



Blacksmithing
for every budget



The art of blacksmithing is undergoing something of a renaissance. In a prefabricated world, it appeals to those of us who long to create something lasting and beautiful, forged with our own hands. For thousands of years, blacksmithing has been the essential craft.

It thrills me to see that people want to embark on one of the most rewarding of all crafts. But I also see far too many people hold themselves back from pursuing their dream. Why? Because they believe it takes a lot of money to set up a blacksmithing shop.

The truth is, you can get everything you need to set up a blacksmithing shop for as little as \$1,004.

Anvil – around \$300

Acquiring an anvil is a moment of pride for a budding blacksmith. It is perhaps the most iconic symbol of our craft, and finding your first anvil can be a real treasure hunt. Having said that, your anvil can also be the biggest expense in setting up your shop. Luckily, there are plenty of options.

A high-quality 75-100 pound used anvil offers you the best overall value as a novice blacksmith. You can usually find one quickly for around \$5 per pound. If you are patient, you can even find one for \$1-\$3 per pound. This means that you can pick up a used 75-pound anvil for between \$200 and \$500. Ebay tends to have the highest prices, while your best bet for scoring a deal is craigslist, OfferUp, or most of all, word of mouth.



An 80lb anvil and stand I just bought on craigslist for \$250. A very nice setup for any blacksmith, including a beginner.



This anvil was purchased for less than \$250 by setting an alert on craigslist and then acting quickly once it was posted.



There are a lot of great new anvils on the market, too. The 76-pound [Knife Maker](#) anvil at \$310 is an excellent choice. For those with a higher budget, below I've also included a list of other new anvils ranging from \$400 to just over \$1000.

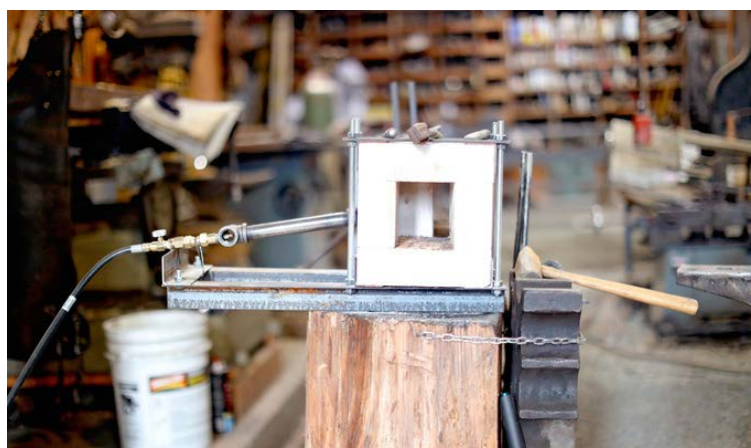


NC's 76-pound [Knife Maker](#) anvil is a great option at \$310.

Forge – under \$200

A very inexpensive way to get a forge is to make one yourself, which not only saves you money but is also very personally rewarding. It's easy to do and will cost you only \$100–\$200 in materials and just a day out of your weekend. In fact, right now I'm working on a YouTube video where I'll show you step-by-step how to create what will become the heart of your blacksmithing shop. And since you signed up for the guide, I'll deliver the video to your inbox as soon as it's live.

If you prefer to purchase a forge, you're still only looking at a modest investment of around \$180 for a used forge or [\\$229 for a new one](#).



A propane forge will cost you around \$200, or you can easily build your own.



Hammers and other tools – under \$500

There's a very good chance you already have many of the tools you'll need to get started in blacksmithing, such as hammers, a vise, and vise grips. For any tools you do need to purchase, there are many inexpensive options on the market. You can score yourself an even better deal (and have a bit of fun) by hunting at garage and estate sales or on eBay.



Hammers and tongs, the essential tools for the essential craft.



Basic Blacksmithing Setup Price List

Prices fluctuate, but they are regularly as low as this:

	Price
Anvil (76 lb)	\$310
Forge (DIY option)	\$200
Propane tank	\$25
Small hammer (1-3 lb)	\$18
Medium hammer (4-5 lb)	\$25
V-bit tongs (1/2")	\$45
Wolf jaw tongs	\$45
Vise	\$28
Vise grips	\$25
Vise Grip "C" clamps (11")	\$23
Angle Grinder (4 1/2")	\$80
Drill (3/8")	\$50
Drill bits	\$18
Cut-off discs	\$20
Flap discs	\$24
Cup brush	\$9
Galvanized steel tub (5 gallon)	\$18
HardieBacker board (to protect your workbench)	\$15
Fire extinguisher	\$20
Safety glasses	\$3
Ear plugs	\$3
TOTAL	\$1,004

Higher-quality new anvils

	Price
Kanca drop-forged double-horned anvil (77 lb)	\$445
Kanca drop-forged double-horned anvil (110 lb)	\$600
AB Legend (120 lb)	\$683
Kanca drop-forged double-horned anvil (165 lb)	\$887
Nimba Titan (120 lb)	\$975
Baby Rhino (140 lb)	\$1125



This is your year to learn blacksmithing

Now you know that blacksmithing is within reach, we're excited to tell you about a new resource we're putting together for beginners. If you want to get started in the craft or hone your skills, I think you'll be sure to love it.

Nate and I are busy working on it now, so look for email updates and new videos on YouTube to see what you'll learn in the course and when you can get started.



We're excited to get your blacksmithing journey underway.