

# Richard's Piano Service

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

[www.RichardsPianoService.com](http://www.RichardsPianoService.com)

## 2010 Price List

Service	Includes	Price Each <sup>1</sup>	Program Price <sup>2</sup>
Standard Tuning	Service call, Pre-tuning inspection, Measure A's, and Tune to A-440 (Pitch raise not included). Time = about 2.0 hours	\$75	N/A
Mileage (if over 20 miles away)	Add mileage rate of \$1.00/mile one way for distances greater than 20 miles away. (No mileage charged for distances less than 20 miles away). Distance calculated from approx. I-44 and Exit 150, Laquey, Mo.	1.00/mile one way	N/A
Service Call	Added to any visit where no tuning is done ( <i>Mileage extra if outside of 20 mi. radius</i> )	\$40	N/A <sup>4</sup>
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.	\$35	N/A
Program Tuning #1 (2 Pre-scheduled Tunings per year)	Special rate: Scheduled standard tunings - twice yearly. (save \$5/tune)	\$70	\$140
Program Tuning #2 (4 Pre-scheduled Tunings per year)	Special rate: Scheduled standard tunings - four times yearly. (Save \$10/tune)	\$65	\$260
Dampp-Chaser Installation	Complete installation of a Dampp-Chaser humidity control system (complete system and installation labor included). See Dampp-Chaser description below.  Time = about 1.5 – 3 hours depending on the system.	Verticals \$450  Grands \$500	N/A
Program Tuning #3	Same as Program Tuning #2 plus 1 case cleaning per year, and Dampp-Chaser checks/maintenance each visit.	\$70	\$280
Repair (Labor Rate)	General Repairs at \$35.00/hour. Estimates are provided. Replacement parts are extra.	\$35/Hr. + parts	N/A
Cleaning (Complete)	Cleaning behind/under strings, vacuum inside case, under key bed, pedal trap area, polish pedals to the best they can be, polish brass capstans, and clean key tops. (Add service call of \$40 and any applicable mileage to this price if piano is not tuned at that time). Approx. 1.5 hr.	\$50	N/A
String Replacement <sup>3</sup>	Plain wire strings (string + labor only)	\$30	N/A

String Replacement <sup>3</sup>	Wound string uni-chords (lowest bass. One string per note) (Incl. string, labor, & callback)	\$60	N/A
String Replacement <sup>3</sup>	Wound string bi-chords (bass. Two strings per note) (Incl. strings, labor, & callback)	\$80	N/A
String Replacement <sup>3</sup>	Wound string tri-chords (tenor. Three strings per note) (strings, labor, & callback)	\$95	N/A
Regulation	Action regulation as defined below. Hourly Repair Rate. <b>Minor touch ups - hourly</b> <b>Partial Regulation – Verticals 5 hrs, Grands 8 hrs</b> <b>Fine Regulation – Verticals 9 hrs, Grands 15 hrs.</b>	\$35/Hr.  (\$175, \$280) (\$315, \$525)	N/A
Estimates	<a href="#">Free phone estimates.</a> Estimates requiring a visit will be subject to a service call of \$40.	\$0 - \$40	N/A

**Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup>“Price Each” is cost for a single call for service.

<sup>2</sup>“Program Price” is the cost for pre-scheduled service at the arranged intervals. Program price is the yearly cost to the piano owner. I will call to schedule the service at the appropriate intervals.

<sup>3</sup>To provide the best sound, broken bass strings have to be manufactured for the piano. This is particularly true for bi-chord (2 string unisons) or tri-chords (3 string unisons). Even if 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 must order wound strings and replace at a later date.

<sup>4</sup>N/A means Not Applicable

**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.

**Pitch Raise:** The large metal plate on pianos is subject to some 20,000+ pounds of pull by the strings. 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](http://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](http://www.RichardsPianoService.org).