**Bud Powell**

**Earl Rudolph** "**Bud**" **Powell** (September 27, 1924 – July 31, 1966) was an American [jazz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jazz) pianist, born and raised in [Harlem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harlem), New York City. Though [Thelonious Monk](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thelonious_Monk" \o "Thelonious Monk) was a close friend and influence, his greatest piano influence was [Art Tatum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_Tatum).

Along with [Charlie Parker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charlie_Parker), Monk, and [Dizzy Gillespie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dizzy_Gillespie), Powell was a leading figure in the development of modern jazz, or[bebop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bebop). His virtuosity led many to call him the Charlie Parker of the piano. Powell was also a composer, and many jazz critics credit his works and his playing as having "greatly extended the range of jazz harmony."