

OWNERS  
MANUAL

STAGE  
PIANO

54, 73 and 88



# Rhodes

Rhodes®

STAGE  
PIANO

K776902

MANUAL NO. 009410 (Rev. D)

## FEATURES

- Dynamic touch keyboard action.
- Tone produced by tuning fork principle, no reeds to break, no strings to go out of tune.
- Volume and tone controls located on the Piano Nameboard for easy player control.
- Sustain Pedal.
- Heavy duty fabric reinforced black vinyl covering.
- Height-adjustable front legs.
- All components fit into one compact unit for easy portability.



## FEATURES

- Dynamic Touch Keyboard Action.
- Tone produced by RHODES Patented Tuning Fork principle.
- Slide Potentiometers offer greater visibility for Volume and Tone Control.
- Sustain Pedal.
- Height adjustable Front Legs.
- Compact size provides for easier portability.





FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

## GETTING READY TO PLAY

The Rhodes Stage Piano comes with all components packed in its portable case.

1. **Top Removal.** Lay the case flat on its bottom side. Unlatch the cover, remove it from the back hinges and place it on the floor with the inside facing up. Open the cover compartment and remove the soft vinyl case; it should contain the following parts. (Fig. 1).

- a. Two Front Legs
- b. Two Rear Legs
- c. Two Rear Leg Braces\*
- d. One Sustain Rod

The compartment also contains:

- e. One Leg Brace Knob\*
- f. One Sustain Pedal
- g. One Signal Cable

2. **Installing the Front Legs.** Position the Piano so that the keys

are pointing up. Screw the Front Legs into the Front Leg mounting flanges (Fig. 2). (The Front Legs have the telescoping feature.)

3. **Installing the Rear Legs.** The knurled end on each Rear Leg should be unscrewed enough to leave approximately a ¼ inch gap between it and the upper part of the leg. Screw the Rear Legs into the Rear Leg mounting flanges.
4. **Installing the Rear Leg Braces.\*** Screw the Leg Brace Mounting Knob into the threaded hole in the Centerplate in the bottom of the case (Fig. 3) until there is approximately a ½ inch space between it and the case. Install the two Leg Braces as follows: Set the short notched flange on

\*Does not apply to 54 Key Piano



FIGURE 3

one end of each Leg Brace\* into the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " space at the bottom of each Rear Leg and secure it by lightly tightening the knurled end (Fig. 4). Hook the long flanged ends of the Leg Braces over the threaded shaft of the Leg Brace Mounting Knob. Securely tighten the Leg Brace Mounting Knob and the two Rear Leg knurled ends. Set the piano upright in playing position (Fig. 4).

5. Installing the Sustain Pedal. Set the Sustain Pedal under the Piano in a comfortable playing position (Fig. 4). Place the end of the tube of the adjustable Sustain Pedal Rod over the pin in the hole at the rear of the Sustain Pedal. Loosen the thumb screw and extend the Sustain Pedal Rod until the solid end fits firmly against the Damper Release Bar (located through the hole at the rear underside of the Piano).



FIGURE 4

The pressure should be just enough to lift the foot pedal to its highest position off the floor. Tighten the thumb screw securely.

## OPERATION

### Signal Cable

Connect the Piano to your amplifier by plugging the right-angle end of the Signal Cable into the Input Jack on the Nameboard (Fig. 5). Plug the other end into the input jack of the amplifier.

### Volume Adjustment

Set the Piano Volume Control to full volume position (Fig. 5). Adjust the amplifier to the maximum desired

\*Does not apply to 54 Key Piano



FIGURE 5

volume. Now volume can be regulated by the Volume Control on the Piano Nameboard.

## Bass Boost And Tone Control

The Bass Boost Control on the 73 and 88 Models and the Tone Control on the 54 Key Model provides for tonal variations in the Piano.



FIGURE 6

## Adjustable Front Legs

The front telescoping legs may be lengthened so that the Piano can be played in a standing position (Fig. 6). To change the Piano height, loosen the thumbscrew on the Sustain Rod; loosen the knurled collar on one of the front legs, adjust that leg to the proper height, and tighten the collar; adjust the other leg similarly; re-adjust the Sustain Rod.

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## THE ACTION

The Piano ACTION consists of three major components:

The Key, the Hammer, and the Damper.

The HARP consists of two components:

The Tone Bar Assembly and the Pickup.

Figure 7 shows a view of the Piano Action with the Key at rest.

The lower cam curve of the Hammer is resting on the rear pedestal of the Key (Fig. 7-4). The HAMMER ASSEMBLY is composed of a Hammer (Fig. 7-15), a Multiple Hammer Flange (Fig. 7-26) and a Hammer Head Tip (Fig. 7-14). The DAMPER ASSEMBLY (Fig. 7-17

and 18) is connected to the Hammer by means of a Bridle Strap (Fig. 7-16). In the rest position, the left Damper pad (Fig. 7-18) bears on the Tine (Fig. 7-13). The TONE BAR ASSEMBLY (Fig. 7-10, 11, 12, 13 and 19) is actually a modified tuning fork, the two legs of which are the Tine and Tuning Spring (Fig. 7-13 and 19) and the Tone Bar (Fig. 7-11). The PICKUP ASSEMBLY (Fig. 7-20) consists of a coil mounted to an adjustable arm.

The act of striking the Key causes the back pedestal to rise, which in turn rolls the Hammer up to a strik-

ing position relative to the Tone Generator Assembly. At the same time, the Bridle Strap pulls downward, thus releasing the Damper Felt from contact with the Tine. The Hammer blow causes the Tine to vibrate across the Pickup, creating a small voltage signal which is sensed by the amplifier and is converted into sound through the speaker system. The Damper Release Bar (Fig. 7-22), when activated by the Foot Pedal, automatically disengages all Damper Arms, thus allowing all Tines to vibrate freely (sustain).



