

## BUDGET BIKES

## Our top picks around BDT 1 lac

ABDUS SALAM SHAWN

Budget bikes are a different kind of fun. You do not expect them to do amazing things, but they sometimes surprise you with unique quirks and qualities. They are made for endurance, good fuel economy and, well, fun. So don't shy away from trying them, especially if you don't have a large budget or if you're looking for your first bike.

**TVS METRO PLUS**

BDT 99,900 (Drum) - 106,900 (Disk)  
**Engine:** Single cylinder, 4-stroke, air-cooled

**Displacement:** 109.7 CC

**Maximum power:** 8.4 PS at 7500 rpm

**Fuel economy:** 60 km/l

This entry-level city commuter is one of the highest selling bikes in Bangladesh. It has modern styling, a punchy engine and adequate safety features. There is a combination of digital and analogue infotainment systems. The gearbox is a good-old manual with four gears to explore. This 1105 mm tall and 109 kg heavy bike can go up to 90 km/h. It has a 10-litre fuel tank and a two-litre one as a reserve. It will return approximately 60 km per litre of fuel, which makes it all the more desirable.

The bike has a Synchronized Braking System that distributes power equally to both front and rear brakes simultaneously, resulting in safer and more effective braking. This minimalist and honest bike is one to look at if on a short budget.

**SUZUKI HAYATE**

BDT 95,000

**Engine:** Single cylinder, 4-stroke, air-cooled

**Displacement:** 112.8 CC

**Maximum power:** 8.7 PS at 7500 rpm

**Fuel economy:** 55 km/l

This stylish and sporty looking daily driver is a bargain for the price. It has great Japanese build quality, modern design features and a smooth engine. The analogue infotainment system includes a speedometer, an odometer, and a fuel gauge. Its 10-litres fuel tank might seem

impractical, but it makes up for that with great fuel economy, 55 km per litre.

The Hayate has a four-speed manual gearbox and a top speed of 90 km/h. It features tubeless tyres, alloy wheels and drum brakes both in the front and in the rear. This seemingly typical bike is a blend of modern looks and industry-standard specs,

**TVS METRO PLUS**

which is suitable for novice bikers.

**BAJAJ****DISCOVER 110****DRUM****TVS RADEON**

BDT 111,500

**Engine:** Single cylinder, 4-stroke, air-cooled

**Displacement:** 115.5 CC

**Maximum power:** 8.46 bhp at 7000 rpm

**Fuel economy:** 65+ km/l

The Bajaj Discover series bikes are some of the most popular bikes in Bangladesh

because of their affordable prices and good looks. The hugely successful 125 CC Discover is similar in styling to the even more affordable 110 CC Discover.

The curvy lines, the angry headlamp, and the two-tone colour combination has already proved their appeal. If you are okay with manual gauges, you will find very few flaws in this bike. It goes up to 90 km/h, and drum brakes on both wheels help it decelerate. Suspension travel on both wheels is satisfactory, which helps make city driving comfortable.

The bike has a low saddle, making it suitable for short people. The economy is an impressive 65+ km

**HONDA LIVO**

per litre. On the whole, it is a bike to go for if you can spend the extra 11 thousand.

**TVS RADEON**

BDT 96,900

**Engine:** Single cylinder, 4-stroke, air-cooled

**Displacement:** 109.7 CC

**Maximum power:** 8.3 bhp at 7000 rpm

**Fuel economy:** 50 km/l

This compact and lightweight bike is a speedy machine. It has reached 110 km/h in BikeBd's testing. That doesn't mean it's got poor fuel efficiency. The Radeon will go 50 km per litre while carrying 10 litres of fuel. It comes with dual drum brakes and makes use of a Synchronised Braking System. The telescopic fork at the front

and the telescopic spring-loaded 5-step adjustable suspension setup at the rear is good enough for city driving.

The bike has retro looks but hides modern technologies underneath. It features a simplistic instrument cluster but has unique features like a side-stand indicator and economy mode indicator. The TVS Radeon will attract people who love classic styling but want the bike to work properly.

**HONDA LIVO 110 DISC**

BDT 108,900

**Engine:** 4-stroke, air-cooled, BS-IV

**Displacement:** 109.19 CC

**Maximum power:** 8.31 BHP at 7500 rpm

**Fuel economy:** 60 km/l

With angular corners, sharp lines and modern decals, the Honda Livo might arguably be the most handsome bike on this list. It showcases an angry headlamp and a muscular fuel tank, much like the Honda Hornet. Its blacked-out rims, engine cover and seat sandwiching the sweeping lines of the body gives it a premium look.

Being a Honda, the Livo has phenomenal build quality. It has a fully manual instrument console with two hexagonal pods fitted side by side. The bike is equipped with Telescopic forks at the front and five steps adjustable spring-loaded shocks with a hydraulic damper at the rear. One of the great things about this bike is that it features a 240 mm Nissin dual calliper disc brake on the front wheel and a drum brake on the rear wheel.

This all-rounder bike will go up to 90km/h while returning 60km per litre of fuel. Boasting a modern design, a much-appreciated disk brake and typical Honda ruggedness, this bike can be the best one for a new rider.

