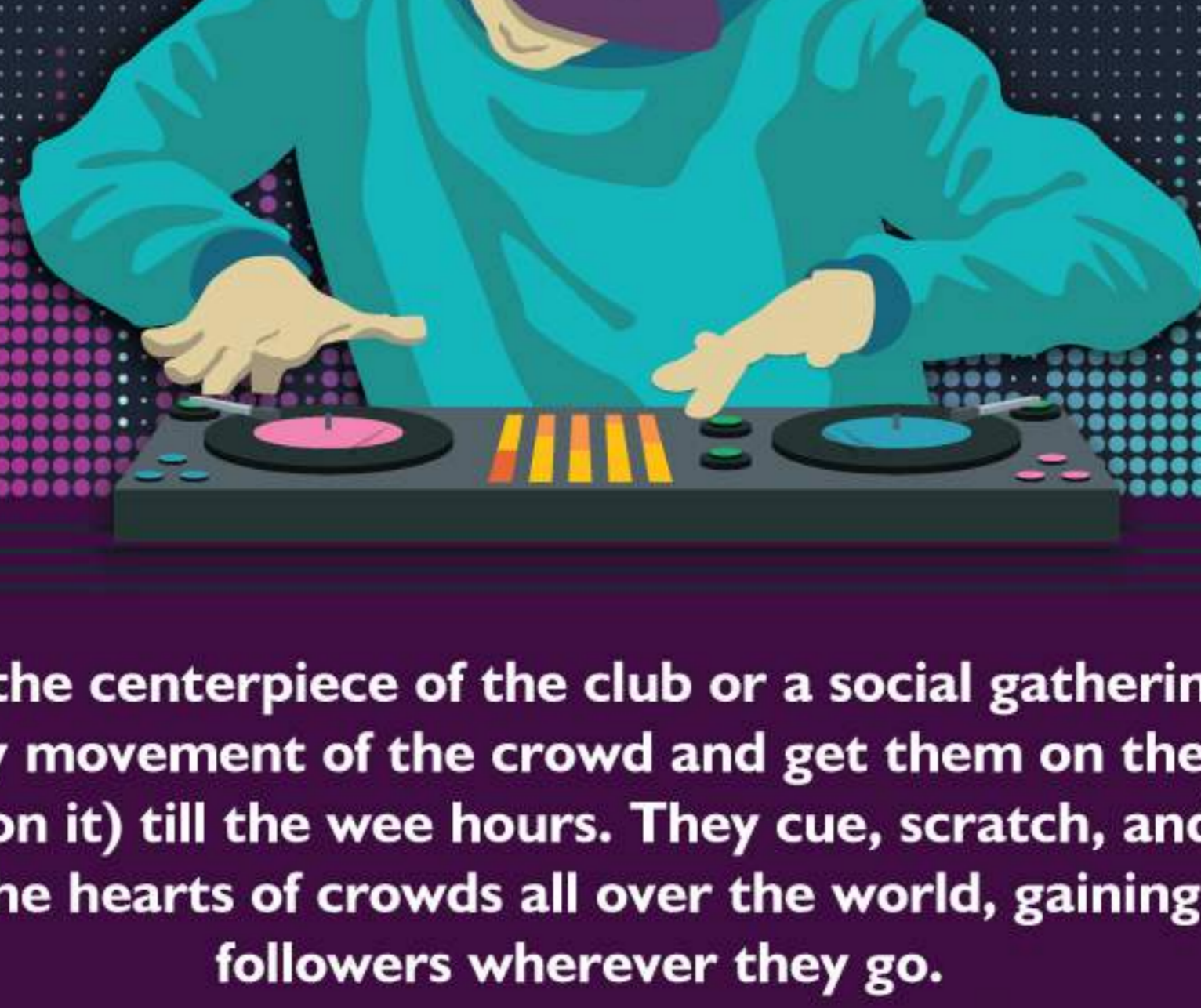


Burning up the Dance Floor

A starter guide to DJ'ing



DJs are the centerpiece of the club or a social gathering. They control every movement of the crowd and get them on their feet (and keep them on it) till the wee hours. They cue, scratch, and mix their way into the hearts of crowds all over the world, gaining fans and followers wherever they go.

Do you have a passion for beats that can enthrall crowds and get them moving to your tunes? We give you the lowdown on how you can start your DJ career, right here!

