

My shopping list — ready to play

My level: ☐ Casual ☐ Club ☐ Competition Date: __ / __ / ____



Details and links
www.espritbillard.com/en/materiel/

CASUAL: I MOSTLY WANT TO PLAY

About €40 to €100 for a complete cue

- ☐ **Cue:** complete, 2-piece, entry-level (guide: about €65). Above all, straight.
- ☐ **Chalk:** ordinary chalk is enough: a pack of 4 costs about €6.
- ☐ **Glove:** optional, useful in hot weather or with a sweaty hand.
- × **Not needed:** decorative finishes or an expensive case at this stage.

CLUB: I'M GETTING INTO IT, I PLAY REGULARLY

About €100 to €300 for the cue

- ☐ **Cue:** more consistent wood, a more reliable shaft, 11 to 12 mm tip (guide: about €110). Weight 480 to 540 g, chosen by trying it.
- ☐ **Chalk:** a brand that grips better and dirties the cloth less.
- ☐ **Case:** to carry it to the club.
- ☐ **Upkeep:** tip shaper and fine sandpaper to keep the tip slightly domed.
- ☐ **Glove:** optional.

COMPETITION: I PLAY TOURNAMENTS

From about €300 for the cue

- ☐ **Cue:** 3-piece, chosen in a specialist shop or at the club, after trying it.
- ☐ **Spare shaft:** compatible with your cue's joint.
- ☐ **Chalk:** always the same brand, to keep the same feel.
- ☐ **Case:** rigid or reinforced for travel.
- ☐ **Carbon?:** not a first purchase: keep it for people who already play a lot.

BEFORE YOU PAY: 5 CHECKS

- ☐ **Straight:** roll the cue on a flat surface; it must not wobble.
- ☐ **Weight:** between 480 and 540 g, but the right one is the one that suits you in hand.
- ☐ **Tip:** 11 to 12 mm to start with, thinner later if you like.
- ☐ **Trial:** try several cues at a club or shop before choosing.
- ☐ **Level:** move up when you feel a limit, not before.

WHERE TO TRY, WHERE TO BUY

- **At the club:** they lend cues and give advice (see the *Find a club* page).
- **Specialist shop:** for competition cues and advice on the spot.
- **Online:** chalk, cases, gloves, entry-level cues; some of the site's links are affiliate links and are marked.
- **Budget:** keep some room for a few lessons.

Indicative prices noted in October 2026, to check before buying. Brands mentioned without any partnership.

Buying links and explanations: www.espritbillard.com/en/materiel/