

Piano Passion

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Piano Requirements

Students *must* have an instrument at home to practice on. The home piano can be an acoustic (non-electronic) piano or a digital piano or keyboard. If it is a **digital (electronic) instrument**, it must have the following:

- Weighted Keys (also known as “touch sensitive” keys)
- Full-sized keys (no tiny Casio keyboards please)
- 88-keys (not 76)
- Damper Pedal (also called “sustain pedal”)
- Good quality “concert grand” piano sound
- Headphones recommended, but not required
- On-board floppy disk drive is also useful (but not required) since I often send floppy disk midi files home for students to play on their computer or digital piano

If it is an **acoustic piano**, it should have the following:

- Working sustain pedal (on the right), and working soft pedal (left-most pedal) for advanced students
- The piano should be tuned and checked for mechanical problems every six months

See me for names of local piano tuners.

Piano Accessories: The following piano accessories are required:

- Piano Lamp (available at www.perfectlygrand.com)...*students need to be able to SEE their music!*
- Piano Bench (www.perfectlygrand.com)

Where to Find a Good Piano

Sources for Pianos

Miller Piano- Charlotte, NC – Large showroom. All new pianos from Upright pianos to Baby Grands (offers piano rentals).

Howren Music - Charlotte, NC (offers piano rentals)

Sources for Keyboards and Digital Accessories

Ash Sam Music Stores 5533 Westpark Dr, Charlotte, NC 28217

Best Buy 7421 E Independence Blvd , Charlotte, NC 28227

Web Sources

I do not recommend purchasing a piano from an internet site because you need to play it first! There is no way to remotely ascertain the touch, feel, and sound of a piano. Take someone with you who plays the piano to make sure all of these personal factors are taken into consideration.

Other Sources/ Sources for Budget Pianos and Used Pianos

Charlotte Observer classified ads. A few used pianos for sale are advertised periodically in these papers. Take a pianist with you to check them out first!