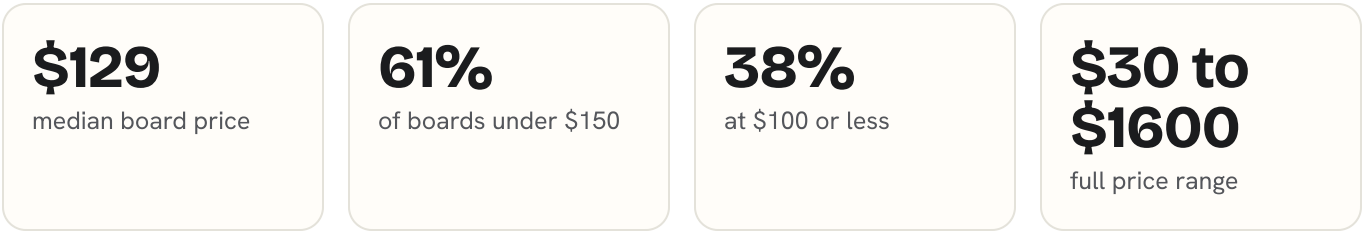


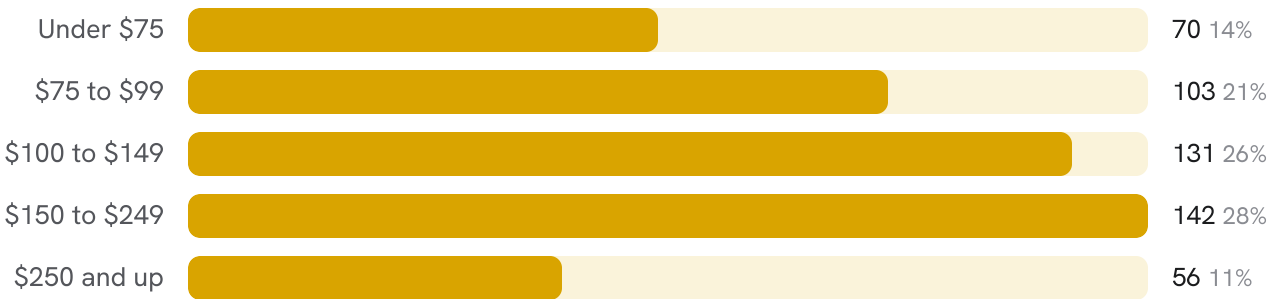
Mechanical Keyboard Price Report 2026

We priced **502 mechanical keyboards** at their listed US retail and the answer is lower than the forum consensus suggests: the median board costs **\$129**, 61% of the market comes in under \$150, and only 56 boards reach \$250 or more. Layout is the biggest price lever: medians run from \$70 for numpad boards to \$365 for Split.



