

Very Mary Piano Studio™ Tuition & Payment Options

Students have the option of paying tuition in one of the following methods:

(Please note: Cash or electronic transfer accepted. Cheques or credit cards not accepted.)

1) Pre-Paid Monthly.

- Reserves your weekly time spot week from Sept to June, though students may start at any time of the academic year
- Based on 40 weeks of lessons divided into 10 equal payments
- Payments due 1st of each month via electronic transfer and no invoice will be provided
- If paying cash, please pay the next month's tuition on the last lesson of the current month.
- Early-bird discounts, when offered, apply to new, not returning, students only

Current tuition calculations are shown in the table below:

Online or In-person studio lessons:				
RATE: \$23.00/HALF HR	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY PAYMENT	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$920.00	\$92.00	N/A	N/A
45-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1350.00	\$135.00	\$1.00	\$30.00
60-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1780.00	\$178.00	\$1.50	\$60.00

In-Your-Home Lessons				
RATE: \$26.50/HALF HR *	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY COST	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1060.00	\$106.00	N/A	N/A
45-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1560.00	\$156.00	\$1.00	\$30.00
60-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$2060.00	\$206.00	\$1.50	\$60.00

- If student starts lessons later in the year, monthly tuition will be prorated. If student discontinues before June, the value of lessons received will be deducted from total paid & any difference refunded/charged.
- *Discounted rates for longer lesson times apply per student, not total minutes per home visit.*
- *Please refer "Policies and Procedures" section below for further information*

** Due to the volatile nature of rising gas prices, In-Your-Home Pre-Paid Monthly rates are now subject to a travel fee of \$10.00/month; this rate is valid for pump price up to \$2.00/litre and is subject to change in response to increasing gas prices.*

2) Flex Paks

- Pre-Paid Blocks of 4 or 6 hours of lesson time
- Lessons may vary between 30, 45, 60, 75 or 90 min. at student's discretion until time is used up
- Multiple lessons may be scheduled ahead of time
- Available for adults only, except for Summer Flex Pak
- University Flex Pak requires proof of full-time post-secondary enrolment.
- No in-home lessons for University/Summer Flex Paks – only online or in my Fort Garry studio. In-home lessons available for Spring/Fall/Winter Flex Paks. *Add \$7.00/lesson fuel surcharge in this case.
*Please note, travel surcharge subject to change. This rate valid up to pump price of \$2.00/litre.
- Rates and availability vary throughout the year

- Payment due at first lesson
- Flex Paks are non-refundable but have no expiry date
- Unused dollar amount, but not time, may be transferred to Pre-Paid Monthly Plan.

Summer Flex Pak: *Not available for purchase after Aug 1, 2022*

Spring/Fall Flex Pak: \$192.00/4 hrs, \$282.00/6 hrs

University Flex Pak: \$174.00/4 hrs, \$258.00/6 hrs

(Please refer to the studio policies and procedures for further information.)

3) Trial Lessons

- Rate: \$23.00/half hour, Online/In-Studio
\$26.50/half hour, In-Your-Home * plus \$5.00 travel fee (rate valid up to 2.00/litre)
Maximum 2 trial lessons. Payment due at time of lesson.

4) Pay-As-You-Go Lessons

- Rate: \$53.00/hour Online/In-Studio (no In-Your-home lessons for this option)
60-minute and 45-minute lessons only.
Payment due at time of lesson

4) Theory Lessons

- Rate: \$46.00/hour Online/In-Studio
\$53.00/hour In-Your-Home * plus travel fee of \$7.00/lesson
60-minute lessons only.
Payment due at time of lesson

Late payments will incur a late fee of \$1 for each day late (applicable to all tuition options)

** Due to the volatile nature of rising gas prices, In-Your-Home rates are now subject to a travel fee; current travel fee rates valid up to \$2.00/litre and are subject to change in response to increasing gas rates*

Very Mary Piano Studio™ Policies & Procedures

_____ **General Information** | Weekly private lessons, for children/adults, are offered in 30, 45, or 60-minute sessions, depending on the student's age/level. Bulk lesson packages also available. Day, evening or Saturday lessons, as per teacher availability. Lessons available: In-home (select areas), in my Fort Garry studio, or Online.

_____ **At The Studio or In Your Home or Online** | Students are expected to arrive for lessons in a timely manner, with all required materials and music. To discuss student progress, parents are welcome to talk with the teacher during the first five minutes of the student's lesson -- but not afterwards, in order to respect the next student's time slot.

_____ **Cold & Flu Safety Protocols for In-Person Lessons** | The following measures will help ensure healthy, enjoyable lessons:

- Teacher & student will:
 - Wash hands before lesson or use hand sanitizer
 - Masks are optional; I am happy to wear one if you prefer
 - Practice respiratory etiquette such as sneezing or coughing into sleeve or tissue
 - Wash/sanitize hands as necessary during the lesson
- Piano keys will be wiped down before/after lesson
- Student MUST inform me, before lesson time, if any of the following occurs:

- You or anyone in your household has any cold or flu-like symptoms
- You or anyone in your household has been in contact with someone with Covid19
- You or anyone in your household has been advised to self-isolate
- You or anyone in your household has tested positive for Covid19
- In the event that self-isolation is required, lessons normally scheduled during that time will be conducted online, if possible, and any difference between cost of online vs. in-person lesson adjusted on the following month's tuition.

_____ **Practice and Instrument** | Private students are expected to practice daily on a well-maintained instrument. Acoustic pianos are recommended, but a good quality digital piano with weighted keys/hammer action is acceptable for beginning years. Flat-key keyboard instruments are not recommended for more than short-term or interim use until a more suitable instrument can be acquired.

