

# The Piano Owner's Heads-Up Guide to Important Piano Maintenance

## Focus On: Polishing Genuine Ivory Keytops



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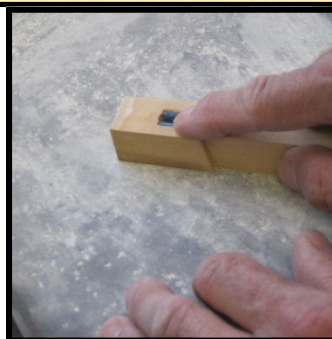
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Over decades of use, ivory keytops begin to show their age and tend to look dingy and uninviting. A dull finish and/or a hard-to-remove layer of grime causes keys to have an unsavory look that makes a piano less appealing to play. **The keytops on your piano have reached the point where more than a typical cleaning is needed to do the job right.**

To bring the ivory keys of your piano back to life, I would suggest treating your keys to a professional cleaning and polishing. The result will be a set of keys that look much more like they did when they were new. Your keytops will feel silky smooth, and will invite you to sit down and play.



*Hand Sanding*



*Polishing Wheel*

The first step in returning a sheen to worn keytops is to carefully hand-sand the layer of oxidation and grime off the top of the keys using fine grades of wet/dry paper down to a extremely fine 2500 grit.

Following this painstaking process, each keytop is buffed to a high sheen using a special ivory polish and a soft cotton buffing wheel at low speed.



Once your keys have been professionally cleaned, you will find that keeping them looking nice will usually require just a quick swipe with a soft, lightly dampened cloth.

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