

UNPACKING PROCESS

Fortepiano after 1819 Conrad Graf by Paul McNulty, Divišov 2009

ANU Keyboard Institute

- Wheel flightcase into position, lock wheels & unlatch top
- Position trolley third of the way along spine from keyboard end
- Lift tail end of flightcase top progressively higher while sliding towards front of instrument
- Using cover straps, lift fortepiano out of flightcase cradle onto trolley
- Ensure trolley wheels are visible, projecting beyond bottom of fortepiano
- Align flightcase top with cradle & fasten catches
- Unlock flightcase wheels & push clear
- Screw in cheek (#2) & tail (#3) legs, ensuring cover rope runs outside of each leg
- Supporting tail leg slightly to avoid it taking the full weight, rotate instrument off trolley
- Fortepiano is now resting on two legs at an angle with front spine corner still on trolley
- Undo cover bottom perimeter rope
- Lift front spine corner off trolley & support from seated position with knee under instrument
- Fit leg #1, leaving instrument resting on leg bottom dowels
- Unwrap lyre & pedal rail from blanket
- Lift tail to position tail leg bottom block
- Lift front cheek corner to slide in pedal rail & engage with cheek leg bottom dowel
- Lift front spine corner to slide in pedal rail & engage with spine leg bottom dowel
- Pull lyre retaining pin from pedal rail, engage lyre & replace pin
- Hook four brass pedal rods, noting they are not interchangeable but numbered by notches
- Remove padded cover from instrument, keyboard end first
- Drop outside of cover on ground
- Fold cheek and spine of cover in before folding cover in half lengthwise
- Roll cover from keyboard end & tie up using bottom perimeter rope
- Carefully fold back fallboard, keyboard cover & lid flap, noting there are three hinged parts
- Raise lid fully to avoid scraping lid stick over strings
- Remove grey cotton packing strips on case rim
- Raise music desk

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- Collapse music desk
- Place grey cotton packing strips on case rim
- Close lid, lifting it sufficiently so lid stick doesn't scrape on strings
- Carefully unfold lid flap, keyboard cover and fallboard, noting there are three hinged parts
- Fit padded cover over instrument, tail end first
- Tie a half-hitch in cover rope in middle of keyboard
- Unhook four pedal rods
- Lift tail slightly to remove tail leg bottom block & place aside
- Lift front cheek corner slightly to slide out pedal rail
- Lift front spine corner slightly to slide out pedal rail
- Pull lyre retaining pin to disengage lyre from pedal rail, replacing pin in pedal rail
- Wrap lyre & pedal rail in blanket
- Position trolley third of the way along spine from keyboard end
- From a seated position with your knee under instrument, raise front spine corner
- Unscrew front spine leg (#1)
- Support tail leg slightly while dropping front spine corner down onto trolley
- Lift front cheek corner to bring instrument completely vertical on trolley
- Remove two remaining legs & pack in leg bag with four brass pedal rods & tail leg block
- Loop excess bottom perimeter rope of cover between cheek/bentside & spine and tie off
- Wheel flightcase into position adjacent to piano on trolley
- Lock flightcase wheels & unlatch top
- Lift top off & place inline to front of flightcase
- Using cover straps, lift fortepiano off trolley into flightcase cradle, leaving straps accessible
- Lift tail of flightcase top over keyboard end of fortepiano and slide towards tail
- Align flightcase top with cradle & fasten catches
- Unlock flightcase wheels

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