

KAWAI

CLASSIC SERIES

CS11 / CS8





LUXURIOUS APPEARANCE
IMPECCABLE TOUCH
STUNNING SOUND

*The new range of Classic Series luxury digital pianos
– crafted by Japan's premier acoustic piano company.*

Luxurious, elegant, classic – nothing says piano quite like the refined beauty of polished ebony. The evocative character of a silky smooth, rich black cabinet elevates the musical instrument to that of a piece of fine furniture, while simultaneously raising the artistic aspirations of the performer.

Kawai has been creating world-class musical instruments for 90 years – maintaining traditional hand-crafted processes while embracing original ideas, in a passionate quest to perfect the *art* of the piano.

The new range of premium Kawai digital instruments pursue these very same principles, marrying together stunning polished cabinet parts (meticulously prepared in our own acoustic piano finishing facility) with modern sound and keyboard technologies. The result is the Classic Series – a collection of luxurious, elegant pianos that deliver a truly exceptional musical experience.

Sitting down at a Kawai Classic Series, one quickly begins to appreciate the instruments' acoustic piano design cues: the gorgeous rich black polished finish, the warm glimmer from the family crest's brushed metal lettering, and the wide music rest complete with simulated leather inlay.

However, the Classic Series are far more than just handsome additions to one's living space, for inside their finely crafted, gleaming black cabinets lies Kawai's advanced digital piano sound and keyboard action technology, ensuring that these exceptional instruments play as beautifully as they look. Pioneering innovations such as *Harmonic Imaging XL* and the *Soundboard Speaker System* recreate the exquisite tonal character of Kawai's peerless EX concert grand piano with breathtaking realism, while the *Grand Feel II* keyboard action with *Ivory & Ebony Touch* key surfaces, triple-sensor key detection, graded counterweights, and let-off simulation guarantees a remarkably authentic piano playing experience.

Complementing their beautiful appearance, stunning sound, and rewarding keyboard touch, the Classic Series offer a selection of digital piano features that further enhance one's musical enjoyment. USB audio record/playback, Dual and Split keyboard modes, and a rich assortment of customisable instrument voices add greater variety to players' performances. Furthermore, the convenient metronome function and integrated classical etudes or *Alfred* course books ensure that regular practise is productive and engaging for aspiring pianists.

Luxurious appearance combined with class-leading touch and tone:
Introducing the Classic Series premium digital pianos from Kawai.



THE TOUCH OF A GRAND PIANO

The keyboard action of an acoustic grand piano is composed of black and white keys, graded hammers, and numerous other components working in harmony when each note is pressed. This beautifully designed mechanism allows gifted pianists to express a wealth of feeling and emotion in their music, as they appreciate and respond to the tactile nuances transmitted through the keyboard.

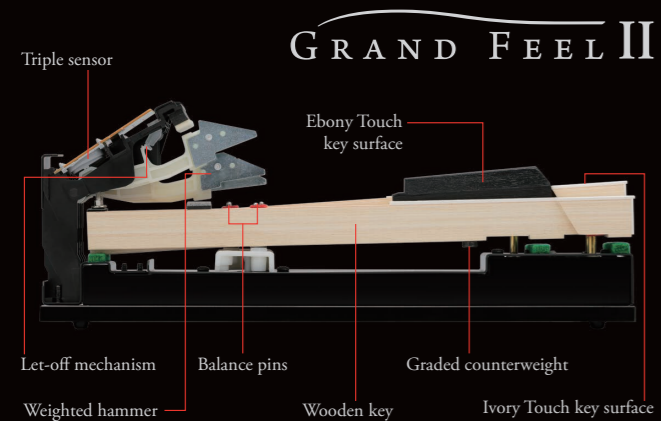
Translating the piano action's intricate movements to a digital instrument, while retaining these acoustic-like subtleties is a stunning achievement – one which has drawn upon 90 years of experience in crafting the world's finest pianos.

GRAND FEEL II KEYBOARD ACTION

Embracing many of the long-established principles associated with an acoustic piano, the new *Grand Feel II* keyboard action utilised by the latest Classic Series combines realistic materials, motion, and mechanism to recreate the exceptional touch of the finest concert grand pianos.

