



CREATING 'KANDO' TOGETHER

### Specifications

		N3	N2
Keyboard	Number of Keys	88 (A1~C7)	
	Type	Ivorite™	
	Action	Specialized Grand Piano Action for AvantGrand	
Pedal	Number of Pedals	3 (Damper with half-pedal effect, Sostenuto and Soft)	
	Type	Specialized Grand Piano Pedal for AvantGrand	-
Tactile Response System (TRS)		Yes	
Voice	Tone Generation Technology	Spatial Acoustic Sampling	
	Number of Polyphony (Max.)	256	
	Number of Voices	Grand Piano×2 + E. Piano×2, Harpsichord×1	
Sound	Spatial Acoustic Speaker System	Amplifiers : 22W×10+30W×4+80W×2 Speakers: (16cm+13cm+2.5cm)×4	Amplifiers : 22W×10+80W×2 Speakers: (13cm+2.5cm)×3+(8cm+2.5cm)+16cm×2
	Soundboard Resonator	Yes	-
Function	Overall Controls	Reverb	Yes
		Metronome	Yes
		Tempo	Yes
		Transpose	Yes
		Tuning	Yes
		Scale	7 types
Song	Preset songs	10 preset songs + 5 voice demo songs	
	Recording	Number of Songs	1 (300KB *30,000 Notes)
		Number of Tracks	1
Connectivity	Headphones	PHONES×2	
	MIDI	IN/OUT	
	AUX IN	{L/L+R} {R}	
	AUX OUT	{L/L+R} {R}	
	USB [TO DEVICE]	Yes	
Color/Finish		Polished Ebony Grand Piano Cabinet	Polished Ebony
Dimensions: Width×Depth×Height		1,481mm (58-5/16")×1,195mm (47-1/16") ×1,014mm (39-15/16", *Lid up: 1,734mm (68-1/4"))	1,471mm (57-15/16")×531mm (20-7/8")×1,009mm (39-3/4", *with music rest: 1,181mm (46-1/2"))
Weight		199kg (438lbs., 12oz.)	142kg (313lbs., 1oz.)
Music Rest		Yes (angle adjustable *35, 70 degrees)	Yes

\*AvantGrand series pianos utilize the same piano action as an acoustic piano. Consequently, changes in the environment or the conditions in which these instruments are used may necessitate adjustment or maintenance.

\*Specifications are subject to change without notice. The cabinet colors and finishes in this brochure may appear different than those on the actual products.

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# AVANT GRAND







When do you, as a pianist, feel elation? Is it in that instant when you see a score for the first time, and feel the inspirations of the composer bloom inside your mind?

Is it the moment when, after an eternity of practice, you make a piece your own?

It might be when you're up on stage playing a grand piano that projects every aspect of your sound, bathed in a shower of applause from an appreciative audience. Call it accomplishment, call it exultation - we're certain that you've experienced your share of such moments.

But above all, there is that incomparable joy you feel in those moments when you sit at your piano. Those instants when, threading the fragments of your imagination together as sound, you become at one with the instrument; those treasured moments of delight for all who love the piano, regardless of their skill or experience.

It's why we believe that you can spend so much of your life in front of the piano. At Yamaha, our desire is to craft pianos that bring a little more of this joy to as many people as possible. This is a treasured ideal that we have long held dear and one we have now transformed into a new piano. Meditating on those hours of happiness, those indescribable moments of joy experienced at a piano, we decided to do our best to respond to your desires and aspirations for this instrument. AvantGrand. A new identity for the piano, born from the fusion of twenty-first century technology and more than a century of piano-crafting experience.

The blissful moment when you and the piano resonate as one.... is here.

Innovation with soul **AVANTGRAND**  
Yamaha Hybrid Piano





Playing the piano - freeing the pianist of all limitations.

And then, the joy of transforming the act of playing into something new...



To play when you want, how you want, as much as you want. For those that love the piano, this is an extravagance above all else, something that all pianists yearn for.

In reality playing the piano brings with it many limits. Beyond the physical issues of time to play and a place for the instrument, there are the fine nuances, particularly with the grand piano, of touch, tone, and reverberation, that contribute to the true thrill of playing the piano.

At Yamaha, we hope to offer the best sound we can to as many people as possible.

