**Yearly Piano Service** MI 10/12/2019

Materials: 320 sandpaper, mover’s blanket (or two), Fantastik mix, bar soap, Teflon powder, Prolube, Milk (5:1 Prolube/Teflon), VSProFelt, key bushing cauls (typically .147 and .136 or .129), long bristle brush, brass-bristle (suede) brush, pedal rubber boots, 0000 steel wool, standard toolkit, optional: paint marker

Room: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Piano: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Serial no: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Day 1/morning**

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| Step |  | Step |  |
| 1. | **Furniture, plate: inspect, fix**   Key slip loose/catching keys?   Lid hinges (loose screws?); prop hinge   Music rack; fallboard  Legs   Optional: plate screws  Optional: clean the case | 8. | **Soft pedal: inspect and adjust**   Lost motion (remove)  Noises, creaks   2/3 hammer shift? |
| 2. | **Vacuum, brush, clean**   Plate  Tuning pin area   Soundboard  Dampers | 9. | **Keys: inspect**   Key level  Sharps height   Key dip  Front bushing play   Balance bushing play  Pulley keys   Aftertouch  Damper timing   Damper upstop rail  Front rail knocking noises   Balance rail bedding (hammers dancing?) |
| 3. | **Strings**   Lube string bearings with Prolube using felt mute  Optional:   Space strings  Tighten coils   Massage with brass bar  Tap lightly | 10. | **Action: inspect**   Sound and feel  Hammer alignment to strings   Does rest cleat need to be shimmed?   Letoff, drop  Backchecking distance   Springs  Blow distance   Aftertouch  Optional: touchweight |
| 4. | **Dampp Chaser: inspect, service**   Plugged in?   Hardware tight  Noises   Operation (lights on humidifier units)   Replace pads, clean as needed | 11. | **Pull out action**  Remove key slip, fallboard, cheek blocks   Are cheek block screws tight?   Are bracket screws tight?  Slide action onto your lap |
| 5. | **Pedals, trapwork: inspect and lube**   Side to side pedal motion  Lyre posts firm?   Noises   Pedal rod boots, rods too short, pitman punchings OK?   Trapwork: leathers, tighten blocks   Pedal timing (adjust if needed)   Travel limits ok? (adjust later if needed)   Lube with bar soap: trapwork leathers   Lube with Prolube: pedal rod guide rail bushings, boots | 12. | **Tighten, realign**   Hammers: tighten shank screws, realign (no rubbing!)   Optional: travel, square as needed  Turn the action around   Wippens: tighten screws, realign   Optional: travel as needed, cut knuckles if rubbing   Sostenuto: quick adjust per earlier observations, lightly tighten screws  Set action aside |
| 6. | **Dampers: inspect and lube**   Heads aligned, felts OK?  Guide rail bushings loose?   Dampers sluggish?  Damper wires rough?   Lube bushings/wires with milk   Check upstop rail: vertical play of dampers with sharp key and damper pedal depressed   Clicks, oinks, sound bleeds  Damper timing to pedal   Note damper timing to keys:  #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ #40: \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ #88: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | 13. | **Clean, lube inside**   Vacuum key bed, underlevers   320-sand key bed, frame shift slot, frame right side, rails underside   Clean with steel wool: return spring and shift lever  Vacuum   Lube with bar soap: key frame, end pins, return spring, key bed, key frame rest cleat cloth, shift slot in key frame, trapwork as needed |
| 7. | **Sostenuto: inspect**   Test, note needed adjustments for each bracket | 14. | **Key frame rest cleat**   Shim with 2 or 3 strips of file folder material if most hammers are too far left. |

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| 15. | **Damper upstop (liberty) rail**   Adjust as needed | 19. | **Lube knuckles**   Brush with brass bristle brush   Rub in Teflon powder with glove or felt block, vacuum |
| 16. | **Bed key frame**   End pins tight?  Glides protrude?   Adjust glides: no noise when knocked on (including with both pedals pressed). | 20. | **Wippen heels**  Flip top stack upside down   Brush with brass bristle brush   Rub in Teflon powder, vacuum; or apply milk   OVERNIGHT OPTIONAL: Apply VSProFelt where dented |
| 17. | **Remove top stack**   Put action on blanket on lid   Disconnect monkey; lube with milk   Repair stripped screw holes if necessary   Fix loose hammer heads and shank center pins   Put top stack on back of lid; put keyboard on lid or action cavity | 21. | **Keyboard**  Vacuum keys   Loose backchecks?   Apply milk onto capstans   Apply Teflon powder on key end felts, vacuum  Remove keys; vacuum key frame   Optional: clean key pins with steel wool   Lube key pins w milk using bent pipe cleaner (dry 15 minutes)   OVERNIGHT OPTIONAL: VSProFelt bushings if loose (put in cauls overnight) |
| 18. |  **Reshape hammers** if needed, vacuum | 22. | **Overnight**  Let dry if VSProfelt applied |

**Day 2/afternoon**

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| Step |  | Step |  |
| 23. | **Keyboard**  Remove cauls if used; return keys on frame   Ream balance holes to taper fore-aft (keys must drop slowly when lifted from front *and* back)   Ease bushings   Turn front key pins if bushing are loose | 30. | **Sostenuto**   Test with cheek blocks loosely in place, adjust as needed |
| 24. | **Reinstall top stack on key frame, engage monkey, reinsert action, tighten cheek blocks** | 31. | **Soft pedal**   Adjust for 2/3 shift, tweak for best tone |
| 25. | **Regulation**   Letoff  Drop   Blow distance for aftertouch on pilot notes | 32. | **Tune, voice**   Tune if needed   Voice, harsh notes first |
| 26. | **Remove cheek blocks** and action as needed | 33. | **Reassemble**  Key upstop rail  Insert action; install fallboard, cheek blocks, tighten screws  Check for front rail slapping  Music rack |
| 27. | **Regulation continues**   Set hammer line between pilot notes   Backchecks: align if badly off and not worn   Backchecking distance  Rep springs   Jack to knuckle  Rep lever (jack not binding)   Correct hammer line as needed | 34. | **Play piano and check:**   Damper pedal, sostenuto, soft pedal (key frame must return without binding), front rail noises |
| 29. | **Optional: Adjust aftertouch**   Adjust key dip for consistent aftertouch | 35. | **Clean, touch up**   Case, keytops as needed  Optional:   Touch up finish as appropriate |