



Teaching With Roland Digital Pianos

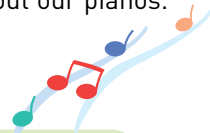


- Can digital match acoustic ?
- What's the difference ?
- How can I enrich my curriculum ?
- What special features do you recommend ?
- What more can I do with a PC ?
- Where are Roland pianos played ?

1 Can digital match acoustic?

Dear Piano Teacher,

You and Roland have two things in common. First, a deep passion for music. And second, a keen desire to share the joy of music with others. To help you do this, Roland has devoted 30 years to creating the world's most sophisticated digital pianos — pianos that enliven lessons, improve skills, and nurture the love of music. This handbook answers key questions from educators about our pianos. We hope it will help in *your* classroom too.



“Delighted With the Response”

“We have chosen to use Roland digital pianos at The Royal Academy of Music and are delighted with the response from both students and teachers with regard to the quality of sound and features they provide.”

*Professor Curtis Price, Principal
Royal Academy of Music, U.K.*



“Learning to play the piano is getting increasingly difficult. There are so many distractions available to a young and inquisitive mind: Computers, games consoles, cable TV. How does the music teacher compete with these? Well, I genuinely feel the digital piano will not only enhance the enjoyment of learning, it will encourage the student to focus on the technical skills needed to become an accomplished pianist. A cautious eye from the teacher or parent is always advisable,

of course, but with suitable guidance a student will soon benefit from the rewards of playing such a wonderful instrument!”

— John Maul, Advisor



John Maul is a musician, composer and arranger who graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London. John's work encompasses studio recordings and live performances, including work with top UK pop and jazz artists. His writing credits include commercial music for BBC radio and television, as well as scoring jazz and classical works.

Absolutely! Today's digital pianos are marvels of integrated engineering, with powerful speakers and high-resolution LCDs, all encased in handsome simulated hardwood cabinets. But the real beauty of a Roland piano isn't something you can describe with specifications. It's something you *feel*.

In pursuit of the acoustic grand

At Roland, we have always been inspired by the regal touch and rich expression of the acoustic grand piano. In our digital pianos, we aspire not just to bring the tones and sensations of this legendary instrument to life, but to further enhance the enjoyment of piano music with innovative functions.



“Delicate Tones and Natural Key Touch”

“Professionals love Roland digital pianos for their power of expression, delicate tones and natural key touch, which I have also experienced.”

*Masahiro Saito, Pianist
Japan*

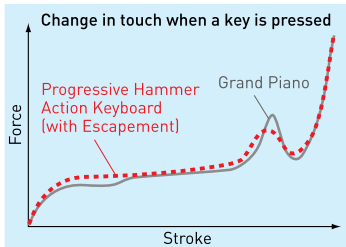
Superb touch

You'll recognize that luxurious grand-piano feel the instant you touch our keyboard. The Roland Progressive Hammer-Action Keyboard offers all the sensitivity of a concert grand. High notes have a delicate touch, and low notes a satisfyingly resistant, heavier touch. Keys sink and return naturally to produce soft sounds when caressed lightly and more intense sounds when struck with force. Moreover, Roland touch-sensors are so advanced that they can recognize variations in key action in 128 increments. All this allows for an astonishingly expressive dynamic range, from the most finely nuanced, shimmering *pianissimo* to a thundering *fortissimo*.

2 What's the difference?



Roland keyboards feature natural hammer action without springs.



High-end models feature an Escapement mechanism to reproduce the "click-feel" of world-class grand pianos.

Soaring sound

Like acoustic grands, many Roland digital pianos have three pedals: the soft pedal, the *sostenuto*, and the damper. What's more, Roland digital models deliver 64- or 128-voice maximum polyphony, so you can enjoy all the sumptuous reverbs, sound expansiveness, and other natural acoustic effects you'd normally expect from an acoustic grand. You can achieve brilliant *glissandos*. You can execute furious *staccato* passages. And you can do both with the damper pressed, without any note cutoffs — and with all the stunning clarity and resonance of a full acoustic grand.



Enjoy totally natural acoustic effects without note cutoffs.

Have you ever wanted to play your piano late at night? Or wished you never had to tune it? Both wishes will come true when you have a digital piano. All Roland pianos come with volume controls and are perfectly tuned — just two of many features that will simplify your life and multiply your musical options.



