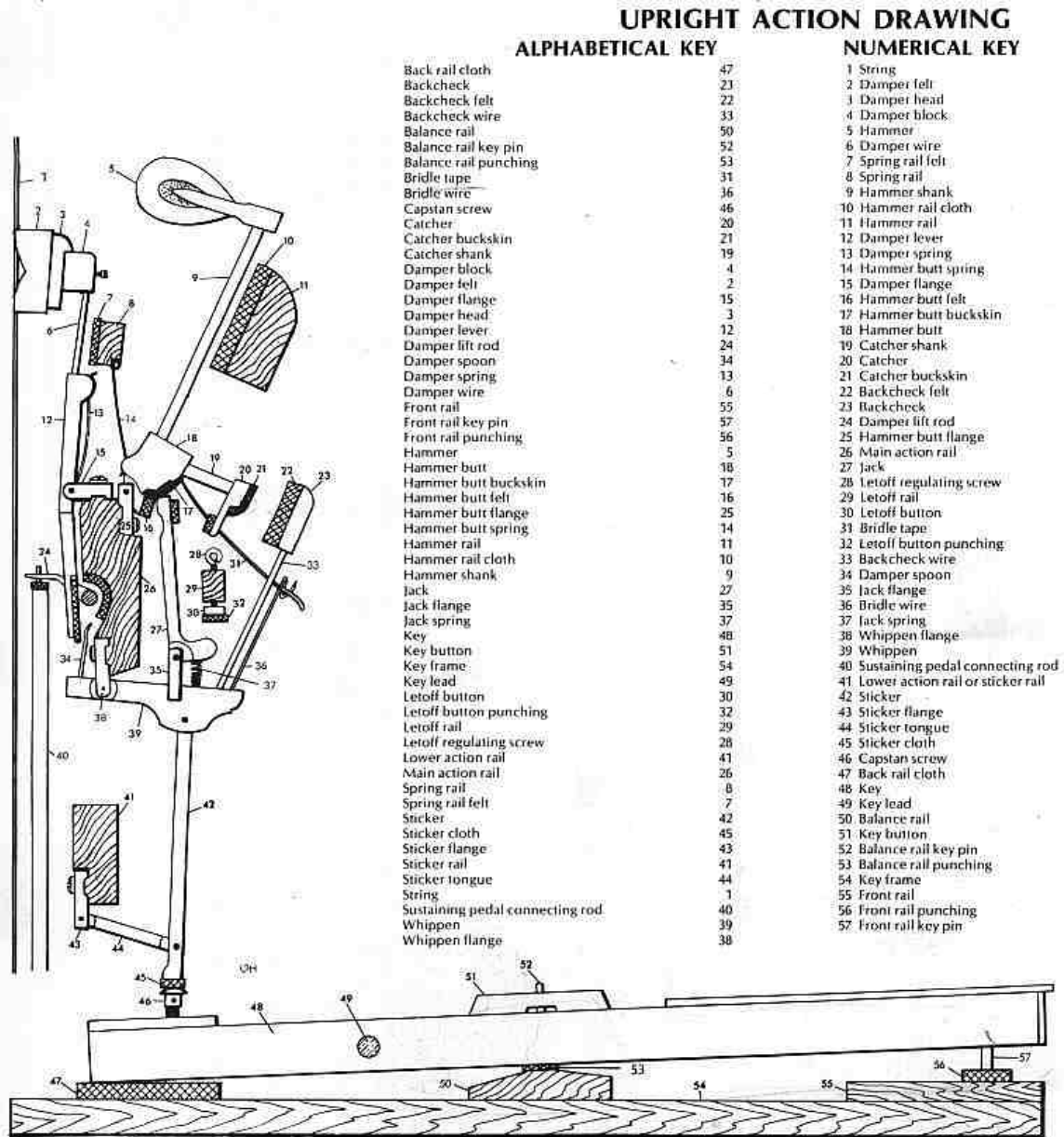
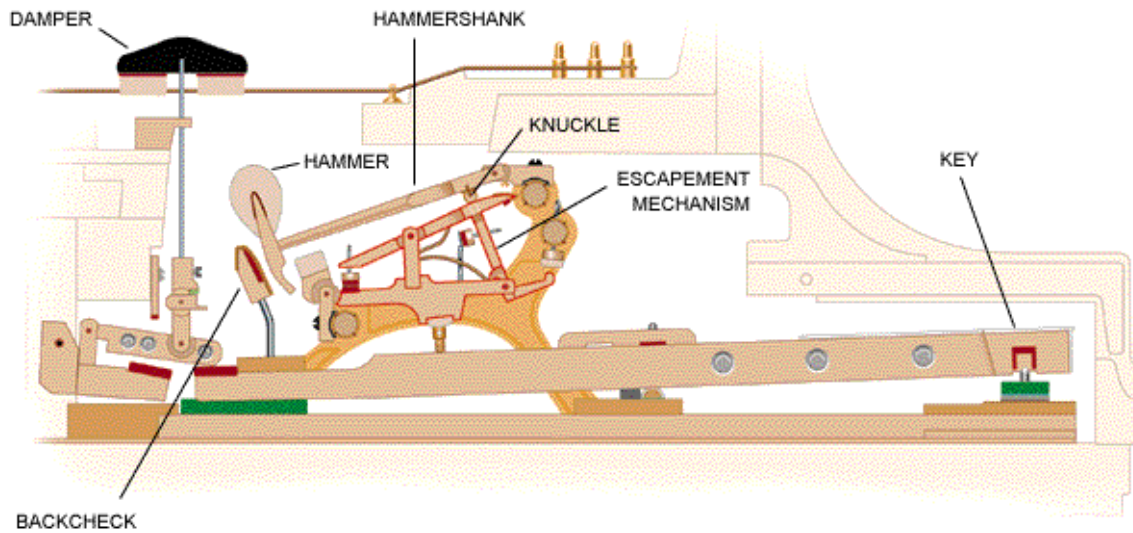


Piano Action Styles



Full sized uprights are between 47 & 60" tall. The diagram above shows the various parts and their names. The part names are common to all the vertical pianos.