_____ **Required Materials** | Students may purchase a personalized ONCE UPON A PIANO™ Notebook for \$15.00 printed version/\$10.00 digital version (price and availability subject to change), which will be used to keep track of things learned, assigned pieces and practice suggestions/goals for each week or student may use their own notebook. The teacher will recommend books/curriculum and other materials for the student, which student may purchase on their own or reimburse the teacher for purchase.

_____ **Calendar and Schedule** | Pre-Paid Monthly lessons run weekly from the first week of September to the last week of June and are based on the 40-week school calendar, with no lessons during spring and Christmas breaks – consequently, some months will have 4 lessons, others 3 etc. Lessons that occur on a statutory holiday such as Good Friday, will be rescheduled at a mutually agreed upon time.

_____ **Flex Pak** | For adult students only, except for Summer Flex Pak. Lessons can vary between 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 minutes at student's discretion, until block of time is used up, and may be re-scheduled with 24-hours notice. Multiple lessons may be booked ahead. Summer Flex Pak, only, is also allowed one same-day cancellation if cancelled by 9:00AM by personal phone call; no texts or email. (See *Makeup Lessons* for more details.) Scheduling subject to teacher availability. University Flex Pak requires proof of full-time post-secondary enrolment. Summer/University Flex Pak lessons conducted only in my Fort Garry studio; in-your-home lessons available for Spring/Fall/Winter Flex Paks

_____ **Summer Months** | Though lessons may be offered during the summer months (subject to demand and teacher availability), regular weekly students are welcome to take some time off and practice only occasionally. I personally find that if diligent practice has been a habit during the academic year, students benefit from the break as the skills learned during the year become part of long-term memory. Resuming a regular daily practice regimen reviewing repertoire and technique is recommended 2 weeks prior to September.

_____ **Makeup Lessons | A) Pre-Paid Monthly Plan:** Due to the teacher's limited availability, makeup lessons cannot be guaranteed. However, if an absence arises due to unforeseen situations such as illness, accident, family emergency, and if the student indicates a desire for a makeup lesson, the teacher will make an effort to accommodate a makeup. Please be courteous to the teacher and fellow students by notifying the teacher at least 24 hours in advance regarding any known upcoming absences. If roads are impassible due to weather or a student is ill but feels well enough to play, or if student needs to self-isolate, an **online lesson** will be provided for that week and any difference between online vs. in-person lesson adjusted on the following month's tuition.

Single Lesson Transfer to a household member is also an excellent option for the occasional absence. For example, if student is unable to attend a lesson, a parent/sibling is welcome to have that week's lesson instead.

- Credits or refunds will NOT be given for student-missed lessons.
- If teacher cancels a lesson, a makeup lesson will be offered or credit given at the discretion of teacher
- Scheduled makeup lessons that are missed or cancelled with or without notice, regardless of the reason, will be considered made up (i.e. there are no makeups for a missed makeup lesson).
- A makeup lesson will not be offered for no-shows, last-minute notice (except in the case of a Covid19 concern) or the student is not home when teacher arrives.
- Missed lessons not made up by the end of June will be forfeited, not carried over to next year.

B) Flex Paks:

- Lessons may be re-scheduled with 24-hours notice, so makeups are not necessary
- Summer Flex Pak only is also allowed one same-day cancellation if cancelled by 9:00AM by personal phone call; no texts or email.
- In the event that teacher cancels a lesson, it will be rescheduled.
- For unexpected illness only: if the day of your scheduled lesson you become ill, please notify me as soon as you are aware of your condition to reschedule
- A missed scheduled lesson that was not cancelled ahead of time (no show), cancelled with less than 24-hours notice, or cancelled last-minute when sick (except for a Covid19 concern) will be considered attended and no refund, credit or makeup will be given for that lesson.

C) Trial Lesson, Pay-As-You-Go, Theory

- No makeups necessary since not pre-paid
- Please give adequate notice if you must cancel a scheduled lesson

_____ **Discontinuing Lessons** | Every student stops taking lessons at some point. Ideally, this decision is made thoughtfully with plenty of discussion between the teacher, parent, and student so that lessons can cease with a positive sense of closure. For this reason, the teacher asks for one month's notice in writing prior to discontinuing Pre-Paid Monthly lessons. However, the teacher respects the student's right to end lessons at any time. Unused tuition will be refunded. Note: At the discretion of the teacher, students may be asked to discontinue lessons at any time under any of the plans offered if they have unpaid tuition, an excess amount of absences/unprepared lessons, or if they show a lack of interest.

_____ **Parent Participation** | Parents are encouraged to be supportive and active participants in practice at home. Parents are also encouraged to attend and quietly observe lessons occasionally.

_____ **Studio Events** | Each year, the studio schedules exciting events for private students and their parents. Some of these events, such as student recitals, are provided at no extra cost, while others, such as optional theory and practical (performance) exams require fees.

- Studio Recital: Performing in a formal recital setting is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their hard work and improvement over the year in the presence of their family and friends and to gain experience in public performance. The recital is usually held near the end of the academic year.
- Examinations: Students are welcome (and encouraged!) to participate in theory and practical examinations when ready. These opportunities require additional fees. Please contact the instructor for more information. RCM in-person exams have resumed but the RCM also continues to offer both practical and theory exams online throughout the year.

_____ **Communication** | The best way to contact the teacher is via phone or text, which will be promptly returned. The teacher always welcomes communication from students during the week if they have questions regarding their repertoire or other lesson matters.

I have read and understand the policies & procedures above.

Student Signature (or parent if student is under 18)

Date