The digital advantage

- **More flexibility:** Some students never find time to practice during the day. Some don't want to practice at night for fear of disturbing others. Luckily, every Roland digital piano is equipped with two basic features: **Volume Control** and **Dual Headphone Jacks**. Using these and headphones, you can play as loudly and as often as you like, with anyone you like, *whenever* you like. The *sostenuto* pedal on many upright acoustic pianos sometimes has the dual



"Wave of the Future"

"The possibilities of using today's astonishing technologies to help us to improve our approach to teaching, and to motivate our students, are immense. They are not only the wave of the future, they are here today and we should not let them pass us by."

Willard Palmer, Author
Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., U.S.A.

function of being a practice pedal. While this is effective in reducing the overall volume, it also has the undesirable effect of dulling the color and timbre of the piano sound. However, with digital pianos, the volume controls have no adverse effect on the sound quality.



Using headphones and dual jacks, you can enjoy the piano 24 hours a day.

- **Multiple Tones:** At the touch of a button, your Roland piano will change its sound or tone completely, reproducing the reverberant sound of a Baroque pipe organ, or the silvery quality of a harpsichord. Students practicing Bach *Inventions* with these tones can get an excellent feel for Baroque music.



Playing with different instrument tones is fun and stimulating.

- **Built-in Metronome:** Instead of the usual monotonous “tick-tick,” Roland’s convenient built-in **Metronome** keeps time by “barking” or “meowing,” among other electronic sound effects. These entertaining sounds are sure to put a smile on every student’s face and enliven routine lessons. The intervals can of course be subdivided for a faster count.



Select different metronome sounds to create a lighter mood.

- **Master Tuning:** In an ideal world, all instruments would be perfectly tuned and there would be no worries when performing together. While a Roland digital piano is always perfectly tuned, this isn’t always the case with acoustic instruments. Imagine a flute might be tuned to 442.0Hz. For the Roland piano, this would be no problem. With the push of a button, the **Master Tuning** can be simply adjusted to match the acoustic instrument.

- **Adjustable Key Touch:** Earlier, we saw how Roland keyboards emulate the superb touch of acoustic grand pianos. The **Adjustable Key Touch** feature gives you even more control over the response of the keyboard as opposed to altering the mechanics. A “Heavy” key touch setting, for example, gives you a solid response when playing *con brio*. A “Light” touch setting might be useful for beginners or players with weaker fingers. The Adjustable Key Touch function makes piano playing more enjoyable for all levels of students. And it’s something no acoustic piano can offer.



A light key touch setting is easier on beginners.



“Teachers Are Very Accepting”

“I was surprised by the quality of touch on a digital piano and enjoyed practicing on it... I don’t care about the bells and whistles on most digitals, but I did like that Roland. I have also found teachers to be very accepting of digital pianos.”

*Noah Adams, Host of National Public Radio’s “All Things Considered,” U.S.A.
Noah began learning to play the piano at age 52.*

- **Long-term convenience:** A three-pedal upright Roland digital piano model weighs approximately one-third as much as its typical acoustic counterpart. It’s also compactly designed, so you won’t need the usual army of assistants to move your piano around. Moreover, Roland pianos always sound perfectly in tune. Not only is this helpful for developing a good ear — it also means minimal maintenance, maximum convenience, and significant cost-savings over the long term!



“More Opportunities to Discover Instruments”

“The various instrumental tones in Roland digital pianos give children more opportunities to discover the instruments that are closest to their heart.”

*Ikuko Naitoh, Piano teacher
Roland Music Studio, Japan*

3 How can I enrich my curriculum?

Everybody loves music. But sadly, many people never pursue musical studies because they lack confidence, or eventually give up because of boredom. This is why Roland has gone to extra lengths to create pianos that are not just wonderful to listen to — but fun and rewarding to play.

Practicing with Music Files

- **Enjoyable one-hand exercises:** The **Mute** function turns off the right- or the left-hand part of any piece in your Music Files.* Students can practice one hand at a time while the piano “plays” the part of the other hand. This helps to alleviate boredom and quickly improves rhythm and precision.

- **Adjustable Tempo:** When students find a piece too difficult, you can usually resolve the problem by slowing down the tempo of the Music File or just making it consistent throughout. In this way, you can easily overcome resistance to challenging assignments and keep your students motivated.

- **Handy Marker:** Use the **Marker** function to indicate parts in the score that your student is having trouble with. The marked passages can be replayed over and over during practice until he or she gets it right.

*Music Files contain data about note lengths, pitches and other musical features. The data can be stored on floppy disks for playback or editing on digital pianos.

Recording performances

- **Recording and Playback:** You can record your students’ performances directly on your Roland piano. When students listen to themselves playing, they can tell exactly where they’ve done well and where work is still needed. In addition, you can record your own performances and save them to external storage media for use as take-home study aids.