All eighty-eight black and white keys are crafted entirely from long pieces of wood, with finely textured ivory and ebony-like surfaces applied to absorb moisture and assist control. Each wooden key pivots smoothly on a balance pin – the ends rising and falling to replicate the familiar 'seesaw' motion of an acoustic piano action. When pressed, the back of the key lifts, triggering a grade-weighted hammer to strike a pressure switch. The amount of force applied to this switch is then measured, and the corresponding note played with authentic tonal character and volume.

In addition, graded counterweights attached towards the front of each key help to lighten their touch during pianissimo passages, with *let-off* simulation also reproducing the delicate 'notch' sensation felt when playing the keys of a grand piano very softly. These subtle characteristics allow discerning pianists to practise their expanding repertoire with confidence, and ensure that there are no unpleasant surprises when called upon to perform using the finest acoustic grand pianos.



IVORY & EBONY TOUCH KEY SURFACES

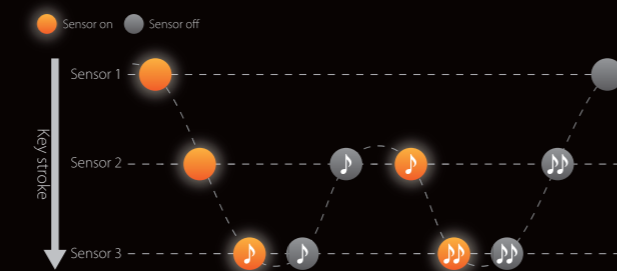
The exceptional Classic Series instruments feature Kawai's highly regarded *Ivory Touch* white key surfaces as standard. This finely textured material gently absorbs fingertip perspiration and oils to assist playing control, and possesses a natural, matte finish that is smooth but not slippery.

To complement these premium white keys, Kawai has developed *Ebony Touch*, an all-new black key material that reproduces the finely-textured grain and rich lustre of real ebony wood. The result is a keyboard surface that looks and feels as luxurious as some of the finest grand pianos.



TRIPLE-SENSOR KEY DETECTION

The *Grand Feel II* action features Kawai's latest triple-sensor detection system for enhanced accuracy and responsiveness when playing the same key repeatedly. This third sensor allows the sound of a single note to be gradually 'layered' without previous tones being lost, while also supporting advanced techniques such as playing notes from the *let-off* point.



LONGEST KEYS, LONGEST PIVOT LENGTH

In addition to having the longest keys of any digital piano, *Grand Feel* keyboard actions also boast the longest key pivot length – matching that of a Kawai grand piano.

This improvement ensures a more evenly balanced key touch weight from front to rear, and is particularly beneficial when playing complicated chords with fingers positioned towards the back of the keyboard.



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF REAL WOODEN KEYS

Wood has been the preferred material for acoustic piano keys for centuries, and was first introduced in Kawai digital pianos over 30 years ago. Yet despite the countless improvements to acoustic and digital piano action technologies in recent years, engineers still recognise that wood remains the best material for the keyboard.

Unlike plastics and most other man-made substances, wood possesses unique characteristics that allow it to absorb a degree of movement energy and flex slightly when compressed. This means that when a pressing a wooden key it reaches the cushioned felt keybed with a natural, reassuring stop, rather than a jarring, noisy halt.

The outstanding resonance properties of wood are widely accepted, making it an ideal choice for stringed instruments such as guitars, violins, and of course pianos. Wooden piano keys are also known to vibrate, subtly channelling the sound energy of the instrument back through the fingertips, and enhancing the musician's playing experience.

Finally, wooden keys are inherently special. The look, feel, and even the smell of wooden keys furnish the Classic Series with an organic quality that helps the player to feel a closer connection with their piano. And it is this important personal connection that ultimately allows pianists to relax, and lose themselves in the joy of making music.



THE SOUND OF A GRAND PIANO

Earning a reputation as the 'premier pianos of Japan', Shigeru Kawai instruments grace the stages of concert halls and musical institutions throughout the world, and are prized for their outstanding tonal clarity and exceptional dynamic range.

The new Classic Series captures the magnificent tone of two Shigeru Kawai instruments, the flagship SK-EX Concert and medium-sized SK-5 Studio grand pianos, allowing musicians to enjoy the contrasting properties of each.

In addition, the CS11 & CS8 also feature the distinctive sound of Kawai's highly acclaimed EX concert grand piano, which has frequently been selected by professional pianists in such prestigious events as the Chopin, Tchaikovsky, and Rubinstein international piano competitions, among others.

