubs, you'll need to own and prep your tracks like a pro.

Thanks for getting the guide feel free to  
contact me at  
**iamjacobflint@gmail.com** for other  
questions!