“The Recorder Helps a Lot”

“The recorder feature helps a lot... I say, ‘Let’s see what your weak point is,’ and replay their performance. Listening to it, they instantly understand what was good and bad about their performance.”

*Takako Ishida, Piano teacher
Roland Music Studio, Japan*



“Fascinating and Effective”

“Besides being fascinating, the Music Files used with the Bastien Method are extremely effective. While enhancing lessons, they also make them more enjoyable.”

*Jane S. Bastien
Educator, piano teacher and author of
“Bastien Method,” which has been
translated into more than 10 languages
U.S.A.*

Enjoying more, learning more

- **Varied accompaniment:** There’s nothing like a little accompaniment to help students experience the thrill of playing in an ensemble. Roland pianos provide a wide range of preset music to play along with. **Auto Accompaniment** offers an entertaining and rewarding way of improving both rhythmic and harmonic awareness. Not only is the student’s metronomic skill improved, his sense of musical style and taste is heightened in response to the authentic accompaniment patterns.



Make CDs on the Spot

Roland’s stand-alone CD-2 CF/CD Recorder lets you record live performances and burn CDs on the spot without a PC. You can easily make

multiple copies for immediate distribution to students. The CD-2 is also ideal for compiling recordings of lessons so parents can follow their children’s progress.



4 What special features do you recommend?



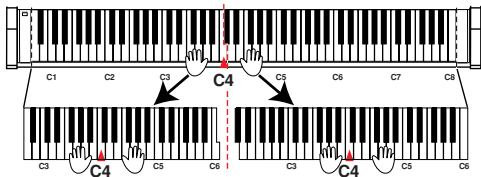
We're delighted you asked! Below are a number of features in our digital pianos designed specifically for music educators. Each is exclusive to Roland digital pianos.*

*Available on selected models only.

Twin Piano Mode

The **Twin Piano Mode** virtually divides your keyboard right down the middle into two autonomous halves, each with its own Middle C. The right pedal serves as the damper pedal for the right half, and the left pedal becomes the damper pedal for the left half. Now you can play along with your student for doubled enjoyment and teaching efficiency.

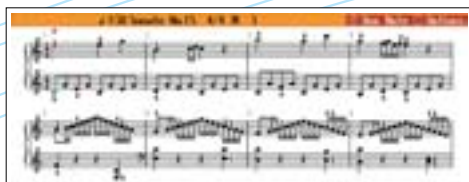
Models: KR107, KR105, KR103, HP107, HP103, HP101



Divide the keyboard into two for added versatility.

Fun with DigiScore®

Roland's LCD **DigiScore** displays the notation of internal Music Files,



A bouncing ball helps keep time on the DigiScore.

commercial SMFs and live recordings. It also "turns the pages" for you, minimizing interruptions. A cheery "bouncing ball" follows the score during playback, keeping time visually while your students play along. Some models have touchscreens that "play" notes when you touch them.

Models: HPI-7, HPI-7LE, HPI-5, KR107, KR105

Self-review tools

Students will find a fully interactive "assistant music tutor" in Roland's **Visual Lesson** to help them check their own playing. This feature offers three courses at different levels of difficulty. Each comes with Practice, Check and Review functions to make studying on one's own easier and more enjoyable.

Models: HPI-7, HPI-7LE, KR107

Visual Lesson encourages mastery with 3 functions.



Practice: The notes you play appear instantly.



Check: You receive evaluation and tips.



Review: Problem areas are marked onscreen.

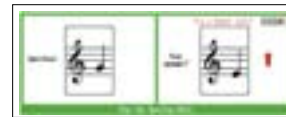
Educational Wonderland

Kids learn faster when they're having fun. Roland's **Wonderland** section features attention-grabbing graphics, sounds and games. Among them is an interactive Flash Card game that "asks" youngsters to play the notes they see — an engaging and effective way to develop sight-reading skills.

Models: HPI-7, HPI-7LE, HPI-5, KR107, KR105



Lessons are never dull with Roland "edu-tainment."



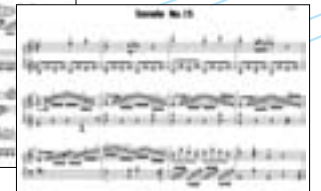
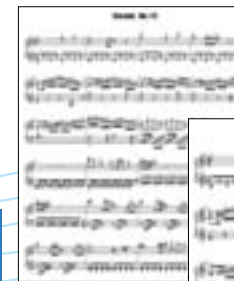
Flash Cards build sight-reading skills.

