

The Six Best DAWs for Songwriters – Summary Table

	PC / Mac	Approximate Price Point (US\$)	Ideal for	Coollest feature
GarageBand	Mac only	Free on Mac computers and devices	Beginner songwriters trying out production	Free and very simple to learn
FL Studio	PC & Mac	\$100 Basic version (Fruity Edition) \$200 Full version	Beginner to advanced producers, especially in electronic genres	Easy to start with, especially for loop-based music
Ableton	PC & Mac	\$100 Basic version (Intro) \$500 Full version	Beginner to advanced producers, especially for songwriter/producers who also want to perform live	Great for live performance
Logic Pro	Mac only	\$200 Standard version	Beginner to advanced producer/songwriters, especially those who work with recorded sound or work in multiple genres	A great all-round DAW great for virtually every genre
Cubase	PC & Mac	\$100 Basic version (Elements), plus \$30 USB e-Licenser \$500 Full version, plus \$30 USB e-Licenser	Beginner to advanced producer/songwriters, especially those looking for a solid all-round DAW ideal for all genres of songwriting and production	Another great all-round DAW that is well-suited to both live recording and MIDI sequencing
Pro Tools	PC & Mac	\$600 Standard version, perpetual licence \$300/year Standard version, annual licence	Producer/songwriters who want to learn record, mix and edit live audio to the highest level	The industry standard for live sound recording, mixing and mastering

Read the full article at thesongfoundry.com/best-daws-for-songwriters. *This information is correct as of January 2020, but is subject to change.*