

NOVUS

HYBRID PIANO

NV12·NV6



*The true acoustic
piano experience*

Designed to answer the calls of avid pianists wishing they could play a grand or upright piano without worrying about the time of day or their living environment, the Novus NV12 and NV6 are premium quality hybrid instruments built to inspire musical creativity without limitation.



Adopting modern, elegant designs that embrace the latest digital technologies, the stunning ebony polish Novus cabinets incorporate full acoustic piano keyboard actions, complete with real damper mechanisms – details that ensure a playing feel indistinguishable from the real thing.

These hybrid instruments provide uncompromising grand and upright alternatives, satisfying the rigorous demands and lifestyle needs of today's professional pianists. Built upon a century of proud Kawai family heritage, the flagship Novus series delivers the true acoustic piano experience.

NOVUS NV12

HYBRID GRAND PIANO





The touch of a grand piano

MILLENNIUM III GRAND PIANO ACTION

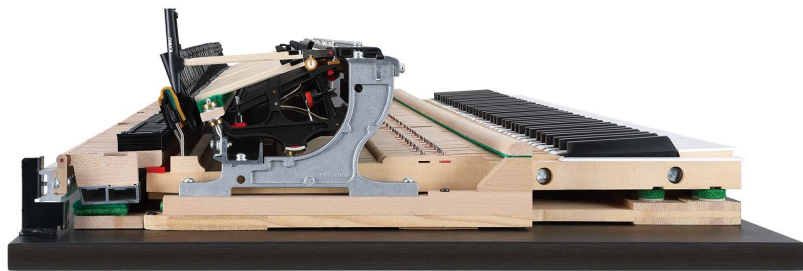
When a piano key is pressed, a mechanism referred to as the “action” triggers a hammer, which strikes the strings to produce a sound. This is the essence of Kawai’s piano technology, which has continued to advance and evolve, ever since the company’s establishment in 1927.

The NV12 is equipped with the same Millennium III action mechanism as that found in Kawai’s finest professional grand pianos. This highly-coveted action incorporates components produced using ABS Carbon, an extremely sturdy and rigid composite material that allows these action parts to be stronger, lighter, and faster than their conventional wooden counterparts.

The hammers that strike the strings are another core component of an acoustic piano. Attached to each of the 88 keys, the size of the hammers gradually decreases from the bass to the treble end of the keyboard. Moreover, due to their size, each individual hammer has a different weight – and this difference is an integral part of what influences the piano’s touch.

For this reason, the NV12 is equipped with 88 individually grade-weighted hammers, reproducing the genuine feeling of playing an acoustic grand piano. These precision-engineered hammers are also crafted from ABS resin, ensuring exceptional structural stability and optimum keyboard touch-response.

The precise movements of each hammer are measured using high-resolution optical sensors, providing greater accuracy than conventional key-based sensor systems. This more advanced approach closely reproduces the mechanical flow of an acoustic piano, and allows rapid pianissimo passages with mordents or trills to be performed with greater fluency.







The feel of a grand piano

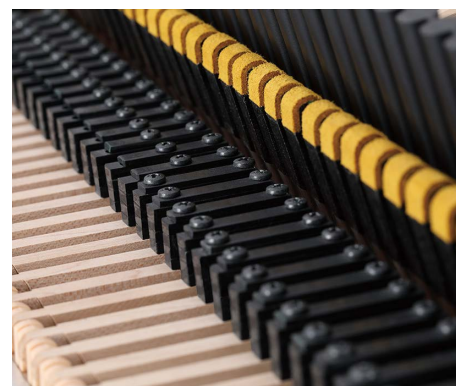
GRAND PIANO DAMPER MECHANISM

The Novus NV12 features an elegantly designed open pedal lyre, with its beautiful chrome-plated pedals and exposed polished silver rods sourced from the same GX series instruments as the premium Millennium III keyboard action. Moreover, in addition to featuring a full grand piano action, the Novus NV12 is the only hybrid instrument in its class to also incorporate a real grand piano damper mechanism.

There are no metal strings inside the Novus to require physical damping, as the instrument's sound is produced digitally. However, in order to reproduce every aspect of playing a grand piano, the NV12 retains the damper mechanism behind the keyboard action, with graded weights attached to each damper lever replicating the load of traditional wood and felt parts, as the keys and pedal are pressed.

This innovation allows pianists to not only hear how the damper pedal affects the Novus' generated sound, but also feel the various mechanical interactions through their hands and feet.

Such attention to detail is unprecedented in a digital instrument, and further reinforces the NV12's objective of delivering a true grand piano playing experience that is indistinguishable from the real thing.



The look of a grand piano

STRIKING, PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE

Visual stimulation can have a tremendous impact on musical expression. The sense of exhilaration that one feels when sitting down at an acoustic grand piano cannot be understated, and is one of the essential ingredients in creating a memorable and inspiring playing experience for the pianist.