Create original instructional materials

Try your hand at composition! You can arrange and record an original piece on your Roland piano, and then display the notation on the LCD score — exactly as you've played it. You'll also want to take advantage of the **Edit** function to customize internal songs and SMF files, and add finger numbering. The entire notation on the LCD can be saved as a bitmap file onto floppy disks or USB memory for easy output on PCs and USB printers.*

Models: HPI-7, HPI-7LE, KR107

*Works protected by copyright may not be saved as bitmap files.



View and print your notation in two formats.



"Make It Harder"

"Kids play our games and say, 'Take it up to the next level – make it harder.' When did you last hear a kid say, 'Give me another worksheet! Make it harder.'"

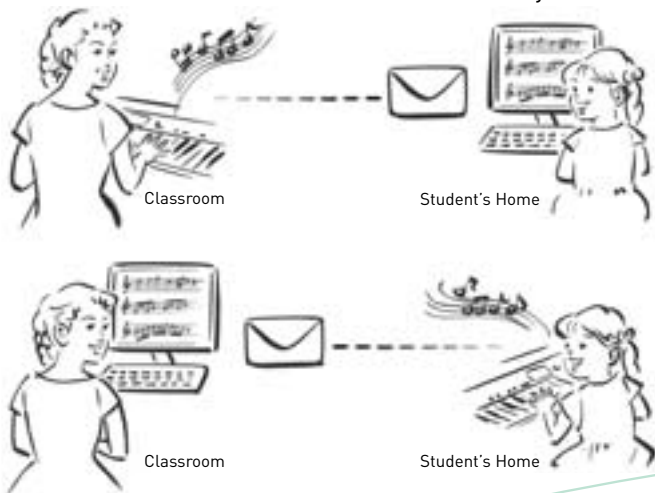
John Kernan
Children's gaming programmer
U.S.A.

5 What more can I do with a PC?

As in all other fields, personal computers can work wonders in the music classroom, making lessons more efficient, varied, interactive — and fun.

A world of resources

Forget long trips to libraries and photocopy centers. Today you can access a world of music resources directly from your computer. Never heard of your student's favorite pop group? Not to worry — you can learn all about them on the Internet. Need a specific recording? Just download the SMF from a music site and save it to a floppy disk or USB memory device for use on your digital piano. Up-to-date support materials are never more than just a few clicks away!



SMFs are ideal for distance learning.



“Part of the Landscape”

“Today’s kids are so bathed in bits that they think it’s all part of the natural landscape. To them, technology is no more intimidating than a VCR or toaster.”

*Don Tapscott
Author of Growing Up Digitally
U.S.A.*

Better communication

E-mail SMF attachments to your students for practice, instead of giving them bulky sheet music. Students can easily record their homework and e-mail the SMF data back to you for evaluation. Recordings of live performances can also be saved as SMFs for use as study aids, or as one-of-a-kind musical gifts. Thanks to PC communications, sharing music with others is easier now than ever.

6 Where are Roland pianos played?

Roland digital pianos are played wherever music is taught. You’ll find them used at the world’s most prestigious learning institutions, in all methods of teaching, and by

students of all ages. Here’s what educators have told us about our pianos. We look forward to hearing *your* comments soon.



“Excellent Action and Sensitivity”

“We have been using Roland pianos for our Keyboard Skills classes for many years. Our students and professors have always been impressed with the excellent action, sensitivity and musical qualities of the instruments.”

*David Graham, Professor
Royal College of Music, U.K.*



“Conservatory Canada is pleased to approve the use of Roland digital pianos for examination purposes. I am impressed with the quality of sound and responsiveness of the weighted action of these pianos.”

*Victoria Warwick, B.Mus., B.Ed., M.Mus.
Academic Director/Registrar
Conservatory Canada*



“Roland digital pianos are excellent pianos in my Music for Young Children® studio. The sounds are authentic and create interest.”

*Frances Mae Balodis, M.Ed., ARCT, LCCM (Hon), RMT
Founder and International Director of
Music for Young Children, Canada*



A Piano for Every Need

There's a Roland digital piano for every musical need. As the owner of a Roland piano, you'll be guaranteed the highest standards of acoustic and technological excellence, so you can look forward to genuine peace of mind and a lifetime of enjoyment. Maybe you are teaching beginners? Take a look at the HP series of pianos — they not only sound and feel wonderful but look

amazing, too. Meanwhile, all models in the HPi series offer LCD screens built into the music rest and interactive lesson features. Perhaps you're looking for something for the whole family? Then check out the pianos in the KR range, each a perfect fusion of superb sound, entertaining features and educational functions for the student, teacher or home musician.

