

APPRAISING PIANOS

A close-up, low-angle shot of piano keys, focusing on the white keys and the dark, rounded tops of the black keys. The lighting is warm and golden, creating a soft, atmospheric glow. The keys are slightly out of focus in the background, emphasizing the texture and shape of the keys in the foreground.

KEITH MACFARLANE
PIANOFORTE SPECIALIST



Appearance

The outward appearance of a piano can often point to the care or neglect that the piano has experienced over a long period. The condition of the cabinet is of major importance since the purchaser would in most cases be placing the piano in a place where it will be seen . If the piano needs to be repolished this can cost as much as the piano is currently worth, taking into account the transportation to and from the workshop.

Missing ivories can become very difficult to replace and if too many are missing it will be necessary to completely replace the entire keyboard with new plastic keys.

Functionality

Functionality embraces such items as touch, tone, damper efficiency, repetition, resonance and all these items can be dealt with individually in some depth.

Brand

In most instances the name has far less influence on the value of a piano than the features which are listed above. However there are certain makes of pianos which have earned a good reputation over many years and I venture to mention a number of these based on my own perceptions entirely.