All three instruments are faithfully reproduced with full 88-key sampling using the latest *Harmonic Imaging™* sound technology, to establish a new standard in digital piano tonal quality.

HARMONIC IMAGING TECHNOLOGY

When playing a fine piano, the amount of pressure applied to the keyboard affects not only the volume of the sound produced, but also the unique tonal character of each note. Therefore, in order to construct a realistic acoustic portrait of each grand piano, not only is each key recorded individually, but also at a wide variety of different volume levels, ranging from gentle pianissimo to thunderous fortissimo.

The new Classic Series offers a highly detailed acoustic portrait, with *Harmonic Imaging XL* technology ensuring smooth tonal transitions across the keyboard and throughout the entire dynamic range.



IMPROVED VIRTUAL TECHNICIAN

The Classic Series' improved *Virtual Technician* functions invite discerning musicians to shape aspects of the selected piano's character to suit their preferences.

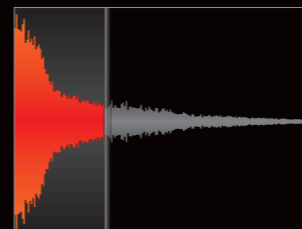
Players can perform touch and voicing adjustments, regulate hammer and key release noises, and fine-tune string, lid, and damper resonances. It is even possible to adjust the precise tuning and volume of individual notes – all in real-time. Then, with the desired refinements complete, save the personally prepared instrument to internal memory or a connected USB device, or exchange favourite settings with other Classic Series owners online.



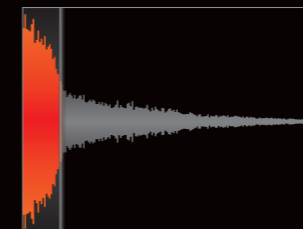
EXTRA-LONG SAMPLING (HI-XL)

With expanded piano sound memory, the new Classic Series boasts the largest sample size of any Kawai digital piano. This 'eXtra Long' standard of *Harmonic Imaging* technology extends the important attack portion of the piano sound by up to 120%, articulating the natural detail and resonance characteristics of each note more clearly, and improving the instrument's organic tonal quality overall.

Harmonic Imaging XL



Harmonic Imaging



IMPRESSIVE EFFECTS & REVERB

The Classic Series' powerful digital effects engine further enhances the instrument's superior core sounds, applying additional layers of detail and realism that bring performances to life.

Studio quality chorus, tremolo, delay, and auto-pan effects can be used to tailor a sound's character and feeling, with modelled amplifier/speaker simulations applying vintage warmth to electric pianos and trademark growl to drawbar organs. The depth of a performance can then be transformed using the Classic Series' strong reverb features, allowing pianists to position themselves within one of six acoustic environments, ranging from a small practise room to an inspirational grand cathedral.

SUPERIOR SPEAKER SYSTEMS

The Classic Series feature high fidelity 3-way speaker systems that have been specially designed to deliver deep bass and crisp treble frequencies. The high-specification CS8 boasts a new 6-speaker configuration that immerses the performer, while the flagship CS11 piano also incorporates the latest version of Kawai's highly-regarded *Soundboard Speaker System*.

This unique audio technology embraces the rich, harmonic qualities of wood, channelling sound energy onto a traditional soundboard in order to produce a natural, organic tone. Long wooden ribs securely attached to the soundboard further broaden the frequency range and volume of the resonating sound, resulting in a remarkably authentic playing experience that faithfully reproduces the tonal ambience of an acoustic piano.



88-KEY PIANO SAMPLING

The rich, expressive sound of the SK-EX, SK-5, and EX grand pianos is at the heart of the new Classic Series, with all eighty-eight keys of these world-class instruments painstakingly recorded, meticulously analysed, and accurately reproduced as high-fidelity digital waveforms.

Recording each key individually in this way – as opposed to stretching the same tone over several different notes – preserves the grand pianos' unique harmonic character, and guarantees that the sound heard when playing any one of the Classic Series' wooden keys is a faithful representation of the original acoustic source.



1 → 88



THE VARIETY OF A DIGITAL PIANO

Complementing the instrument's class-leading *Grand Feel II* keyboard action and stunning *Harmonic Imaging XL* grand piano sound, the Classic Series also offer a strong selection of digital features that further enhance one's musical enjoyment.