The NV12 cabinet is exquisitely crafted to capture the unmistakable silhouette of an acoustic grand piano. Its expanded depth and elegant curved edges gracefully integrate the instrument's remarkable PentaDrive soundboard system, while providing a commanding presence in any room or on any stage.

Further enhancing this authentic acoustic design is a classic folding grand piano topboard. This elegant feature can be adjusted to three different positions, allowing pianists to control both the visual aesthetic and the acoustic projection of the instrument.

Its grand piano-like music rest accommodates the most ambitious works, with simulated leather lining the base. The viewing angle can be easily adjusted to suit the performer, or laid flat when annotating scores. The desk can even be slid forward to bring music closer, or removed completely for a minimalist aesthetic.









NOVUS
NV6

HYBRID UPRIGHT PIANO



The touch of an upright piano

MILLENNIUM III UPRIGHT PIANO ACTION

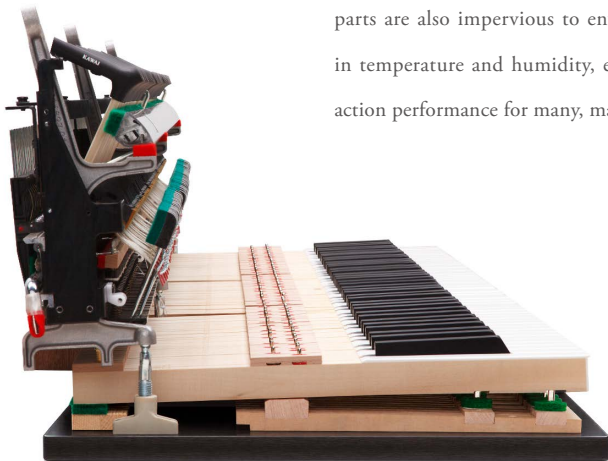
Kawai's 'K' series professional upright pianos have received numerous industry awards, and are widely regarded by academics and institutions as some of the finest instruments in their class.

The Novus NV6 utilises the same Millennium III upright piano action mechanism as that found in the 'K' series instruments, including the precision engineered ABS Carbon components that are stronger, lighter, and faster than wooden parts. Moreover, ABS Carbon parts are also impervious to environmental changes in temperature and humidity, ensuring outstanding action performance for many, many years.

As with its larger sibling, there are no metal strings inside the NV6 for the action's hammers to physically strike when the keys are played, therefore their precise movements are also captured using high-resolution optical sensors mounted inside the action.

Another important characteristic of Kawai's premium acoustic instruments that is inherited by the latest Novus hybrid models is the pioneering use of extended key sticks. Longer keys result in lighter movement and easier key control, because the key can be played with a larger keystroke, even towards the rear of the playing surface. This enhancement affords pianists a greater range of expression during performance.

In addition, Novus keys are cut from the same luxurious solid spruce as their acoustic piano counterparts. This light and resilient solid wood contributes to the smooth action feel, and is carefully seasoned to ensure enhanced durability against changes in humidity.







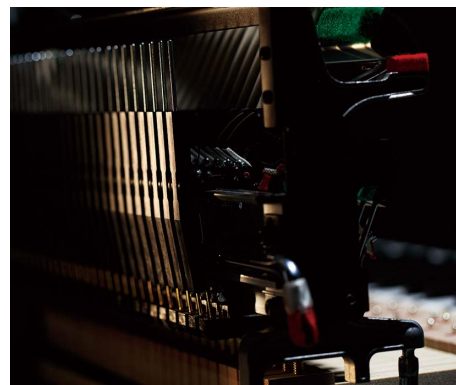
The feel of an upright piano

UNDERSTANDING THE DAMPER MECHANISM

The dampers of an acoustic piano consist of soft felt pads that rest directly over the instrument's metal strings, muting their vibration. As each piano key is pressed and the string is struck, the corresponding damper lifts away from the string, allowing it to vibrate freely, and for the note to sing.

While the keyboard action activates dampers individually, the damper pedal is used to lift all of the piano's dampers simultaneously. This allows all of the instrument's strings to vibrate and resonate in sympathy, creating a wonderfully rich sound and sustaining notes after their respective keys are released. The damper mechanism therefore plays a pivotal role in influencing the overall sound of a piano. However, the process of moving the dampers also has a subtle but noticeable effect on key touch, with the weight of the action gently easing when the damper pedal is depressed.

This natural interaction between keyboard and pedals is a fundamental characteristic of every acoustic piano, and one that requires the pianist's patience and skill to master. Novus instruments strive to reproduce every aspect of the acoustic piano playing experience, therefore both the NV12 and NV6 incorporate the important damper mechanism as an integral part of the keyboard action.