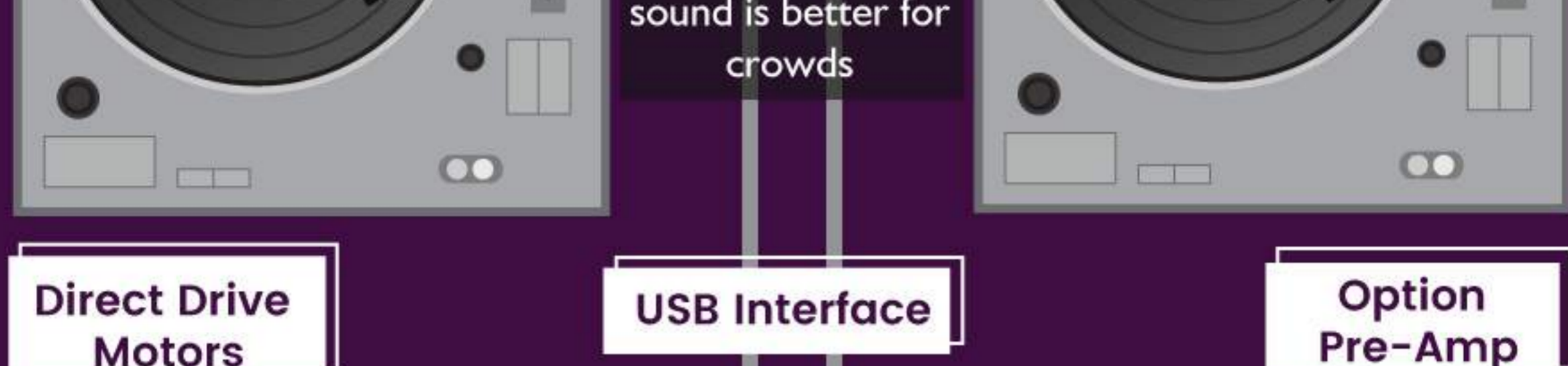
The First Choice Analog or Digital

Disc Jockeys or DJ's started way back in 1909 mixing with vinyl records. 5 decades later, the two-turntable was introduced in 1955. DJs were the modern musical heroes and the cynosure of all ears!

ANALOG

Two Turntables

Turntables are where you need to spend a good chunk of your money. These are the qualities a turntable needs to have



High Quality Sound

Distortion free sound is better for crowds

Direct Drive Motors

Easier to scratch and pause while spinning

USB Interface

Inputs from various devices and digital-analog interface

Option Pre-Amp

A pre-Amp boosts sound and depending on the model of your turntable, may be required.

Vinyl Hardware

Record Cleaning Fluid
Records can gather dirt and grime, cleaning it with a record cleaning fluid can keep it in good condition for longer

Extra Styluses and Cartridges

Have replacements right on hand

Vinyl Brush

For getting rid of loose dirt

RCA Cables

Connecting mixer to audio output

Mixer

The mixer is central focus of the entire setup. It is responsible for processing **analog signals and filtering sounds** for the audience. Features include

Gain Meter

This controls the level of signal source and used to match volume between tracks

Isolator

Shuts off sounds at specific frequencies temporarily

Level Meter

Eliminates clipping and distortion

Cross-fader

Fade out of one channel into another – mostly used for transitioning between songs