We have held this goal unchanged throughout our history of over a century of piano making.

Together with the know-how and inspiration gleaned from each new experience, along with the new technologies that have emerged over the years, this goal has taken us closer to our pictured ideal and seen with it the manufacture of a multitude of different pianos.

So what features does a piano have that make it essential in the lives of you, the people who possess both an unreserved love for playing the piano and an awareness of its essential excellence?

The AvantGrand emerged from our desire to relook at these elements.

We took the techniques we had cultivated making keyboards and pedals for acoustic pianos and combined them with the latest digital and acoustic technology, driven by the belief that the resulting instrument would be a model for how a piano should be in the modern age.

Innovation born from a thorough knowledge of the true soul of the piano, brought to the fore.

Everything you need, right in front of you.





Ideas and technologies that unify tradition and innovation.

A piano evolved for the modern age.

Not creating a piano, but rediscovering one. This, summed up in a single phrase, was the concept behind the development of the AvantGrand.

Making a so-called “acoustic” piano requires extensive technique and know-how, qualities accumulated through our many years of experience. However, a major theme in the creation of the AvantGrand involved consciously refraining from relying on this experience. Rather than designing from a standpoint of what a piano must be, we gave priority to looking at what it could be, searching for the kind of instrument that would suggest a new direction for the piano.

For Yamaha, with our history of over a century of piano crafting, it was digital technology that provided the impetus for such an outlook, giving us the confidence that we had matured enough as craftsmen to be able to give life to the ideals we had pictured in our minds. In creating a digital piano that presented the piano as a more informal and enjoyable instrument, we had many expectations for its sound that had to be fulfilled in the initial stages of development. It is no exaggeration to say that digital technology evolves in the blink of an eye. We felt that developing an instrument that took two major trends in the piano world to create a fusion, in the truest sense of the word, was a task that we simply had to complete. Even with our history in making both digital and acoustic pianos, it was a feat that took everything that we at Yamaha knew to accomplish. The AvantGrand is the crystallization of our hopes for the piano, something which cannot be summarized by simply calling it a hybrid of the digital and acoustic. It was our superlative knowledge of the piano that supported this bold endeavor; that, and the bond we feel with you, with your enduring love for the piano.





## AvantGrand Technology

Technology refined through the new interplay between the digital and the acoustic; technology polished by the new relationship between the piano and the pianist.

We all wish to be enveloped in the sounds we play, yet find ourselves constrained by concerns for those around us. There are probably many, even among those who own grand pianos, who have wished they could play at a reduced volume from time to time. So it was that we felt there were two clear goals to achieve in the development of the AvantGrand. One was to create an instrument that mirrored the attraction of the grand piano as closely as possible. The other was to endow it with a responsive feel, without sacrificing the rich expression the grand piano offers when played with restraint. To realize these goals we examined everything down to the minutest detail in crafting the AvantGrand; from the keyboard and pedals that are the “gateway” to sound, to the sampling methods used, and the speaker system from which the sound exits, we left nothing overlooked.

### ACTION

More than just a piano you can play, a piano you can play well.

A real-wood keyboard and specialized grand piano action for the AvantGrand.

The nuanced touch and response of the grand piano are an essential standard yardstick for piano quality. The AvantGrand offers the player a specially-developed grand piano action that features the same configuration as the action of a real grand. The hammers strike the “strings” from underneath, allowing minute adjustments to the weight distribution of the hammers, and to the movement of the hammers themselves, for a smoother feel when playing. In addition to a hammer sensor, the AvantGrand employs a non-contact key sensor that has no effect on the movement of the keys, affording

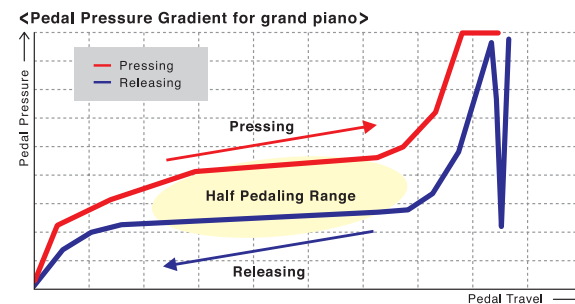
excellent recognition of the player's pressure on the keyboard, timing, and the other delicate nuances that affect musical expression. This combination provides an impressive sensitivity for the entire range from pianissimo through to fortissimo, and the ability to translate even the swiftest trills of the pianist with transparency. The wood construction of the keyboard mirrors that of the grand piano, and features New Ivory II on the white keys. This is a unique new material developed by Yamaha, with a texture superbly close to that of natural ivory, allowing you to play swift passages with ease while also offering a sure response for slower pieces.