Piano Action Styles

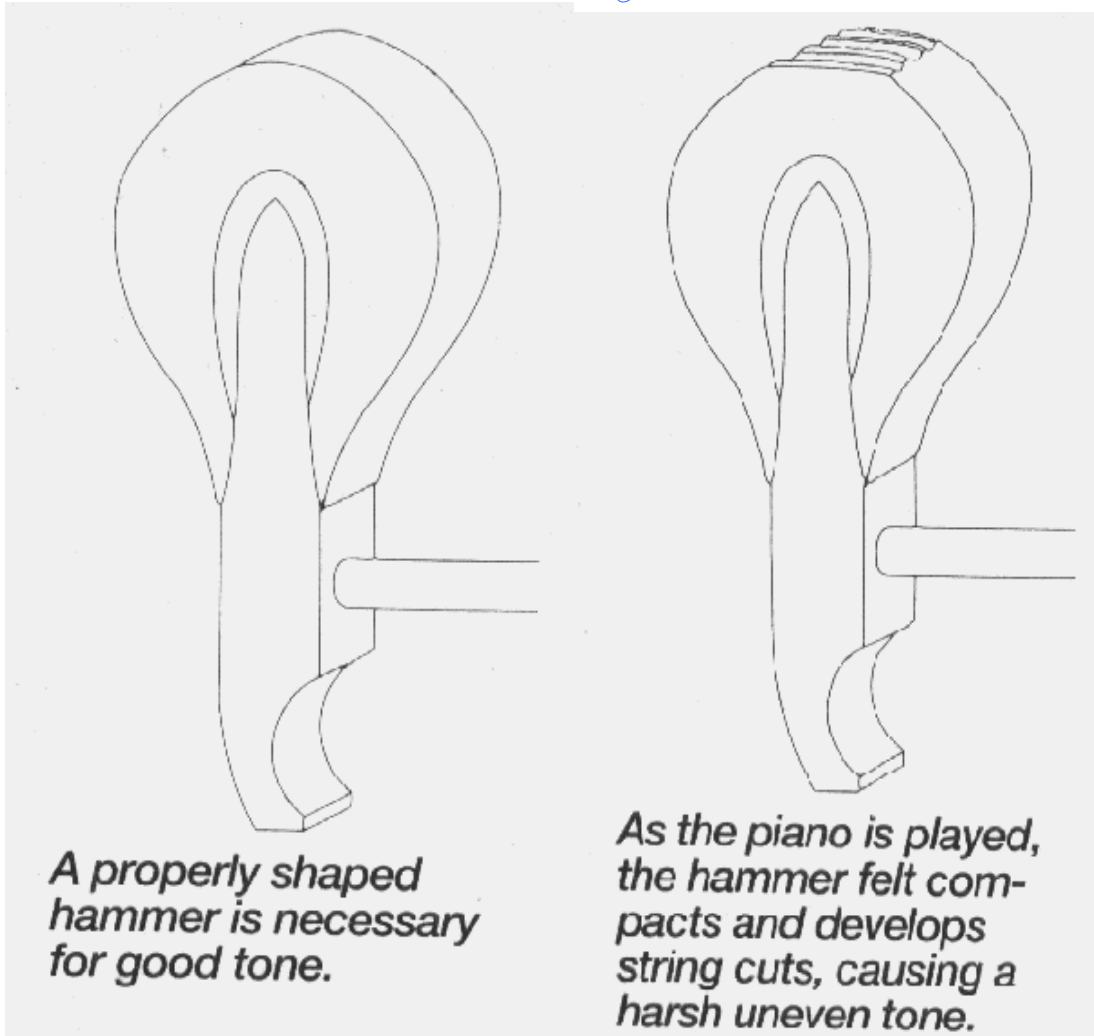


Most grand pianos are similar to this design. A grand has double escapement and is therefore generally more sensitive and provides faster repetition. Grands range in size from 4 1/2' to 9 1/2' and should always be referred to by length or model.

There are many more examples of piano actions and each will differ in one design aspect or another. The examples shown will serve to afford the reader a basic understanding of the mechanisms involved within a piano.

An action is basically a system of levers that allow the player some degree of control (sensitivity) and speed. The degree to which this mechanism is cared for is a direct correlation to how well a pianist can express themselves on it.

Piano Action Styles



A piano's hammer strikes the string in the same spot time after time. Depending on how much force is applied the hammer will begin to wear over time causing the felt to compact. As the string cuts develop the pianist loses the ability to play softly because of the hard compact felt which strikes the string. There are many adjectives used to describe the range of sounds this condition causes. Among them are hard, bright, nasal, tinny, shrill, etc. The care of a competent technician will not correct the above technician with the existing hammers. They should be replaced.