

Piano Moving Preparation Checklist: What GTA Homeowners Should Do Before the Movers Arrive

Quick reference guide by Universal Piano Services (GTA)

1 week before

Confirm make, model, height/length in writing. Email mover the specs. Wrong spec is the #1 cause of crew problems.

Measurements

Doorway widths, corner turning radius, ceiling clearance, stair riser/run. Both ends of the route. Email to mover.

Condo paperwork

Book service elevator. Request Col (\$2-5M liability) at least 7 days ahead. Name corp + property mgr as additional insureds.

2 days before

Clear the path. 1.2m of working space around the piano. Push furniture against opposite wall.

Floor protection

Kraft paper, ram board, or cardboard taped down on the route. NOT bedsheets. Crew brings blankets, you bring floor protection.

Strip the piano

Remove photos, lamp, music, decor, cat. Lift out music desk if removable. Do NOT touch the lyre on a grand, the crew handles it.

Night before

Lower house to 18C. Reserve parking spot near front door. Pets and kids out of the way.

Move morning

Walk route with lead mover BEFORE wrapping. Photograph the piano (8-12 shots, all sides). Sign bill of lading.

During the move

Stay out of the work zone. Watch from next room or front yard.

After the move

Wait 48 hours before playing. Wait 2-4 weeks before tuning. Hygrometer in the new room for 2 weeks.

Costs (2026 GTA)

Upright ground-to-ground: \$300-500. Grand: \$500-1000. Stairs: +\$100-200/flight. Long distance: \$800+.

DIY warning

Uprights weigh 220-280 kg with high centre of gravity. ~10% of DIY moves end in damage. Repair cost > pro move cost.

universalpianoservices.com