### PEDAL

Specialized grand piano pedal for AvantGrand, duplicating the finesse of the pedals of the grand piano.

Light to the touch at first, subtle firmness partway through its travel, and lightening again as the player pushes further; the pedals of the grand piano have subtly different stages than can be felt when the pedal is depressed. Skilled players take advantage of these pedal movements by using extremely delicate pedaling that allows them to achieve finely nuanced expression in their play. In developing the AvantGrand, we set out to reproduce the sensations of a grand piano's pedals as faithfully as possible. The resulting pedal allows for music as you believe it should sound, equally responsive for more impressionistic pieces that require a lot of half-pedaling. (Only for N3.)







## SOUND

Looking at sound from a soundboard from a new perspective

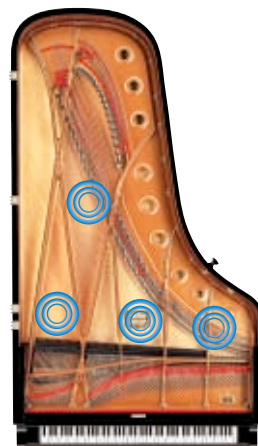
Investments in new technology for the AvantGrand.

### ○Spatial Acoustic Sampling

Together with a variety of piano sounds, the AvantGrand features samples of the actual vibrations from within the soundboard of the instrument.

For the AvantGrand, we took an entirely new approach to our methods of sampling. To permit the sound to travel well to the player's position, as it does with a grand piano, we sampled the sound from four locations in the left, right, center, and rear of a grand piano.

Sampling from deeper inside the instrument, we were able reproduce the attraction of the original sound almost perfectly. It was the experience of our engineers, and a reiterative cycle of trial and error conducted with piano tuners that made this success possible. And of course, the samples in the AvantGrand are all taken from a specially-selected example of Yamaha's CFIII full concert grand piano.



### ○Spatial Acoustic Speaker System

Opening the lid of the AvantGrand reveals 4 speakers in an impressive and attractive layout.

The AvantGrand utilizes a four-channel multi-speaker system, designed in a three-way configuration with the bass woofer pointed down and the treble cones facing up, to allow more natural reverberation in the soundboard. Each of the speakers in this layout is equipped with its own dedicated amplifier, a luxury that reduces the interference in each pitch range and offers more natural expression to the delicate nuances in each sound. Moreover, by using speaker positioning that mimics the positions in the grand piano from which the original samples were taken, the AvantGrand offers a more natural sound to the pianist.

### ○Soundboard Resonator

In addition to the four-channel multi-speakers, the AvantGrand also features a flat-panel "Soundboard Resonator" where the music stand would be when laid flat, allowing a more subtle reproduction of the buildup of sound felt by pianists when playing a grand piano. An oscillator called a "transducer" transmits vibration to the flat-panel soundboard, giving a realistic sound response that is especially evident in the higher range. (Only for N3.)



### ○Tactile Response System (TRS)

The sound of an acoustic piano resonates throughout its entire body. The bass range in particular is an essential part of the reverberation that is continually transmitted to a player's body. In the AvantGrand, this is replicated by our newly-developed Tactile Response System (TRS) that focuses on reproducing reverberation. This system features two transducers in the soundboard, the area underneath the keyboard, resonating natural reverberation throughout the entire instrument. The player's hands on the keyboard transmit the natural sound felt from the feet as they depress the pedals; the epitome of real piano playing. This system can be turned on and off, and the vibration set to one of three levels.







## N3

With a design embodying the latest in technology, Yamaha signals a new direction for the piano.

This, our flagship model, is the ultimate expression of "Innovation with soul."

A keyboard and pedals indistinguishable from those of a grand piano. Stunningly authentic tactile response. Speakers with the authority and presence to deliver flawless sound...

