

Richard's Piano Service

Waynesville, Mo. 65583 - (573)765-9903

www.RichardsPianoService.com

2012 Service Rates

Service	Includes	Price Each ¹	Program Price ²
BASIC TUNING/ REPAIR RATES			
Standard Tuning	Service call, Pre-tuning inspection, Measure A's, and Tune to A-440 (Pitch raise not included). Time = about 2.0 hours	\$85	N/A
Mileage ⁵ (if over 20 miles away)	Add mileage rate of \$1.00/mile one way for distances greater than 20 miles away.	\$1.00/mile One way	N/A
Pitch Raise	Raising the pitch of all piano strings for any flat or sharp deviation from A-440. See definitions below since some pianos require multiple pitch raises. Time = 30-45 min. each.	\$40	N/A
Repairs (Labor Rate)	General repairs at \$35/hour. Estimates are provided. Replacement parts are extra (parts are subject to tax).	\$40/hr. + parts	N/A
Service Call	Only charged for visits where no tuning is done (Mileage charge applies if outside of 20 mi. radius)	\$40	N/A ⁴
PROGRAM RATES/ DISCOUNTS			
Program Tuning #1 (2 Pre-Scheduled Tunings/ year)	2 scheduled standard tunings/yr. (You save \$5/tuning) Total savings=\$10	(\$80)	\$160 (paid at first tuning)
Program Tuning #2 (4 Pre-Scheduled Tunings/year)	4 scheduled standard tunings/yr. (You save \$10/tuning) Total savings=\$40	(\$75)	\$300 (paid at first tuning)
Program Tuning #3 (4 Pre-Scheduled Tunings/year + 1 cleaning & Damp-Chaser Maint.)	4 scheduled standard tunings/yr. 1 complete cleaning/yr. 1 Damp-Chaser cleaning/change pads/yr. (pads sold separately) (You basically save \$5/tuning + \$30 off listed yearly services) Total savings= approx. \$50	(\$92.50)	\$370 (paid at first tuning)

REPLACEMENT STRING RATES			
String Replacement ³ (treble-all plain strings)	Plain wire strings (string + labor) - price is for replacing during regular visit. (Service Call + \$10ea. Call + hourly labor rate over 1 st hour otherwise).	\$30 (10ea/20labor)	N/A
String Replacement ³ (Bass-1 string)	Copper wound string- unichord (lowest bass, one string per note OR one string of any other bi-chord). Incl. 1 string, labor, & callback to install and tune.	\$65 (25ea/40service call to install)	N/A
String Replacement ³ (Bass/tenor - 2 strings)	Copper wound strings- bichord (bass or tenor, two strings per note OR any two wound strings). Incl. 2 strings, labor, & callback to install and tune.	\$90 (25ea/40service call to install)	N/A
String Replacement ³ (Tenor- 3 strings)	Copper wound strings- trichord (tenor, three strings per note OR any three wound strings). Incl. 3 strings, labor, & callback to install and tune.	\$115 (25ea/40 service call to install)	N/A
OTHER COMMON SERVICES	(This is not intended to be a complete list of services. For more information on services I can offer, please contact me).		
Cleaning (Complete)	Cleaning behind/under strings (grands), vacuum inside case, under key bed, pedal trap area (verticals), polish pedals (if needed), and clean keytops. (Add service call of \$40 and any applicable mileage to this price if piano is not tuned at that time). Approx. 1.5 hours.	\$60	N/A
Cleaning (Partial)	Same as above minus pedals and keytops.	\$40	
Damp-Chaser Installation	Complete installation of a Damp-Chaser humidity control system (complete system and installation labor included). See Damp-Chaser description below. Time = approx. 1.5 - 3 hours depending on the system.	Verticals \$450 Grands \$500	N/A
Back cover (uprights) Under cover (grands)	Add a back cover (uprights) or under cover (grands) to any Damp-Chaser system to help keep the conditioned air in the piano where it belongs. Improves tuning stability. Includes the cover and installation. Time - approx. 1 hr.	\$100	
Regulation	Action Regulation as defined below. Hourly Repair Rate Minor touch ups - hourly rate Partial Regulation - Verticals 5 hrs, Grands 8 hrs. Fine Regulation - Verticals 9 hrs, Grands 15 hrs.	\$40/Hr. (\$200-320) (\$360-600)	N/A
Estimates/ Appraisals	Free phone estimates (consultations) Written estimates/appraisals for insurance purposes, etc. (free if the estimate results in work) Estimates requiring a visit/inspection (\$20 refunded if estimate results in work)	Free \$20* \$40**	N/A
Dawson String Covers (grands)	Petite to 6' 1" 6' 2" to 8' 8' 1" to 8' 11" 9' and larger	\$329 \$379 \$429 \$479	

