

Piano Care: Moving Your Piano

Our consultants are often advised "my piano is big, heavy and very solid". However behind the veneer and glossy surfaces is a precision built instrument with thousands of moving components.

The heaviest single part of a piano is the cast iron frame. In an upright piano the weight is at the back, so any imbalance towards the back of the piano could cause it to fall. Depending on the make and type, as a guide, your piano may weigh:

Small Upright (i.e. 112cm tall)	180 kgs
Large Upright (i.e. 131cm tall)	215 kgs
Pianola or Player Upright	260 kgs
Baby Grand (approx 120-150cm long)	240 kgs
Concert Grand (approx 270cm long)	400-500 kgs

Although castors on a piano may assist in adjusting the piano's position over very small distances they are generally unsuitable for transfers between rooms in your home or from external spaces such as garages or bungalows to inside your home.

By engaging a reputable **piano removalist** you will avoid serious damage to:

- Your piano
- Flooring, walls and other property, or
- Injuries to friends or family.

Pre Piano Removal Checklist

- Remove photographs or ornaments that may be placed on top of your piano.
- If you are moving a Pianola or Player piano, the rolls should be packed into cartons.
- Leave your driveway clear of vehicles.
- Remove obstructions from your front door such as pot plants or pet kennels.
- Restrain pets, especially dogs.



Piano Placement

Avoid direct sunlight on your piano. Over time light will fade the finish. Think twice about placing a Grand Piano in a bay window. The sides facing the natural light will fade and to re-colour the piano is expensive.

Position your piano away from open fires, heaters and central heating or cooling ducts. Extreme variations in temperature and humidity will impact on the instrument's acoustics. Heating systems remove moisture from the air, causing shrinkage in the felts, wood components, and leather parts of your piano's action and, importantly, the sound board.

Be mindful of doors that may open onto the piano's surface and possible high traffic areas where people are constantly brushing past the instrument.

Floor surfaces such as carpet & other soft furnishings will soften the tone. Hard surfaces such as floorboards or tiles will brighten the tone.