

## How to Extend the Life of Your Musical Instruments

As an RPT (Registered Piano Technician), and a lifelong musician, there are a few things that you can do that would extend the life of your instrument, specifically the piano.

Having it serviced at least once a year will help... I would recommend an RPT, they would have the skills and expertise to maintain the nearly 10,000 moving parts in a piano.

- Tune:** Every 6 – 12 months
- Regulate:** Every 4 – 7 years (there are about 24 – 34 adjustments for every key that can be done)
- Repairs:** As needed, to keep things working great
- Clean:** This can be done by the owner, or technician. There are special tools that can be used that get under the strings, a technician can open up the piano, and clean and service the action and cavity of the piano.
- Environment:** Avoid direct sunlight if possible. Because of how well homes are now insulated, some of the recommendations in past don't need as much attention (inside wall, etc). If a piano is by a door that is being opened and closed frequently, perhaps that might cause enough climate change to be an issue with tuning. Swamp Coolers, or high humidity areas will also cause problems. There are systems that can be put into a piano that would help.

The piano is a mechanical instrument, so exercising the parts is always beneficial... in other words, practice ;-)

Your piano is an investment in your future. It can bring you and your family a lifetime of music, adding immeasurable joy and beauty to your home.

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