Required Reading for Piano Technicians
Theory vs Experience

The Purpose of Reading:

- Improve Skills
- Learn more ways to tune and service
- Bridge the gap between aural and ETD
- Enhance your hands on knowledge with theoretical
- If you are just starting out, where do you begin?
Professors, Mentors, & Studies

In college you have professors and books.

As an intern you have mentor, while you study and learn hands on.

As a profession all you have are your studies.
General Knowledge
Books
General Knowledge vs Specialized Area
Pianos Inside Out
by Mario Igrec

Every Piano technician should have this book

The most MODERN Book in the Piano tech industry.
Piano Tuning and the Allied Arts
by William Brain White

The first American, verbose, piano technology book

It's amazing how methods and principles have remained similar or unchanged since 1917.
Tuning Books
On Pitch
by Rick Baldassin

- The ultimate in home tutor for tuning.
- Explains how to use your ETD to hear
- Multiple experiments in this book guide you through your intervals and tell you exactly what to listen for.
The Craft of Piano Tuning

by Daniel Levitan

- In-depth Comprehensive Tuning book
- Focus on
  - Temperament
  - Octaves
  - Unison
  - Checks
  - Technique
Tuning
by Owen J Jorgensen

• In-depth book of the history of tuning
• “Tune through history to learn how to Tune”
• Massive catalog of checks for ever interval type
• Instructions on how to use the book, in the book
Upright and Grand Piano Tuning
Carl-Johan Forss

- The Tuning edition of the German collegiate series of Piano tech books
- In-depth book on different methods of Tuning
- General knowledge on choosing an instrument, hybrid piano, climate control, etc.
- Includes experiments to demonstrate different aspects of piano tuning, strings stretching etc.
- Includes exercises at the end of each chapter.
Regulation Books
Regulating Grand Piano Touch and Tone

- The most in-depth, thorough, practical grand piano regulation book ever written.
- Provides exercises at the end of each chapter
- Sections on tools and equipment and how to make some tools
- Provide reproducible check lists for on the road use
Upright and Grand Piano Action Regulation
by Carl-Johan Forss
Piano action Regulating by Brian Capleton

Covers a variety of piano actions we don’t see in the US

Breaks steps and specs down into principles

Be warned- Sometimes English can be a different language.
Repair Books

Upright and Grand Piano Repair
Piano Construction
OLD, but relevant.

Give the piano technician an easy way to understand how pianos are constructed, and why things are the way they are.
Some consider this out of date, however the principles are all the same.

If you want to design a piano, start this book.
The Piano Hammer
&
The Piano Key
and Wippen

WALTER PFEIFFER

THE PIANO HAMMER

A DETAILED INVESTIGATION INTO AN IMPORTANT FACET
OF PIANO MANUFACTURING
ENGLISH VERSION BY J. ENGELHARDT

VERLAG DAS MUSIKINSTRUMENT
FRANKFURT AM MAIN
Reference

- Peirce Piano Atlas
- The Piano Action Handbook
- Manufacturer Resources Books:
  - Steinway and Sons
  - Yamaha
  - Kawai
  - QRS
  - PianoDisc
  - Etc
The Official Guide to Steinway Pianos

The all you need to know book on Steinway
Tech Exam Resource Book
Music Theory and History

- Why focus on Theory and History?
- Added benefit of understanding music like a musician
- A deeper understanding of our field
Tonal Harmony
Kostka & Payne

College Music Theory Text Book

Provides fundamentals of music theory

Cover traditional and 20th (or Modern) Methods of musical construction, composition Etc.
A History of Western Music
Burkholders

Music History college text book
Covers the entire western music history going Back to Greece and the start of