Glossary

Auto Accompaniment : A function that allows you to enjoy accompaniment in various genres when playing chords with your left hand. You can perform with a virtual orchestra, even when playing solo!

Damper Resonance : The rich “free-vibration” sound that emanates from an acoustic piano when the damper pedal is pressed. Roland pianos faithfully reproduce this effect, as well as the resonance created when the pedal is pressed after playing a note.

DigiScore : A Roland exclusive feature that displays the notation of Music Files, preset songs, and even your own recordings on the large built-in LCD screen. The score pages turn automatically, and the staff and note size can be adjusted as desired. Some models offer an interactive option to select and hear notes by touching the screen with your finger.

Maximum Polyphony : The number of notes that can sound simultaneously on a digital piano. The higher the number, the less chance of experiencing note cutoffs, and the wider the range of musical expression. Roland pianos offer 64- and 128-voice polyphony so you can feel free to play passages with heavy pedal use, even as a duet or with accompaniment.

Music Files : Digital files containing data about musical performances, such as how long a key was pressed, and with how much force. The data can be saved to storage media such as floppy disks for playback on digital pianos and computers. Music Files differ from CDs in that they do not contain actual audio or sound recordings of musical performances. So, unlike CDs, you can freely erase certain parts or change tempos without altering the pitch.

Music Player/Tutor : A device that lets you use Music Files even if your digital piano does not have a floppy disk drive. Music Player/Tutor comes with built-in speakers, a built-in Metronome, Adjustable Tempo, and a Mute function for single-handed exercises.


SMF (Standard MIDI File) : A data file that uses a standard format for compatibility with computers and listening devices. SMF files contain information about musical notes, pitches, dynamics and other performance features. A vast range of music is available on commercial SMFs for listening, learning, karaoke and other uses.

About Roland


Founded in 1972 in Osaka, Japan, Roland Corporation is a global leader in electronic musical instruments, equipment and software. Roland created the world's first guitar synthesizer, and continues to produce diverse equipment of the highest quality for both amateur

and professional musicians, from digital pianos, organs and synthesizers to entire desktop music systems. The Roland Foundation is one of Japan's premier organizations dedicated to supporting music education. The company also sponsors key music events worldwide.





Roland Music Education Options



KR Series

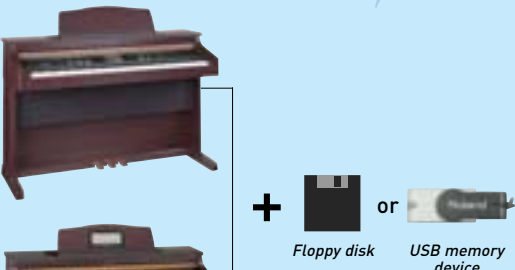
Top-of-the-line series with automatic accompaniment for added variety and enjoyment. 3 models.*

HPi Series

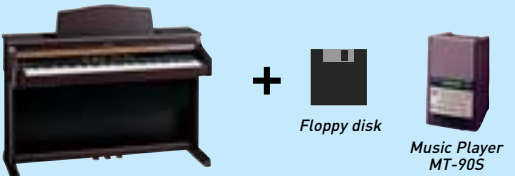
Ideal instruments for supporting private lessons. Diverse features include a wide LCD mounted on the music rest and Wonderland educational tools. 2 models.*

HP Series

Uncompromisingly crafted to offer fine acoustic piano sound and touch. Equipped with over 60 internal songs. May be used with Roland Music Players** for playing FDs and SMFs. 3 models.



+ Floppy disk or USB memory device



+ Floppy disk Music Player MT-905

*KR/HPi models come with floppy disk drives. [Exception: KR107 has USB memory port and optional floppy disk drive.]

**Music Players come with built-in speakers for FD and SMF playback, as well as Adjustable Tempo, Mute and Metronome functions. Ideal to use with pianos without floppy disk drives.

Ensuring high quality while protecting the environment: Roland is ISO9001 and ISO14001 certified

At Roland, several group companies have obtained ISO9001 certification. In addition, in January 1999, Roland also received ISO14001 international environmental management system certification. We're actively seeking ways to maintain harmony with the environment.

[ISO=International Standardization Organization: an organization for the promotion of standardization of international units and terms. They provide different categories of certification: ISO9001 Series certification is a product quality certification for products that undergo a certain level of quality control from the design stage to the after service stage; ISO14001 Series certification is for environment-related standards. Each member of the Roland Group is striving to obtain certification.]



Visit us online at www.Roland.com



Use of soybean-based inks aids in paper recycling and restricts emission of volatile organic chemicals.

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