USB audio recording and playback, Dual, Split, and Four Hands keyboard modes, and a rich assortment of customisable instrument voices add greater variety to players' performances, while the convenient metronome function and integrated classical etudes and *Alfred* course books ensure that regular practise is both productive and engaging for aspiring pianists.

RICH SOUND SELECTION

Supplementing the beautiful acoustic piano voices, the Classic Series also features an excellent selection of additional sounds, ranging from electric pianos and drawbar or church organs, to strings, human choirs, and synth pads, inviting musicians to add greater variety to their performances.

Furthermore, the Dual playing mode also allows two different sounds, such as grand piano and strings, to be layered together, while the Split and Four Hands modes divide the keyboard into two independent sections. The volume balances and other settings for each playing mode can also be adjusted quickly and easily using the real-time panel controls.

LESSON & FINGER EXERCISES

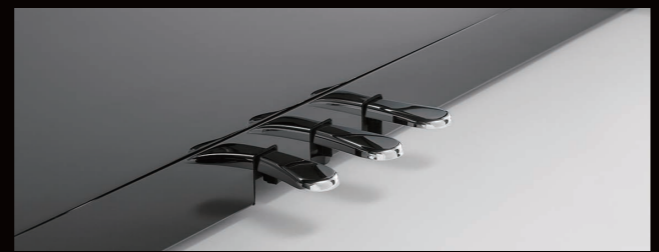
The Classic Series' convenient lesson function allows aspiring pianists to learn piano with classical Czerny, Burgmüller, Beyer, Bach, and Chopin etudes, or a collection of songs from the popular *Alfred* Basic, Adult, and Premier course books. With a strong emphasis on acoustic piano realism, both models also feature traditional finger exercises, scales, and warm-up drills, and include a companion book of printed scores to further aid one's practise.



GRAND FEEL PEDAL SYSTEM

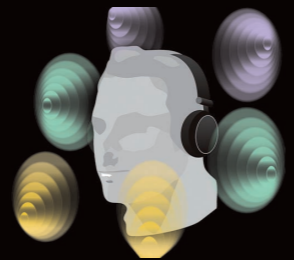
Reinforcing the Classic Series' reputation as the most realistic digital piano is Kawai's *Grand Feel Pedal System*. This unique development accurately replicates the individual weighting of the damper, soft, and sostenuto pedals of the SK-EX and EX concert grand pianos to further enhance the Classic Series' acoustic piano authenticity.

Moreover, it is also possible to adjust the half-pedal sensitivity of the damper pedal, and effectiveness of the soft pedal using specially engineered *Virtual Technician* parameters, allowing musicians to personalise the instrument's response to match their preferred pedalling technique.



IMPROVED HEADPHONE EXPERIENCE

The Classic Series' *Spatial Headphone Sound* (SHS) technology enhances the depth and realism of the instrument's piano sounds when using headphones or earphones, while also helping to reduce auditory fatigue when listening for extended periods of time.



Moreover, the CS11 and CS8 also feature a dedicated, high fidelity headphone amplifier, utilising the same premium hardware found in audiophile music devices. This technology significantly improves sound quality when using headphones, and allows players to select a variety of different headphone types for an optimised listening experience.

FLEXIBLE USB CONNECTIVITY

The CS11 and CS8 are equipped with modern USB connectors that not only allow the instrument to be connected to a computer for MIDI use, but also to load and save data to USB memory devices directly.

This latter *USB to Device* functionality allows favourite instrument settings, registrations, and memorable recorder songs stored in internal memory to be safely preserved on USB, or standard MIDI files (SMF) downloaded from the internet to be listened to using the instrument's exquisite *Harmonic Imaging XL* sounds without additional hardware.



USEFUL CONNECTIVITY OPTIONS

In addition to *USB to Host* and *USB to Device* connectors, the Classic Series also feature standard LINE-level audio and MIDI jacks. These useful connectivity options allow the instrument to be enjoyed in larger settings such as churches or school halls, and provide greater flexibility when using computers and other audio devices.