The look of an upright piano

PREMIUM FINISH, ULTRA-SLIM FOOTPRINT

The Novus NV6's stunning ebony polish cabinet is crafted in the same piano production facility as Kawai's 'K' series upright instruments, ensuring exceptional build quality and an immaculate mirror-like finish. Its exterior appearance is undoubtedly inspired by classic piano design, thanks in part to the handsome fallboard and wide music rest, providing a sense of stability and reassurance when sitting at the instrument.



Yet, despite housing an acoustic piano keyboard action and damper mechanism, the NV6 is a remarkably compact instrument, occupying a depth of just 46 cm – far smaller than a conventional upright.

This slim profile allows pianists to enjoy an authentic, acoustic piano playing experience, in confined spaces previously limited to a standard digital piano.

The NV6's topboard speaker cover features an original Kvadrat material, customised to meet Kawai's specifications, with a woven mesh composition optimised for musical clarity and tonal projection. Its soft, dark-grey yarn with pearl-like highlights, contrasts with the lustrous sheen of the NV6's ebony polish cabinet, elevating this musical instrument to the level of a piece of fine furniture, destined to become the centre-piece of any room it occupies.





NV12 · NV6

The sound of an acoustic piano

The spirit of the Shigeru Kawai SK-EX concert grand piano is at the heart of the Novus NV12 and NV6. Each world-class instrument is hand-crafted by experienced piano artisans, utilising the finest available materials to ensure optimum touch, tone, and artistic expression.

Widely regarded as 'the premier piano of Japan,' the Shigeru Kawai SK-EX graces the stages of concert halls and musical institutions around the globe, receiving universal acclaim for its magnificent tonal clarity and exceptional dynamic range.

This flagship SK-EX sound is offered in two distinctive versions within the Novus instruments. The Concert Grand provides a warm, sensitive tone with wide dynamic expression and rich reverberation, while the Competition Grand captures the brilliant, clear character of the SK-EX-L instruments, recorded from the pianist's position for an immersive performance experience.

KAWA



SK-EX RENDERING MULTI-CHANNEL SOUND ENGINE

In order to reproduce the stunning tonal qualities of the Shigeru Kawai concert grand piano digitally, Novus instruments incorporate Kawai's latest SK-EX Rendering technology. This advanced piano sound engine combines the well-established process of sampling with the modern approach of physical modelling, to produce a piano sound that is both rich in natural acoustic character, and dynamically responsive to the player.



ACOUSTIC PROJECTION PENTADRIVE SOUNDBOARD SYSTEM

The NV12's high-fidelity sound is delivered through the revolutionary PentaDrive soundboard system. This technology completely replaces conventional speakers with a large wooden soundboard, energised by five high-precision transducers to radiate sound naturally, like an acoustic grand piano. The result is a truly authentic experience, immersing the performer in an expansive, three-dimensional sound field.



PREMIUM AUDIO HARDWARE ADVANCED PROCESSING

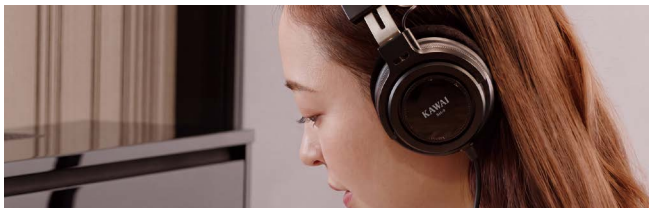
Developed by Kawai's experienced audio engineering team, the NV12 and NV6 feature a high-performance Dual-DAC system, paired with premium amplification components. Designed for high-resolution sound reproduction, this sophisticated hardware improves tonal clarity throughout the dynamic range, while preserving the unique harmonic characteristics of the Shigeru Kawai concert grand piano.



ACOUSTIC AMBIENCE SOUNDBOARD SPEAKER SYSTEM

By contrast, the NV6's custom speaker system takes full advantage of the instrument's upright piano cabinet design, pairing four premium speakers and two front-facing tweeters with a real wooden soundboard for lower frequencies. Despite its compact cabinet, this combination delivers impressive volume and a rich, organic sound that faithfully reproduces the tonal ambience of an acoustic upright piano.

The features of a digital piano



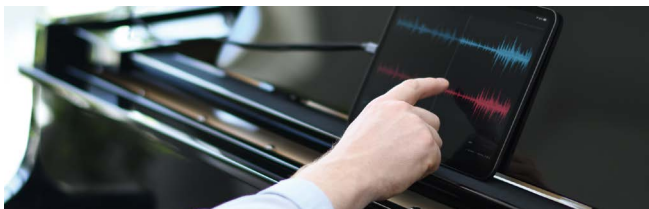
SUPERB HEADPHONE SOUND

The Novus pianos feature an audiophile-grade headphone amplifier that delivers piano sounds with richness and clarity. In addition, Spatial Headphone Sound (SHS) technology enhances the depth and realism of the instruments' sound, while also helping to reduce auditory fatigue when using earphones or headphones for extended periods of time.