Footnotes:

¹ "Price Each" is cost for a single call for service.

² "Program Price" is the cost for pre-scheduled service at the arranged intervals. Program price is the yearly cost to the piano owner. Can be pre-scheduled, or I can call to schedule the service at the appropriate intervals. Program price is paid at the first tuning.

³ To provide the best sound, broken bass strings have to be manufactured for the piano. This is particularly true for bi-chords (2 strings unisons) or tri-chords (3 string unisons). Even if only one string is broken, all strings of the unison should be replaced. A low cost option is to splice the strings when possible, rather than replacing them. Non-wound strings I would have on hand, but I must order wound strings and replace at a later date.

⁴ N/A means Not Applicable

⁵ Mileage is added to all service calls/tuning visits where customer lives more than 20mi. away. (No mileage is charged for distances less than 20 miles away). Distance is calculated from approx. I-44 at the Exit 150, (Laquey/Richland Mo. exit). No mileage is charged for St. Robert or Fort Leonard Wood addresses. See coverage map on my website: www.RichardsPianoService.com/rates.

* Full cost of written estimate/appraisal will be refunded (or not charged) if the estimate results in actual work contracted by Richard's Piano Service.

** \$20 (cost of written estimate/appraisal) will be refunded (or not charged) if the estimate results in actual work contracted by Richard's Piano Service. The remaining \$20 still applies as cost of the service call.

Definitions:

Cents: Piano technicians use this numerical term to define how sharp or flat a note is compared to its theoretical pitch. In practical terms, the difference in pitch of two notes that are side by side on the piano, (one half step-say A to A#), is 100 cents.

Example 1: a note that is 50 cents flat (50% flat) will sound ½ way between what it should and the note below it.

Example 2: a piano that is 25 cents flat (25% flat) means that on average, the piano is about ¼ tone low throughout the piano and needs a pitch raise of +25cents to put it where it should be.

Pitch Raise (pretensioning): The large metal plate on pianos is subject to some 20,000+ pounds of pull by the strings. Most modern day pianos are designed for pitch at A440 Hz. This affects down-bearing on the plate and bridges and crown of the soundboard. The steel plate that supports the strings is strong, but still undergoes some distortion when major pitch changes occur. Thus, during a pitch raise, the string tensions on one part of the piano will change as another part is pulled up to tension. This of course changes the pitch and the tuning. Thus, the entire piano needs to be brought up to pitch before it can be tuned. This is termed "pitch raise". Pianos that are seriously flat may need two or three pitch raises to render them stable. Pianos that are this flat also have some risk for string breakage, particularly if strings are older than 25 years.

Dampp-Chaser Humidity Control System: In many areas of the country, the relative humidity changes quite extensively between winter and summer. The relative hydration of pianos changes with these swings in humidity. The Dampp-Chaser Piano Life Saver system provides some stabilization of these swings. The system includes humidifiers and dehumidifiers that are governed by a humidistat. These components stabilize piano humidity in the 40-50% range, close to the piano ideal of 42%. Vertical and grand systems are available. These systems tend to stabilize tuning, pin block and sound board structure. More information can be obtained at www.dampp-chaser.com.

Regulation: Regulation is the process of adjusting the keys and action so the piano plays optimally and evenly. You can find out more about regulation at www.RichardsPianoService.org.

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