

The Espresso Setup Planner (2026)

Matched machine and grinder pairs by budget, built from Crema Karma's editorial picks and maker U.S. list prices. Every price shows the date we checked it on the maker's own site. Edition of Oct 23, 2026.

Budget \$500

- Gaggia Espresso Evolution: \$299.99 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Budget single boiler in our guide)
- Breville Dose Control Pro: \$159.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Budget hopper grinder in our guide)

Total: \$459.94. Accessories: tamper sized to the portafilter, 0.1 g scale, knock box, milk pitcher, cleaning tablets.

Budget \$1,000

- Breville Bambino Plus: \$499.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Budget with auto milk in our guide)
- Baratza Sette 270: \$399.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best overall for espresso in our guide)

Total: \$899.90. Accessories: tamper sized to 54 mm, 0.1 g scale, knock box, milk pitcher, cleaning tablets.

Budget \$1,500

- Gaggia Classic Pro E24: \$549.00 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best classic single boiler in our guide)
- Baratza Sette 270: \$399.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best overall for espresso in our guide)

Total: \$948.95. Accessories: tamper sized to the portafilter, 0.1 g scale, knock box, milk pitcher, cleaning tablets.

Budget \$2,500

- Lelit MaraX: \$1,699.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best heat exchanger in our guide)
- Lelit William: \$599.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best flat burr in our guide)

Total: \$2,299.90. Accessories: tamper sized to the portafilter, 0.1 g scale, knock box, milk pitcher, cleaning tablets.

Budget \$4,000

- Lelit Bianca: \$2,999.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best splurge in our guide)
- Lelit William: \$599.95 maker list price, checked Oct 17, 2026 (Best flat burr in our guide)

Total: \$3,599.90. Accessories: tamper sized to the portafilter, 0.1 g scale, knock box, milk pitcher, cleaning tablets.

Cost per shot, by hand

Coffee per drink = bag price / bag grams x grams per drink. Example: \$9.33 per 454 g (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, series APU0000717311, September 2026) at 18 g = \$0.37. Average U.S. latte: \$5.60 (Toast, Coffee pricing report, Jul to Sep 2024 transactions). Payback months = setup cost / (monthly cafe spend - monthly home spend).

Interactive version: cremakarma.com/setup-builder/ and cremakarma.com/cost-per-shot-calculator/