

# Compact Checklist: Affordable Mechanical Keyboards for Gamers

*Quick Buying Guide for Budget Builds, Clean Layouts & Gaming Performance*

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## LAYOUT & SIZE OPTIONS

### *Pick Your Space-Saving Style*

- Tenkeyless (TKL): No number pad - great for FPS and compact desks
- 60% Keyboards: Ultra-minimal design with just the essentials
- Wired USB Models: Best for stable, low-latency gameplay

## SWITCH & FEEL OPTIONS

### *Game Your Way*

- Linear switches (e.g. Red): Smooth, fast strokes - no bump
- Tactile switches (e.g. Brown): Light bump for subtle feedback
- Hot-swappable support: Easily test new switches without soldering

## PERFORMANCE FEATURES

### *Not Just Clicks - Competitive Edge*

- Anti-ghosting: Ensures fast and accurate multi-key input
- RGB lighting: Custom colors and effects for gamer setups
- Macro support: Assign combos or in-game actions to keys
- Durable keycaps: PBT or double-shot ABS for long-term use

## WHY THIS CHECKLIST WORKS

### *Snapshot for First-Time Mechanical Keyboard Buyers*

- Cuts through hype and focuses on performance + comfort
- Built for gamers upgrading from membrane or laptop keyboards
- Complements our Switch Guide & Budget Keyboard Tips post-purchase
- Optimized for tight setups, tighter budgets, and big gameplay gains