THE SOUND OF EXPERIENCE
VARIATIONS ON A SUPERIOR STANDARD:
BOSTON DESIGNED BY STEINWAY & SONS
THE CREATIVE JOURNEY BEGINS BY STRIKING A SINGLE KEY

Responsiveness. Precision. Intuitive grace. A superior musical instrument can be recognized by the degree to which it allows the player to express his or her unique vision without interference—as if nothing stands between the fingertips and the notes that hang in the air.

Such is the experience of playing a Boston piano. Designed by Steinway & Sons, employing the unique patents and expertise that have made the name Steinway synonymous with musical excellence, the Boston line of grand and upright pianos represents a singular achievement in instrument-building: a superior playing experience at a price level never before thought possible.
A synthesis of high technology and the highest musical standards, the Boston Piano began as a challenge: to create a piano with a level of performance and quality far superior to any instrument in its price range.

Drawing on more than a century of experience, in 1986 Steinway & Sons set about creating this new kind of piano. Using the most sophisticated computer modeling, the company adapted proven patents, concepts, and materials for the special requirements of high-technology manufacturing.

Scrupulous attention was also paid to incorporating the distinctive quality of components and craftsmanship with which the Steinway name is associated: genuine wood veneers, unique computer-designed pear-shaped hammers, and engineering enhancements including optimal placement of ribs, braces, and bridges for superior tone. All of this was integrated into a high-tech manufacturing environment, where efficiency of production could be wedded to the finest old-world standards of artistry. Within two years, the first prototypes of the new series were created—and exceeded all expectations.

Today’s Boston Performance Edition II features a beautiful wood finish inside rim veneer (on all Ebony finish grands), a rose gold plate color, and re-scaled bass and treble wire for lower tension. It also includes a maple inner rim (found only in the finest pianos) and the patented Octagrip™ Pinblock, making the Boston Performance Edition II piano a class by itself in the mid-price range.
Whether a player’s goal is to dazzle a concert hall or simply to explore the joys of music in his or her own home, each Steinway-designed Boston piano has been created to bring genuine world-class tone and responsiveness within reach.

By providing the musician with a greater level of responsiveness, tone, and playability, the Boston piano allows a player of any skill level to discover and develop his or her full potential. With a Boston, advanced players can enjoy a concert-level quality of sound—and those less advanced can experience how a truly remarkable piano can provide musical inspiration.

**The Steinway Promise**

Every Boston is backed by the Steinway Promise. If you decide to trade in your Boston piano for a new Steinway & Sons grand piano at any time within ten years, you will receive a trade-in credit equal to the original purchase price*.

*Restrictions apply.
A PIANO REFLECTS
THE STANDARD OF ITS DESIGNER
When you first touch the keys of a Boston piano, be prepared for an entirely new experience. Unexpected power suddenly fills the room. The sound is full, rich, and beautifully balanced.

Even a beginning player can clearly hear the difference. Boston’s duplex scale, adapted from the famous Steinway & Sons design, adds a harmonic richness that simply can’t be duplicated by other instruments in a similar price range.

In comparison to other pianos, the Boston has less string tension. This reduced string tension allows for a larger, tapered soundboard, creating longer sustain and more singing quality in the tone, as well as longer piano life. A wealth of other engineering enhancements, including optimal placement of ribs, braces, and bridges, also contributes to the Boston’s superior tone and greater stability.

**THE CONSTRUCTION CREATES RESONANCE**

In comparison to other pianos of the same size, the Boston grand piano offers a larger soundboard due to its innovative “wide tail” design. This wider construction of the case means that a 5’10” Boston grand has the same soundboard area as a typical 6’2” grand piano, creating the power, richness, and feel of playing a much larger piano.
SUPERIOR WOOD FOR EXCELLENT SOUND

Each Boston piano soundboard is crafted of solid Sitka spruce, long proven to be the most resonant material available. Boston soundboards are also precisely tapered, which allows them to vibrate more freely. In conjunction with a number of special technologies—unique patents of Steinway & Sons—the result is a powerful, sustained tone.

PLEASING TO THE EYE, AS WELL AS THE EAR

Fine veneers underlie the elegance of Boston pianos—available in walnut and mahogany satin or polished finishes, as an alternative to the classical ebonized—all designed to delight the eye and enhance the player’s experience.

THE SAME STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE, IN GRAND OR UPRIGHT

Even if you don’t have the space for a grand piano, Boston upright pianos offer the same standards of excellence which characterize all instruments designed by Steinway & Sons. A Boston upright will give you the same opportunities to express your musical skill.
A SATISFYING MUSICAL EXPERIENCE BEGINS WITH A STRONG FOUNDATION

THE RIM

Steinway has long used hard rock maple to create the curving outline of the grand piano known as the rim because it is the best material to support the soundboard. Boston designers specified the same hard maple, grown in the forests of North America, for all Boston grands. Horizontal grained maple is pressed into shape to form the inner rim, which anchors the soundboard and cast iron plate. Alternating grained mahogany, providing excellent dimensional stability, is used to form the outer rim. Together they create the solid foundation of the rich and powerful Boston tone.