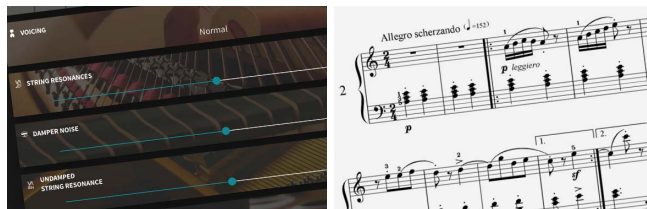
LCD TOUCHSCREEN DISPLAY

The NV12 and NV6's various features are controlled through an LCD, which is discreetly embedded within the instruments' left cheekblock. This high resolution, anti-glare touchscreen allows sounds and settings to be adjusted simply by tapping or swiping, and automatically fades out during performance to minimise visual distractions.



ADVANCED CONNECTIVITY

In addition to versatile Bluetooth® v5 technology for wireless MIDI and audio, the NV12 and NV6 feature a modern USB-C port. This allows the instruments to connect directly to a laptop or smart device using a single cable, providing both an integrated digital audio interface and convenient power delivery for device charging.



MODERN APP SUPPORT

Leveraging their built-in Bluetooth features, Novus instruments also support Kawai's latest generation apps for iOS and Android devices. The PianoRemote app provides an alternative way to change sounds and adjust settings, while the PiaBookPlayer app displays notated scores for over 370 classical pieces, complete with hands-free page turning.

Specifications



N V 1 2



N V 6

Acoustic specifications			
Keyboard action	Type	Millennium III Hybrid, grand piano keyboard action	Millennium III Hybrid, upright piano keyboard action
	Keyboard	Extended length spruce keys, acrylic/phenol key surfaces	
	Hammers	ABS grade-weighted hammers	
	ABS Carbon parts	Yes	
	Sensing system	Integrated Hammer Sensing System (IHSS), contact-less optical sensors	
Pedals	Type	Grand piano pedals	Upright piano pedals
	Damper	Grand piano damper mechanism (half-pedal support)	Upright piano damper mechanism (half-pedal support)
	Soft/Sostenuto	Grand Feel pedal system (soft half-pedal support)	Grand Feel pedal system
Cabinet	Finish	Ebony Polish	
	Keyboard cover	Grand piano type, Soft Fall fallboard	Upright piano type, Soft Fall fallboard
	Music rest	Grand piano type, position and angle adjustable	Upright piano type
	Dimensions	151.5 (W) x 87 (D) x 172.5 (H) cm (topboard fully open) 60" (W) x 34 ¼" (D) x 68" (H)	149.5 (W) x 46.5 (D) x 110 (H) cm 59" (W) x 18 ½" (D) x 43 ¼" (H)
	Weight	173 kg / 381 ½ lbs.	

Digital specifications			
Sound	Sound engine	SK-EX Rendering: 88-key multi-channel piano sampling, 88-key resonance modelling Harmonic Imaging XL: 88-key piano sampling, Acoustic Rendering resonance	
	Piano source	Shigeru Kawai SK-EX-L, Shigeru Kawai SK-EX, Shigeru Kawai SK-5, Kawai EX	
	No. of sounds	SK-EX Rendering: 5+5 rendering characters Harmonic Imaging XL: 96 voices	
	Polyphony	max. 256 notes (depending on selected sound)	
	Virtual Piano Artisan	10 presets, 20 adjustable parameters	
	Reverb & Effects	Reverb: 6 types, Effects: 24 types, Ambience: 10 types (SK-EX Rendering only)	
Delivery	Audio technology	Dual DAC, Premium Power amps, Premium Headphone amp	
	Output power	130 W	135 W
	Speaker system	PentaDrive Soundboard System	8 cm x 4 (top speakers), 2 cm x 2 (dome tweeters), Soundboard Speaker System
Features	Display	5" anti-glare colour LCD touchscreen	
	Recorder	10 x internal song recorder, MP3/WAV record/playback (USB memory), Metronome	
	App support	PianoRemote (iOS/Android), PiaBookPlayer (iOS/Android)	
Connectivity	Headphones	1 x ¼", 1 x ⅛" Stereo jacks	
	Audio	LINE IN (⅛" STEREO), LINE IN Level, LINE OUT (¼" L/MONO, R)	
	USB	USB to Host: USB-C, USB audio interface, Power Delivery USB to Device: USB-A	
	Bluetooth*	Bluetooth MIDI v5.0, Bluetooth Audio v5.1	
	Power	AC IN (80 W power consumption)	

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Specifications are subject to change without notice.
Availability of Bluetooth function dependent on market location.

KAWAI

Instrumental to Life

