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Piano FAQ

Q Should we buy a piano or a keyboard to start with?

A Unless you're buying used, purchasing and maintaining a new piano is a bigger expense. We generally recommend a digital piano to start off with. If the student is preparing for RCM piano exams, a real piano is recommended, especially for RCM grades 5 and up.

Q What else is needed/recommended for piano lessons?

A We also recommend a: Metronome, music folder or binder, and a dictation book.

Keyboard vs Piano

Keyboard

Pros

- If you live in an apartment, or if noise is a major issue, a keyboard would be a recommended
- It's easily transportable, you don't need movers!!
- Weighted keys add to the realism of playing a real piano

Cons

- On top of purchasing the keyboard itself, you will, (more than likely), have to purchase a: bench, sustain pedal, amplifier (if there is no built-in speaker), a keyboard stand and a music stand.
- If you're planning on doing RCM examinations past a grade 5 level, a piano is strongly recommended

Piano

Pros

- No need to worry about sustain pedals
- A bench usually always comes with a piano
- Don't need a keyboard stand or music stand
- People give pianos away on a regular basis, (buyer beware)

Cons

- You can't turn the volume down on an acoustic piano
- Pianos are heavy, you will need to hire movers
- They can be expensive to fix
- They need to be tuned 1-2 times a year