

# Basic Detail Report

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## John Lennon's c. 1869 John Broadwood & Sons Upright Piano

### Date

c. 1869

### Primary Maker

John Lennon

### Medium

Wood; Ivory; Metal

### Description

John Lennon's c. 1869 John Broadwood and Sons upright piano, numbered on the wooden frame 41142, with ornate ebonized case featuring incised gilt lining and keyboard supported by two fluted columns, the front with ornate fretwork panel backed with scarlet cloth, and featuring a pair of brass candle holders to sides. Lennon used this piano in his Kenwood and Tittenhurst Park homes. He gifted the piano to a friend, and affixed a plaque to the piano reading, "On This Piano Was Written: A Day In The Life, Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds, Good Morning, Good Morning, Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite, and Many Others, Jonn Lennon 1971." The piano is known to have been Lennon's main composing instrument for The Beatles album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Lennon's purchase date of this piano is unknown, but it was likely in 1966 if not earlier, given its importance to Lennon's *Sgt. Pepper's* contributions. A visit to Kenwood described in the 1967 *Beatles Book* magazine makes note of the piano: "On the ground floor there is a large entrance hall...to the right it leads to the kitchen...and to the left to two rooms, one very large, one small. The smaller room contained two pianos, one Broadwood, one Bechstein. The mahogany case of the Bechstein was fast disappearing under a psychedelic design, which was being painted on by two Dutch artists, Simon and Marijke." The Dutch artists, known as The Fool, later painted the guitar of the same name for Cream's Eric Clapton. John Lennon (1940-1980) was a musician, singer, and songwriter best known as the co-lead vocalist and guitarist for The Beatles. Lennon and Paul McCartney served as the primary songwriters for The Beatles, and their collaboration is credited as one of the most successful musical outputs of all time. Lennon was born in Liverpool, England where he was raised by his aunt, Mimi Smith. In 1956, Lennon received his first guitar and formed a band, the Quarrymen. While playing with the Quarrymen, Lennon met Paul McCartney and George Harrison who joined the skiffle and rock and roll group. The band changed their name to The Beatles in 1960. Lennon and The Beatles released their first single in 1962, "Love Me Do," and their debut album, *Please Please Me*, in 1963. By 1964, the band had reached international stardom, with Beatlemania taking over both European and American airwaves. The Beatles toured extensively from 1964 to 1966, when they became a studio band. Their initial rock and roll sound transformed into new styles, with influences of the 1960s psychedelic and counterculture movements - led by Lennon's anti-war and protest activism. After the

dissolution of The Beatles in 1970, Lennon embarked on a solo career. His 1971 album *Imagine* and its title track became his most popular solo release. Lennon left the music world during the mid-1970s, returning to the studio in 1980 for the album *Doubly Fantasy*. On December 8, 1980, Lennon was shot and killed outside of his apartment building in New York City by a disillusioned fan of The Beatles. Lennon is remembered as one of the most influential musicians of all time. His work with The Beatles is credited with shaping the musical landscape of the 20th century. His early demise led to many tributes by his friends and colleagues such as Bob Dylan, David Bowie, Elton John, and the other Beatles.

3D Model

[John Lennon's Piano](https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/john-lennons-piano-8155e59167a84b7eb42460e7b71c139a?utm_medium=embed&utm_campaign=share-popup&utm_content=8155e59167a84b7eb42460e7b71c139a) by [Znyth](https://sketchfab.com/znyth?utm_medium=embed&utm_campaign=share-popup&utm_content=8155e59167a84b7eb42460e7b71c139a) on [Sketchfab](https://sketchfab.com?utm_medium=embed&utm_campaign=share-popup&utm_content=8155e59167a84b7eb42460e7b71c139a)

**Dimensions**

Overall: 56 x 24 x 47 in. (142.2 x 61 x 119.4 cm)