

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

## Focus On: Polishing Imitation Ivory Keytops



Information provided courtesy of:

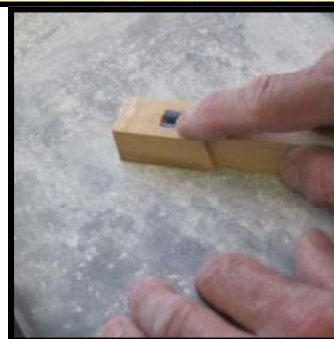
**Gina Bonfietti**

**(203) 882-8082**

[gina@ginaspiano.com](mailto:gina@ginaspiano.com)

Over decades of use, artificial ivory keytops begin to show their age and tend to make a piano as a whole look old and beat-up. 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 keyboard 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 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.

**Gina Bonfietti**

**(203) 882-8082** [gina@ginaspiano.com](mailto:gina@ginaspiano.com)