FIGURE 7

### RHODES® ACTION ASSEMBLY

- |                         |                        |                       |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Front Guide Pin Felt | 15. Hammer             | 28. Action Rail       |
| 2. Front Guide Pin      | 16. Bridle Strap       | Mounting Screw        |
| 3. Key Cap              | 17. Damper Module      | 29. Action Rail       |
| 4. Key                  | 18. Damper Felt        | 30. Harp Support-     |
| 5. Balance Rail Felt    | 19. Tuning Spring      | To-Action Rail        |
| 6. Harp Support         | 20. Pickup Assembly    | Mounting Screw        |
| 7. Tone Bar Assembly    | 21. Pickup Adjustment  | 31. Damper Module     |
| Mounting Spring         | Screw                  | Mounting Screw        |
| 8. Tone Bar Assembly    | 22. Damper Release Bar | 32. Push Rod          |
| Mounting Grommet        | 23. Damper Release Bar | Assembly Top Felt     |
| 9. Tone Bar Assembly    | Pivot Pin              | 33. Push Rod Assembly |
| Adjustment Screw        | 24. Damper Release     | 34. Push Rod Assembly |
| 10. Tone Generator      | Bar Pivot Pin          | Balance Pivot         |
| Mounting Screw          | Locking Screw          | 35. Push Rod Assembly |
| 11. Tone Bar            | 25. Damper Release     | Bottom Felt           |
| 12. Tone Generator      | Bar Felt               | 36. Action Rail       |
| Assembly                | 26. Multiple Hammer    | Mounting T-Nut        |
| 13. Tine                | Flange                 | 37. Keybed Felt       |
| 14. Hammer Tip          | 27. Key Pedestal Felt  | 38. Key Pedestal      |



FIGURE 8

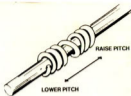


FIGURE 9

## ADJUSTMENT FEATURES

The Rhodes piano seldom requires tuning. If it should be necessary to tune a note, it may be easily accomplished by following the steps listed below. 1. Remove the black Harp Cover over the Harp Assembly by lifting it up from the rear. 2. Remove the four Screws, two located on each end of the Harp Assembly. 3. Rotate the Harp Assembly up; it will pivot on the Harp Pivot Links located on each end. The Harp Assembly will stand free on its

back edge (Fig. 8). 4. The out-of-tune Tine may be tuned by plucking it and the Tine of the same note in the next octave to compare the pitch. To raise the pitch, push the Tuning Spring upward. To lower the pitch, pull the Spring down toward the end of the Tine (Fig. 9). Continue to adjust the position of the Spring and compare the notes until the Tine is in tune. 5. Replace the Harp and Harp Cover in their original positions.

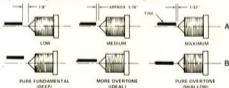


FIGURE 10

## VOLUME DYNAMICS

Individual note volume dynamics are controlled by loosening the Pickup Adjustment Screw (Fig. 7-21), and then sliding the Pickup

Assembly (Fig. 7-20), forward or backward thus changing the distance between the Pickup and the Tine (Fig. 10A). To reach the desired volume, strike the note while sliding the Pickup Assembly. 7



## TIMBRE

Tone coloring (Timbre) may be altered to suit the individual taste by rotating the Tone Bar Assembly Adjustment Screws (Fig. 7-9).

This operation results in an in-

crease or decrease in overtone component.

The Tone is moved in relation to the center of the Pickup (Fig. 10B).

To hear the different tone colorings possible, strike a note while moving the Adjustment Screws.

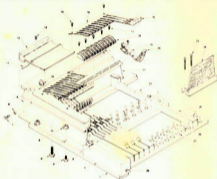


FIGURE 11

### RHODES® ACTION—EXPLODED VIEW

- |   |                                  |                                     |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Keybed                                     | 11. Damper Release Bar Pivot     | 21. Action Rail                     |
| 2. Cheekblock                                 | 12. Damper Release Bar           | 22. Key                             |
| 3. Cheekblock Rear Mounting Screw             | 13. Pivot Mounting Screw         | 23. Nameboard Mounting Screw        |
| 4. Harp Support Mounting Screw                | 14. Damper Module Mounting Screw | 24. Nameboard                       |
| 5. Keybed Mounting Screw                      | 15. Damper Module                | 25. Key Cap                         |
| 6. Captive-Washer Mounting Nut                | 16. Damper Felt                  | 26. Guide Pin                       |
| 7. Harp Support to Action Rail Mounting Screw | 17. Hammer Flange Mounting Screw | 27. Guide Pin Felt                  |
| 8. Washer                                     | 18. Multiple Hammer Flange       | 28. Cheekblock Front Mounting Screw |
| 9. Harp Support                               | 19. Hammer                       |                                     |
| 10. Nylon Pivot Bushing                       | 20. Hammer Tip                   |                                     |

# JANUS I



A dynamic amplification system designed to enhance the RHODES Electric Stage or Suitcase Pianos by the addition of single or multiple JANUS I Powered Speaker Enclosures.

## ENCLOSURE FEATURES

- Two special design 12 inch speakers
- Stereo Power Amp, two channels, 50 watts RMS each, 100 watts mono, 220 watts total peak music power
- Gain control for balancing multiple Enclosures
- Comfortable, easy access handles
- Removable casters for easy mobility

**NOTE:  
SEE ACCOMPANYING LIMITED WARRANTY  
REGISTRATION SHEET**

# **Rhodes<sup>®</sup>**

**Keyboard Instruments U.S.A.**