The market peaks at \$150 to \$249

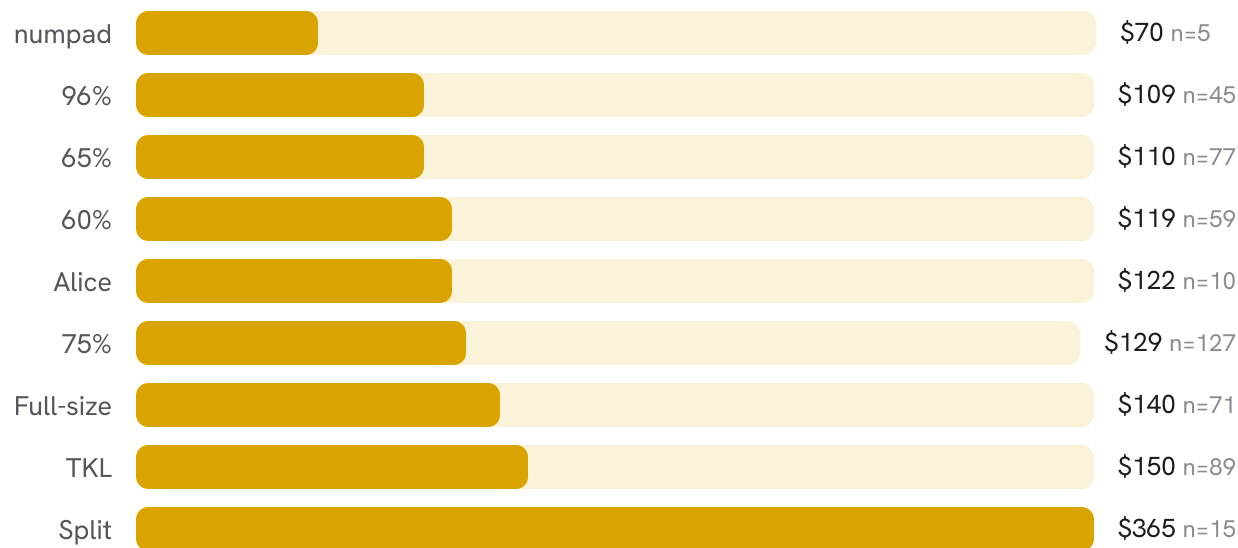
The distribution peaks in the mid-range: the \$150 to \$249 band is the single largest at 142 boards, and the \$100 to \$249 shelf together holds 273 of 502 boards (54%). Budget options still run deep: 190 boards (38%) cost \$100 or less. Above that the shelves thin out fast: just 56 boards (11%) ask \$250 or more, and those are almost all ergonomic splits, hall-effect flagships, or full-aluminum customs.



Shopping the budget end? The [keyboards under \\$100 guide](#) covers the 190 boards at \$100 or less.

Size sets the price floor

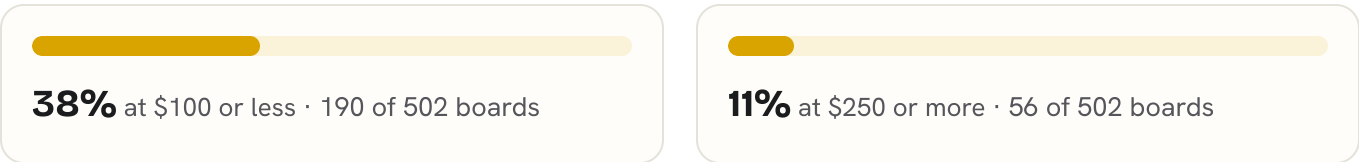
The median hides a wide spread by layout. Mainstream compact and mid-size boards cluster between \$95 and \$130, while Split boards sit at the top at a \$365 median, low-volume, enthusiast-built, and often sold in kit form. The cheapest way in is a numpad board at a \$70 median.



Medians across boards with a listed US price, layouts with five or more priced boards.

What the money buys

Spending more than the \$129 median buys materials and niche, not fundamentals. Under \$150, 79% of boards already ship hot-swap sockets and 58% go wireless, the features that used to define a premium board. Gasket mounting, the enthusiast favorite, is the most common mount in the band too, though at 45% it is a plurality rather than a default. Past \$250 you are paying for aluminum or CNC cases, ergonomic layouts, hall-effect sensors, or small-batch runs. The sensible play for most buyers is the \$75 to \$149 core, then spend the difference on switches and keycaps.



Filter by budget in the [keyboard finder](#) or browse the full [keyboard database](#).

Methodology and citation

Every figure is computed live from the [KeebScout keyboard database](#) (502 mechanical keyboards as of August 2026; 502 have a listed US retail price). Specs are normalized to one schema and units, and unpublished fields are excluded rather than guessed, with the sample size noted wherever a spec is missing. Prices are the listed US retail price where available. Nothing here is weighted by sales, sponsorship, or affiliate payouts, because the database is not; the full method is on the [about page](#). As the database grows, these numbers update on their own.

CITE THIS PAPER

Liam (KeebScout). "Mechanical Keyboard Price Report 2026." August 2026.

<https://keebscout.com/research/mechanical-keyboard-price-report-2026/>

Free to quote and link with attribution. The raw comparison lives in the [keyboard database](#) and [switch database](#), and every paper in this series is listed on the [research index](#).