

The Adam Schaaf Piano Company was a piano manufacturing company that originated in Chicago, IL in 1873. It was owned by Adam Schaaf, and later by his three sons: Walter Schaaf, Harry Schaaf, and Fred Schaaf. They received ownership of the business from their father in the early 1920's. The company built both grand pianos and upright grand pianos, which were prized as being of very good quality by all customers. They also built a line of player pianos, which were of high quality as well. These sturdy pianos were in high demand, and a new factory in addition to the original six-story manufacturing plant was built. These factories also facilitated the production of pianos under the brands 'Clarion' and 'Orpheus'. Even though demand was increasing rapidly, the Schaaf company never chose quantity over quality, and continued to produce well-built instruments. From its beginning in 1873 up until the early 1930's, the Adam Schaaf Piano Company enjoyed wild success and supplied thousands of pianos a year to the American Midwest. However, the company sadly shut down due to the Great Depression. Even though there have been no Schaaf pianos built since the 1930's, many of these historic pianos still exist across the country. Many of these pianos have been restored and are remain of good quality, although many have been neglected and are no longer salvageable. Due to the high quality and historic nature of these instruments, combined with the fact that there are few good ones left on the market, a restored Schaaf piano can sell for thousands of dollars. If you have a Schaaf piano and would like to find out when it was built, visit [Bluebook of Pianos](#). It shows the serial numbers of pianos built on the first of January from 1885 to 1926. As these serial numbers go in ascending order, you can find out or get a good estimate of when your piano was built by finding which two years your piano's number falls between. If built in 1906, you may be able to find your piano's model in the catalog at [Antique Piano Shop](#). Lastly, there is an extensive biography by Robert J Seeley uploaded to [Academia.edu](#).



Sources: [Antique Piano Shop](#) , [Lindeblad Piano](#) , [Bluebook of Pianos](#) , [Academia.edu](#)