THE OCTAGRIP™ PINBLOCK

One of many proprietary Steinway & Sons innovations, the patented Octagrip™ pinblock can only be found in Boston pianos. The Octagrip™ pinblock is made of 11 layers of hard rock maple—glued in different grain angles of 60°—affording the tuning pins greater stability under tension and enabling the piano to stay in tune longer.
CHARACTER IS NOT DETERMINED BY SINGLE PROPERTIES, BUT BY THEIR INTERACTION

THE PLATE

Every single piece of the piano vibrates while being played—except the plate, which is dedicated to a single function: ensuring total stability. Thanks to a special grey-iron material developed by Steinway & Sons—and its special vacuum fabrication—the plate can withstand the enormous string tension of several tons.

THE ACTION

No other component of a grand or upright piano is as critical to playing performance as the “action.” Only a flawlessly made action can offer the piano player the greatest level of expressiveness. The Boston action is based on the exclusive design of Steinway & Sons. It is made of wood (no plastics) and is characterized by a faster repetition, better stability, and a heightened responsiveness, which gives the player better control. The rosette-shaped, extruded aluminum action rail results in increased stability and less frequent regulation.

THE HAMMERS

Each of the 88 keys of a grand or upright piano transmits its movement to a small, felt-covered wooden hammer which strikes one, two or three strings. In 1880, Steinway & Sons introduced pear-shaped hammers with reinforced shoulders and metal ligatures to ensure superior stability and a more powerful sound. This exclusive Steinway & Sons design is also part of Boston grand and upright pianos.

THE DUPLEX SCALE

One of the most famous inventions of Steinway & Sons, the 1872 duplex scale—once lauded by physicist and acoustics specialist Hermann von Helmholtz—provides Boston grand pianos with a full, rich, dynamic tone. With the introduction of the Boston Performance Edition II in 2016, all Boston pianos now feature a lower string tension that, along with the duplex scale, creates longer sustain and a more singing quality in the tone (as well as longer piano life).
**THE BRIDGES**

The soundboard bridges of Boston pianos are based on the same soundboard bridges first patented by Steinway & Sons in 1880. They are made of vertically laminated hard rock maple with a solid maple cap, which allows for optimum sound transmission. The result is a better sound and increased volume.

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**THE SOUNDBOARD**

The soundboard is the soul of the piano. Therefore, it is essential to pay the closest attention to the construction and the selection of the materials. Only the finest, straight-grained Sitka spruce, with a minimum of 8 annual growth rings per inch, is used to construct the Boston piano’s soundboard. Based on a Steinway & Sons design from 1936, the Boston soundboard is not uniformly thick, but rather is tapered to vibrate more freely and provide more volume and warmth.

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**THE WIDE-TAIL DESIGN**

All Boston grand pianos share the “Model A wide tail” design. This innovation by Steinway & Sons makes a wider case possible, to create a bigger soundboard area, giving the piano player the impression of playing on a larger piano. The result will please both the player and the listener with a richer sound.
SUPERIORITY MUST FIRST BE ACHIEVED
BEFORE IT CAN BE PASSED ON
With the Boston piano, you have the freedom to express yourself as softly, as loudly, as fluidly as you wish—with no barriers to your passion or style. This freedom can form the strongest possible foundation for a quality musical education, unleashing the potential of new students and veteran players alike.

Many schools have recognized this and have taken advantage of the benefits a Boston piano brings to students and musicians—from a concert-caliber classroom demonstration, to a late night in the practice room, to a chorus rehearsal.

Prominent institutions—such as the University of Michigan, Peabody Conservatory, the Washington DC public schools, the New York City Department of Education and many others worldwide—offer their students Boston grand and upright pianos. “You can hear the effects of the Steinway & Sons design from one end of the scale to the other,” says Bob Winter, professor of piano at the world-renowned Berklee College of Music and pianist for the Boston Pops Orchestra.

Boston owner Dr. Hunter March, Associate Dean for Arts Education, the University of Texas at Austin declares, “I have become a major fan of Boston pianos and I feel strongly about passing on the word to other people, friends and students alike, who enjoy great music and would enjoy playing a great piano.”
STEINWAY-DESIGNED PIANOS: COMMITTED TO MATCHING A RANGE OF PREFERENCES

No matter what your individual level of skill, or your desired musical goals, "The Family of Steinway-Designed Pianos" can offer an instrument perfectly matched to your needs: from the professional-quality, world-renowned standard of the Steinway & Sons piano, to the mid-priced excellence of a Steinway-designed Boston piano.

For more than 160 years, Steinway & Sons has supported the passion of musicians with innovative, exactly built instruments. Whatever your unique needs, there is a quality Steinway-designed piano that's right for you.