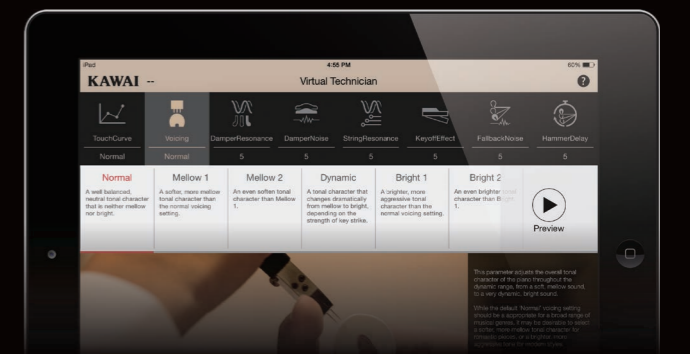


MP3 AUDIO PLAYBACK & RECORD

USB memory devices can also be used to play back MP3 or WAV audio files, allowing musicians to learn the chords or melody for a new piece, or to simply play along with their favourite songs. It is even possible to record entire performances (including external line-in audio) directly as MP3 or WAV audio files for emailing to family and friends, or casual listening away from the piano.

IPAD CONTROL APPS

Connecting the Classic Series to an iPad using either a USB cable allows players to extend the instruments' functionality with a wide range of education, performance, and scoring apps. A dedicated *Virtual Technician* app is also freely available, providing an enjoyable way to learn about and adjust the Classic Series' various characteristics from an attractive touch interface.



ENERGY CONSERVATION

The CS11 and CS8 utilise modern, energy efficient components that reduce electricity consumption by 50% (compared to previous generation models), while the instruments' optional power saving feature can also turn off the piano automatically after a specified period of inactivity.

THE DESIGN OF AN ACOUSTIC PIANO



Standing proudly amongst other items of fine furniture, a piano is often considered the centrepiece of any room it occupies.

With elegant cabinetry, striking accents, and a natural wooden finish, the exterior appearance of a piano contributes more to the overall aesthetic of playing and listening to music than arguably any other instrument.

This shared belief inspires Kawai's digital and acoustic piano designers to work together, developing original ideas that improve functionality, without detracting from an instrument's traditional character.



BEYOND EBONY POLISH

Rather than simply replicate Kawai's existing digital pianos in a polished ebony finish, the Classic Series design team decided to take a rather different approach. They began by studying acoustic pianos – evaluating the characteristics that define an instrument's personality, before modelling the new Classic Series cabinets around these core qualities.

One important design feature of the CS8 is its tall upper board. Combined with a broad music rest, this large, polished area elevates the piano, and gives the relatively compact instrument a grander, more distinguished presence. Single-piece side panels further contribute to the Classic Series' acoustic piano character, with the refined toe block overlap ensuring a clean, elegant finish.



The impressive CS8 also adopts a number of subtle acoustic piano design cues that heighten one's emotional attachment to the instrument. The upper panel details that adorn either side of the keyboard, for example, suggest traditionalism, yet also serve to balance the cabinet's sleek, modern appearance. The gentle curve towards the crown of the legs offers a gracious, humanistic touch, while the disciplined combination of straight and rounded edges charm surrounding light, enhancing the instrument's gorgeous polished ebony veneer.

CLASSIC DESIGN IS TIMELESS

The world of interior fashion and furniture design is constantly evolving – adapting to the diverse, global influences that enrich our lives. And yet, the characteristic design of an acoustic piano cabinet has remained largely unchanged for decades: dignified, timeless, classic.

The flagship CS11 plays tribute to this enduring design, with its premium quality cabinet replicating Kawai's popular K-2 compact upright. Finished from top to bottom in a luxurious ebony polish and crowned with one of the most respected names in the piano industry, the CS11 is undoubtedly the perfect instrument for modern traditionalists: musicians who appreciate all the benefits of a digital piano with the very latest technological advances, yet still admire the understated character of a truly classic design.



CONCEALED CONTROL PANEL



The control panel for each Classic Series instrument is discreetly embedded within the piano's left cheek block, with the flagship CS11 model also featuring a folding cover. This helps to preserve the instruments' acoustic piano-like appearance, and allows performers to enjoy the simple pleasure of playing music – without the distraction of flashing lights and rows of buttons.