The AvantGrand N3 weaves advanced technology into an extraordinary design that gives form to Yamaha's aspirations for the future.





## N2

Featuring the same grand piano action as the N3 in a form that molds beautifully to any wall, the N2 is an instrument for the future, yet one that holds firmly to its identity as a grand piano.

With a revolutionary speaker system and a touch that simply compels you to play, the compact form and feel of this elegant piano exudes refinement. For piano-lovers wanting a grand piano for small spaces, the AvantGrand series now offers yet another choice.





## The AvantGrand offers broader horizons for the piano and the pianist

To be honest, when I first saw the AvantGrand in Hamamatsu I didn't really have any great expectations for the instrument. I just thought... "OK, so they've released another digital piano." That changed completely when I actually played it - I could see that this was something very special.

It possesses enough potential to be called a real piano. The touch, the sound... even though it's a digital piano it actually feels closer to a grand piano; that is, you can really feel a connection to it as an instrument.

A key aspect of playing the piano is that getting the sound you desire requires a certain amount of practice.

To put it another way, with practice, the piano allows you to create a certain level of expression.

This is just my personal opinion, but generally speaking, acoustic instruments are destined to have individual differences, and, for pianists the first piano they encounter will affect them significantly.

That's why I would suggest that this piano, with its fixed, constant standards, might be a better choice when starting out than an acoustic grand piano in anything but perfect condition. I believe the AvantGrand just has that much potential for performance. The fact that such an instrument has emerged means that more people will be blessed with the chance to play the piano. The AvantGrand offers the pianist a truly broader canvas.

With a piano, there are always the concerns of where to put it, its surrounding environment, and the instrument's expressive capabilities as a piano. I hope that when this piano is released to the world and especially to my home city of Moscow, more people will be lucky enough to take the opportunity to experience the piano. Since my father was a piano teacher, I began to learn the piano at the age of five. And before I knew it, it had become a part of my life. I really began to take it seriously when I was about seventeen.

It's no exaggeration to say that becoming a pianist was a true gift from god, but I chose to play for much more than just this gift. Playing the piano well is not like a game; it is not something that offers you quick results. Even so, I believe that any rewards gained become an invaluable part of your life. This is not so much performing on stage but sitting at your piano by yourself at home. Even now, I think that such moments are when I am happiest.

————— Alexander Kobrin



The AvantGrand is the best practice piano for any pianist, something never before achieved with a Digital piano.

My history with the piano began when I was about three and a half years old. I started by playing with one finger on a piano bought for my sister. Much later I entered the Paris Conservatoire, and even now, I still sit at the piano every day, and devote myself to hours of concentrated practice. Piano practice takes an extremely long time, but has absolutely no meaning if you don't practice with the correct technique. Likewise, I think that it is also important to choose a good piano. And from that standpoint, I believe that this instrument is an appropriate choice. This time I chose to play Gottschalk's "Banjo", one of the most technically demanding pieces in my repertoire, along with other pieces by Chopin and Schumann that require a rich, profound expressive ability. The fact that I was willing to attempt such pieces on this piano should give you an understanding of just how capable an instrument it is. Of course the action and the touch of the keyboard are both good, but I was very surprised by the depth of its pedaling. It responds well to subtle changes when depressing and releasing the pedals. Of course, the sound quality of the instrument almost go without saying.

You can discern exactly where the sound is coming from for the entire range from bass right through to treble, just as you can in a grand piano. The design itself is elegant, and lets you feel the sound; a "musical" design if you will. This piano possesses qualities not present in any digital piano thus far, and it would be no exaggeration to say that it has in itself created a new genre of pianos. I would like to advise all of you studying the piano, please, try to play an excellent instrument, and don't waste your time practicing the wrong way.

I firmly believe that playing the piano is an artistic act that lifts the spirits of all those who hear you; and an act made possible by the communicative abilities of us as human beings. I think that when I play the piano in front of an audience, more than demonstrating technical perfection, I am communicating with those watching and listening, in a musical, artistic way. For me, the piano is an irreplaceable partner. Music is like my wife, and the pianos my girlfriends. I believe that the piano can become your lover too.

\_\_\_\_\_ Cyprien Katsaris

