Solutions For Creating Optimal Bench Height

There are many options available to assist you in finding the optimal organ bench height. Sometimes using adjustable height blocks will be sufficient. If the bench does not come with blocks already, the bench may be cut down ¾ inch and blocks may be purchased from one of the below listed organ companies to raise the bench to varying heights, thus accommodating a wide range of organists.

An adjustable organ bench is another option, though much more costly, and may be purchased from one of the following organ companies:

**Allen Organs**
Doug Norman
801-450-0287
drnorman19@gmail.com

**Johannus**
Tyler Anderson
435-881-6235
tyler@andersonorganworks.com

**Rodgers**
David Wang
801-874-9001
pianodudeman@gmail.com

Every organ is different, with slight variances between pedal and bench heights, thus each situation will require a unique solution. The AGO standards for bench height explain that the normal height of the bench should be 20½ inches above the middle E pedal, and the bench can be raised or lowered 2 inches up or down from that measurement.

Please see the below documents for referencing height and price options.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Non-adjustable</th>
<th>Adjustable</th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>Allen</td>
<td>Block Price:</td>
<td>$200 - $300</td>
<td>Price:</td>
<td>$2800</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height*:</td>
<td>25 ¼</td>
<td>Height range:</td>
<td>25 - 28</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height with</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>low block setting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(adds 0.75)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height with</td>
<td>26 ¾</td>
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<td></td>
<td>high block setting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(adds 1.5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johannus</td>
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<td>$300</td>
<td>Price:</td>
<td>$2195</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Height range:</td>
<td>24 - 26 ¼</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height with</td>
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<td></td>
<td>low block setting</td>
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<td>Height with</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>high block setting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rodgers</td>
<td>Block Price:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Price:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height:</td>
<td>24 ¾</td>
<td>Height range:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Height with</td>
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<td>low block setting</td>
<td>(adds 1.5)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Height with</td>
<td>27 ¼</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>high block setting</td>
<td>(adds 2.5)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Height is measured from the ground to top of bench in inches
American Guild of Organists
Standard Console Specifications

PEDALBOARD
Compass: 32 notes, CCC to G
Radiation: 8 ft. 6 in. radius, Maximum permissible, 9 ft. 6 in., minimum 8 ft. 6 in.
Concavity: 8 ft. 6 in. radius, Maximum 8 ft. 6 in, minimum 7 ft. 6 in.
Length between heelboard and tooboard: 27 in.
Length of playing surface of sharps: 6 ½ in.
Height of sharps above naturals: 1 in. at player's end, ½ in. higher at the other.
Width of playing surface of natural keys: 7/8 in. - 15/16 in.
Radius of curve of sharps: 8 ft. 6 in. radius, Maximum 8 ft. 6 in.
Height of sharps above naturals: 1 in. at player's end, ½ in. higher at the other.

PEDAL ACCESSORIES
Knee panel and toe-board carrying the pedal accessories to follow the 9 ft. radius curve of the distant end of the sharp keys.
Crescendo shoes: Heel end of playing surface of shoe to overhang sharp keys by 1¼ in. maximum forward position, or be placed 3/4 in. maximum distance back of them these dimensions are for the shoes in closed position.
Swell shoe to be located directly in front of the E-F gap.
Choir or Positiv shoe to left of swell.
Solo shoe to right of swell.
Register-crescendo shoe invariable to the right of all others, and slightly raised.
Great shoe in small two-manual organs, where great is enclosed, to replace choir or Positiv shoe at left of swell shoe.
Bench: Normal height above middle E of pedal clavier, 20¼ in., adjustable up or down from this height by as much as 2 in. in either direction by means crank.

ORDER OF STOPS
The order within each division is: 16' flues, 8' flues, 4' flues, 2' flues, Mixtures, 16' reeds, 8' reeds, 4' reeds. Stops not mentioned in the above take their normal position according to pitch in their respective flue and reed divisions. Loudest to softest is the order within pitch groups. (Left to right for stop-tabs, bottom to top for draw-knobs).

Stop-tab consoles: Two rows over top manual; top row: left to right; Swell, Choir, Solo or Echo, with couplers of each division following the stops. Lower row: Pedal, Great, Positiv.

Draw-knob consoles: left jamb: Pedal and Swell; right: Solo, Great, Choir, Positiv. Order within the division as given, from bottom to top. Tremulants at top. Intramanual couplers above each division of stops.

Order of couplers above top manual on draw-knob consoles: left to right.

Pedal couplers: Great, Swell, Choir-Positiv, Solo.
Manual couplers: Swell to Great, Choir or Positiv to Great, Solo to Great, Swell to Choir, Solo to Choir, Great to Choir.

COMBINATIONS:
It is suggested that there are 8 or more manual pistons for each manual, that they start under middle C of each manual and be spaced 1 1/8 in. apart. General pistons, divided under Swell and Great manuals, to the left of manual pistons, with space enough between the two groups for Great to Pedal, Swell to Pedal, and Swell to Great reversibles. General pistons to be duplicated by toe studs on the left of crescendo shoes. Pedal pistons by toe studs only on the right of crescendo shoes.

PEDEL TO MANUAL
Left to right location: Centered under the manuals.
Front to back: Pedal DD-sharp's front end 8½ in. to 10 in. back of plumb line dropped from edge of white keys of lowest manual of two manual or three manual console; 11 in. on a four manual.
Vertical: 29½ in. between playing surface of natural keys of lowest manual and middle natural key of pedal.

MANUALS
Compass: C to c4, 61 notes.
Overhang of the keys: 4 ¾ in. to 2 ½ in. surface to surface. Manuals may slope toward Great or be level.
Depth of touch: 5/16 in. to 3/8 in. scant.
Point of speech: Midway between top and bottom of travel of the keys.
Weight of touch: 3½ to 3¾ ounces with tracker touch recommended on electro-pneumatic instruments.

COUPLERS:
All manuals couple to Great and Pedal. Swell couples to Choir or Positive. Choir or Positiv couples to Great,