	CS11	CS8
Keyboard	88 wooden keys with Ivory and Ebony Touch key surfaces / Grand Feel II (GFII) action with Let-Off, Triple Sensor, and Counterweights	
Sound Source	Harmonic Imaging™ XL (HI-XL), 88-key piano sampling	
Internal Sounds	80 voices	60 voices
Polyphony	max. 256 notes	
Keyboard Modes	Dual Mode, Split Mode, Four Hands Mode (Volume/Balance adjustable)	
Reverb	Type:	Room, Lounge, Small Hall, Concert Hall, Live Hall, Cathedral
	Parameters:	Reverb Depth, Reverb Time
Effects	Type:	Mono Delay, Ping Delay, Triple Delay, Chorus, Classic Chorus, Ensemble, Tremolo, Classic Tremolo, Vibrato Tremolo, Tremolo+Amp, Auto Pan, Classic Auto Pan, Auto Pan+Amp, Phaser+Auto Pan, Phaser, Classic Phaser, Phaser+Amp, Phaser+Chorus, Rotary (1-6)
	Parameters:	Dry/Wet, Time, Speed, Mono/Stereo, Accel./Rotary Speed – Parameters dependent on effect.
Virtual Technician	Touch Curve:	Light+, Light, Normal, Heavy, Heavy+, Off (Constant), User Touch Curve
	Voicing:	Normal, Mellow 1, Mellow 2, Dynamic, Bright 1, Bright 2, User Voicing
	Resonance, Noise & Effects:	Damper Resonance, Damper Noise, String Resonance, Undamped String Resonance, Cabinet Resonance, Key-off Effect, Fall-back Noise, Topboard Simulation, Decay Time
	Temperament & Tuning:	Equal, Pure Major, Pure Minor, Pythagorean, Meantone, Werckmeister, Kirnberger User Temperament, Temperament Key, Stretch Tuning, User Tuning
Others:	Hammer Delay, Minimum Touch, User Key Volume, Half-Pedal Adjust, Soft Pedal Depth	
Internal Recorder	10 song, 2 track recorder – approximately 90,000 note memory capacity	
USB Functions	Playback & Record:	MP3, WAV, SMF
	Others:	Load Song, Load Registration All/Single, Load Startup Setting, Save Internal Song, Save SMF Song, Save Registration All/Single, Save Startup Setting, Rename File, Delete File, Format USB, Convert Song to Audio, Overdub Audio
Metronome	Beat:	1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 3/8, 6/8, 7/8, 9/8, 12/8 + 100 drum rhythms
	Tempo:	10 - 400 bpm (20 - 800 bpm for eighth note rhythms)
Internal Songs	Demo Songs:	39 songs
	Piano Music:	29 or 42 pieces ¹
	Lesson Function:	Songs from Alfred, Burgmüller, Czerny, Beyer, Bach, and Chopin lesson books ² . Finger Exercises
Concert Magic:	176 songs (88 x 2 banks)	
Registrations	16 memories (8 x 2), Edit Registration	
Other Settings & Functions	Key/Song Transpose, Tone Control (incl. User EQ), Speaker Volume, Line In Level, Wall EQ*, Tuning, Damper Hold, Split, Four Hands, LCD Contrast, Startup Setting, Factory Reset, SHS Mode, Phones Type/Volume, Lower Octave Shift, Lower Pedal On/Off, Split Balance, Layer Octave Shift, Layer Dynamics, Dual Balance, MIDI Channel, Send PGM#, Local Control, Transmit PGM#, Multi-timbral Mode, Channel Mute, Auto Power Off, Audio Recorder Gain	
Display	128 x 64 pixel LCD with backlight	
Pedals	Damper (with half-pedal support), Soft, Sostenuto. Grand Feel Pedal System	
Jacks	LINE IN (1/8" STEREO), LINE IN Level, LINE OUT (1/4" L/MONO, R), LINE OUT Level Headphones x 2 (1/4", 1/8") MIDI (IN/OUT), USB to Host, USB to Device	
Speaker System	Speakers:	7 cm x 4 (top speakers) 1.4 cm x 2 (dome tweeters) Soundboard Speaker System
	Output Power:	45 W x 2 + 45 W transducer
Power Consumption	55 W	
Dimensions (not including music rest)	1510 (W) x 542 (D) x 1049 (H) mm	
	60" (W) x 21 1/2" (D) x 41 1/2" (H)	
Weight	99.0 Kg / 218 1/2 lbs.	
	85.0 Kg / 187 1/2 lbs.	

* CS11 only / ¹ Depending on market location / ² Lesson books sold separately

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