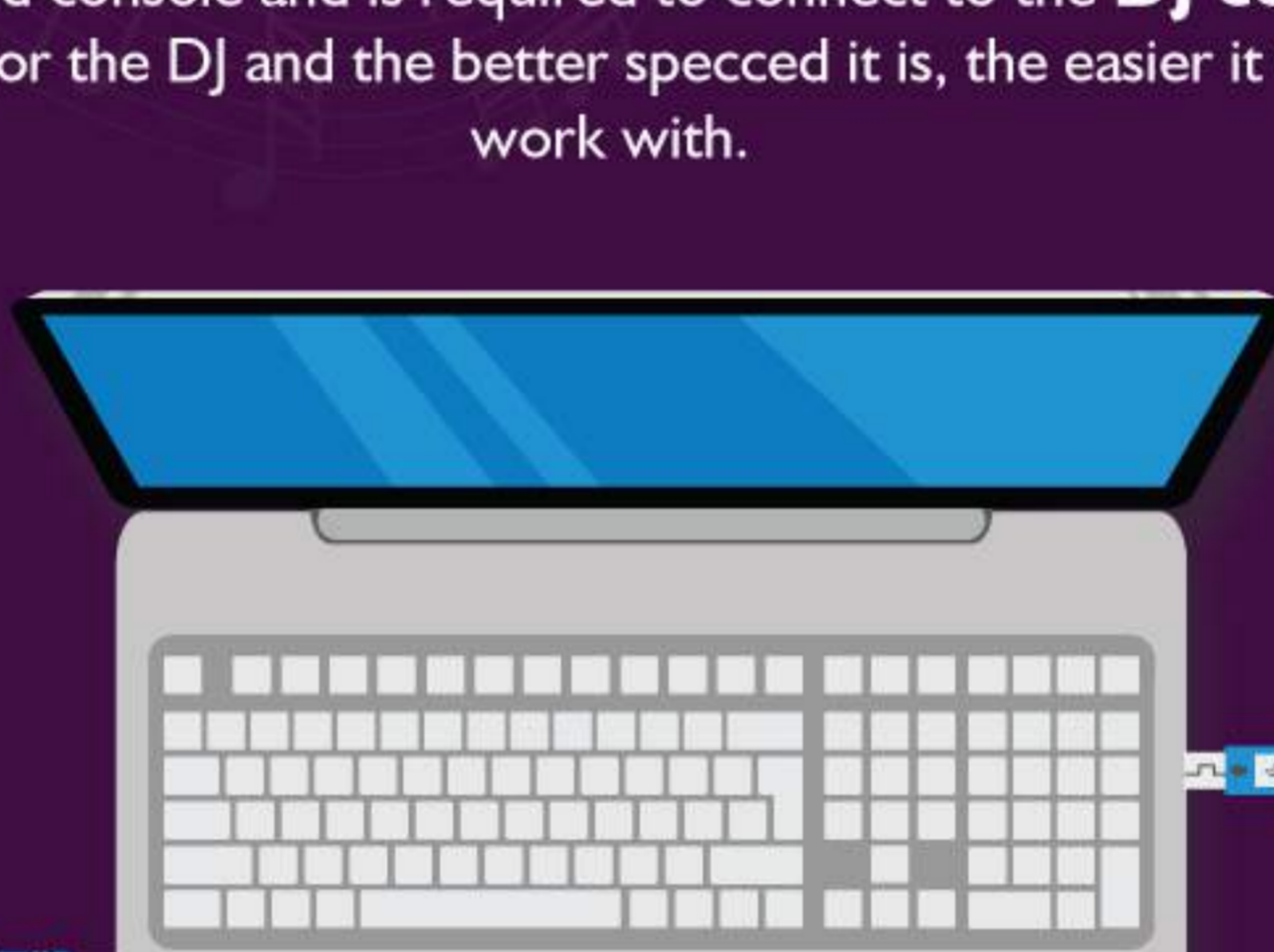
Cue Button

Matching beats on master track before mixing

DIGITAL

Laptop

This is your command console and is required to connect to the **DJ controller**. It is an indispensable tool for the DJ and the better spec'd it is, the easier it will be for you to work with.



External Hard Drive

This is used to carry around all your music along with your mixes that you need for different tracks.

System Configuration

These are the minimum specs your Laptop should have

2 GB of ram

25 GB of hard disk space

Core 2 DUO processor

2 or more USB connections

CDJ Turntable

A **CDJ turntable** is the best option to lugging around **1000s of vinyls**. CDJs give you the vinyl you want right at your fingertips, literally! If you're serious about DJing then consider investing in one of these.

Pricey

A good model costs **\$700**



DJ Software

This is basically your interface between your DJ equipment and your laptop. It has several features and effects built in. These are the most common features a DJ software has

Sync

It beatmatches mixes by tracking these

- Beatgrids
- BPM (beats per minute)
- Key

Track Preparation

- iTunes integration
- Quick access to library and playlists

DJ Controller

This simulates mixing on **real turntables** and helps controlling the **DJ software**. These are the features