You can't expect magical things from bikes in this budget range. But that's one of the good things; you can push them harder than you'd dare to do to a more expensive bike. Try them, you might get surprised.



SUZUKI HAYATE



BAJAJ DISCOVER

## The push for wearables

How tech companies are envisioning a future full of wearable gadgets

REHENUMA RAYSA

The growing popularity of wearables is evident as it has evolved considerably through the past few years. The sector of wearable technology grew with the debut of Google Glass and Apple Watch. These entries have ushered a paradigm shift in the way we use - or in this case - wear tech.

Wearables are expected to go far beyond earphones and offer numerous other advanced devices, except that particular expectation has already turned into reality. Tech giants have showcased the world's significant progress of wearable technologies this year only, leaving the tech enthusiasts feeling like the future they have been waiting for has arrived.

Even though technically, these are not wearable products, these are certainly contributing to propelling the company's Smart Living mission. They have constantly experimented with AI and IoT in order to enhance the acceptance of AIoT products.

The resurgence of wearables became a trend throughout 2021 with the ongoing rollout of 5G, enabling wearables to perform unique services apart from the basic computing functions, leveraging super-fast networks and unleashing newer possibilities for wearable tech.

The newly introduced devices are predicted to ensure convenience and satisfaction for the users. Although wearables have a decade-long history in smoothening user experience, we discuss some of the latest innovations pushed out by tech giants that have made waves in 2021 below.

A leading company in the tech industry, Apple, has witnessed immense growth in the revenue for their wearable category and managed to garner many new customers by attracting them to their wide range of wearable accessories.

This year, they have unveiled their newly-developed technological invention AssistiveTouch, which allows one to control

an Apple Watch through a series of hand and finger gestures. Succeeding on the technology front, one can now operate their wearable devices without pressing buttons or touching them. Users can command tasks, use custom actions, and even create new gestures due to this remarkable invention.

On the other hand, Xiaomi has brought a variety of Smart Wearables to the market in the past. They kept that tradition going this year as well. Their Smart Glasses, a technological triumph, got launched to the masses in September with the agenda of "Integrating Intelligent Functions into Eyewear".

This brand new Smart Wearable Device is capable of combining imaging systems and sensors into a subtle, ordinary glasses design through MicroLED optical waveguide technology. Despite weighing only 51g, it is able to display messages and notifications, make calls, navigate, capture photos, and translate texts right before the user's eyes, taking the wearable game to a new height.

Meanwhile, they are moving forward promoting their assurance for Smart experience for end-users as they are now on the centre stage by introducing CyberDog, a bio-inspired quadruped robot, which can be considered a stepping stone for the company. They have also worked on various other Smart Living products. They have presented some new pieces of tech spanning home entertainment, cooking, and daily commutes.

Even though technically, these are not wearable products, these are certainly contributing to propelling the company's Smart Living mission. They have constantly experimented with AI and IoT in order to enhance the acceptance of AIoT products.

Another emerging player, Microsoft, has decided to push their passwordless vision by advocating for biometric solutions. This technological giant, too, is ready to explore its options or alternatives. As they enable passwordless authentication across platforms, end-users are no longer required to create, store, and remember complex passwords.

However, they are on this list for their limited yet impressive collection of wearables, including their Fitness Tracker, HoloLens and other Smart Wearable Gadgets thriving in collaboration with Samsung, all of which can increase their profit margins.

Facebook, noticing more people entering the wearable arena, has recently followed suit

in the advancement of wearable technology as well. Their Smart Glasses, built in partnership with Ray-Ban, have hit the market. Although the glasses provide a few handy features such as making or receiving phone calls, taking photos or creating videos and listening to music, customers are hopeful for more improvement of these Smart Glasses disguised in the aesthetics of sunglasses in the coming years followed by its much-awaited beginning.

Driven by the surging demand among the mainstream consumers, plenty of Smart Devices from the wearable categories, including Hearables, Smart Rings, AR Glasses, Smart Masks, Smartwatches, Head-mounted Displays, Smart Clothing or Garments, Health-monitoring Wristbands or Fitness Trackers, are speculated to continue to enter the market on a regular basis, and although most of them are geared toward targeted consumers, many of such devices are helping people address various health-related issues, as they are designed to cater to the multitude of individual needs.

AIoT products will gain traction, as they are consistently perfecting their operating systems and cutting down their hefty price tags while releasing more affordable or budget-friendly models. As the developers focus more on the contentment of the users, we can hope for the end of the era of bulky AR/VR headsets and the production of lighter-weighted devices that are more comfortable to the users. Since the utilisation of wearable technology is only going upward, designers undoubtedly can have vast opportunities to expand and envision regular masks or any other piece of clothing items in a different light. The dependency on wearable technology now seems inevitable in the near future.

Therefore, while the global pandemic has made us more aware of the urgency of prioritising our physical healthcare, tech companies triumphed by surpassing the focused expectation of the average buyers. Wearable tech gadgets are all set to draw more attention from the customers due to their diverse functionalities, which do not demand wearers to go outside to enjoy the newly offered services.

The future seems ever more promising now, specifically for the acceleration of wearable technologies going further at a steady pace, for it to become more secure and efficient, ultimately upgrading the quality of Smart Living.