Filter Fade

Adds two high pass filters to crossfader

USB Power

To power the controller



Performance Pads

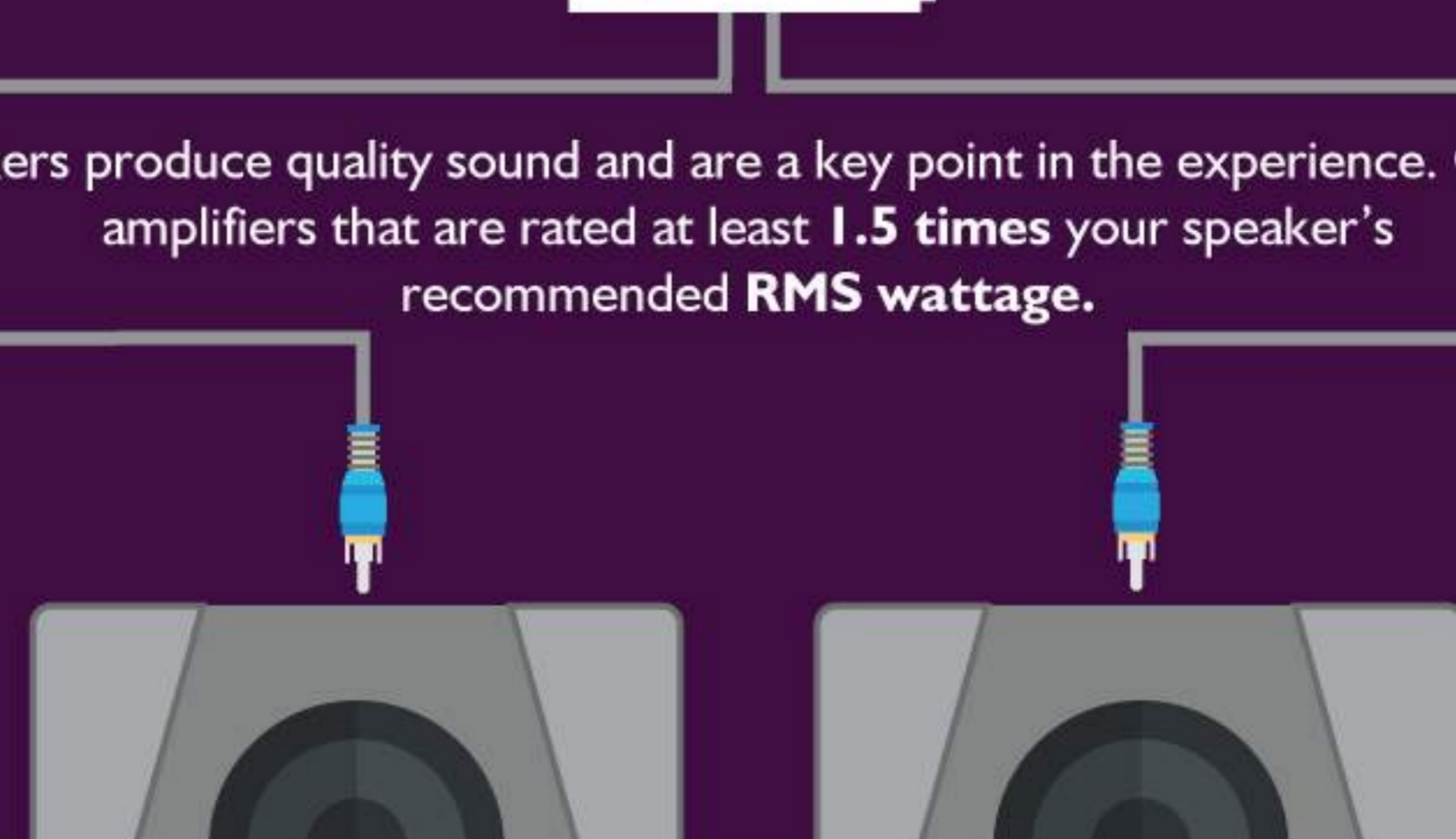
- Hot Cue
- Auto Loop
- Manual loop
- Sample

Built-in high quality soundcard

Produces good quality sound and doesn't need separate audio interface

Speakers

Speakers produce quality sound and are a key point in the experience. Choose amplifiers that are rated at least **1.5 times** your speaker's recommended **RMS wattage**.



Headphones

You need to preview tracks before you play it to the crowd and so you need **quality headphones**.

These are what you need from a headphone



Durability

Needs to perform well under varying conditions for extended periods of time

Comfort

Since you'll be wearing them for long hours

Isolation

Filter out background noise

Sound

Sound should be loud and crisp, headphones should be closed back

Cable Length

Should be long enough to allow comfortable movement around your equipment



This can give you a good take-off point to getting started with your **DJ'ing career**.

The best way to get better is to practice and pretty soon you'll be the commander of **any dance floor you come across!**