

Notation Player 3 User Guide

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1 Introduction

Welcome to Notation Software's free **Notation Player**!

Almost any musician who reads music notation will be amazed at the simplicity, elegance, and usefulness of this convenient music software utility. With **Notation Player**, you *can see* the notation of the music as *you hear* it.

Notation Player serves two main purposes:

1. To transcribe any MIDI (.mid) or Karaoke (.kar) file to sheet music that you can view on the screen as the notes play.
2. To play and display fully notated and annotated music notation Notation (.not) files, that have been prepared by other programs by Notation Software: **Notation Musician** and **Notation Composer**.

Notation Player offers the same high-quality MIDI-to-notation transcription as do **Notation Musician** and **Composer**. The MIDI-to-transcription technology was first developed in 1994 and 1995, and has continued its reputation since then as the world's best. **Notation Player** offers you that MIDI-to-transcription feature completely free!

We hope that **Notation Player** will open the doors for you to see how entertaining and educational it is to hear the music and see the notation at the same time. If that happens, we encourage you to explore free 30-day versions of the **Notation** software products. For more information, see the topic About Notation Musician and Composer or visit our website to find out more about **Notation Musician** and **Notation Composer** and see video demonstrations of them in action..

You probably will be able to learn how to use most of **Notation Player**'s features by simply trying out menu commands and clicking buttons here and there. However, for a quick start in learning how to use **Notation Player**, we recommend going through the Quick Start Tutorial. We hope you will enjoy using **Notation Player**!

1.1 Getting Started

If you have already successfully installed **Notation Player**, and are already comfortable using this documentation, then you might want to skip this Getting Started section.

This Getting Started section offers the following introductions and instructions:

- Using this Documentation
- Printing this Documentation
- Installing **Notation Player**
- Finding and Starting Notation Player
- Setting up Your MIDI Playback Device
- Uninstalling **Notation Player**

1.1.1 Using This Documentation

This Notation Player documentation is organized according to tasks that you can accomplish and will want to learn about.

► To find the documentation that explains how to accomplish a certain task:

If you are viewing this documentation on the screen, then do one of the following:

- Navigate through the Table Contents, at the left side of this Help window, until you find the category and sub-category of documentation that is relevant to your need.

-- OR --

- Click on the Search or (BEST) Index tab at the left side of this Help window. If you are interested, for example, in help topics that specifically focus on setting up this program, then look up "setup" in the Index, or use "setup" as the keyword for Search.

Although the Notation Player documentation is particularly well-organized to answer "how to" questions, it also provides quick reference information, if you already know, for example, what menu command or dialog box you should be using, but just need some help on how to use the command or dialog box.

▶ To learn about the purpose and use of a particular menu item:

- While holding the mouse over the menu item, hit the F1 key. Notation Player will display this help window, presenting the topic that describes the situations in which you might want to use that menu command, and the overall procedures in which you would use that command.

▶ To learn about the purpose and use of a button or control in the main toolbar:

- While holding the mouse over the button or control, hit the F1 key.

▶ To learn about the details of a dialog box:

- Click the Help button in the dialog box.

1.1.2 Printing This Documentation

For printing out any part of this documentation we strongly recommend getting the PDF version.

▶ To get the Notation Player documentation in Adobe Acrobat PDF file format:

- Download the `NotationPlayer.pdf` file from Notation Software's web site, at <http://www.notation.com/Player.php>

1.1.3 Installing Notation Player

You may have obtained Notation Player either via download from the Internet, or in a software collection on CD-ROM. Either way, the setup program will be named something like `Inst_NS_Player_3_English.msi`.

The number in the setup file name represents the Notation Player version number. You can always check our website at <http://www.notation.com/Player.php> for the latest release version of Notation Player.

▶ To install Notation Player:

- Find the downloaded installation file on your machine or
- If you did not immediately run the setup program after downloading it, or if the setup program is located on a CD-ROM, then you will first need to find it on your system on your CD-ROM. One way to do this is as follows:
 1. At the lower, left corner of the screen, click the Windows Start button (skip this step for Windows 10):



That brings up the Windows Start menu.

2. Select Search in the Windows Start menu.

Windows will display the Search Results window.

3. In the Search Results window, search for files that begin with the word "Inst" or "NS".

Windows will find `Inst_NS_Player_3_English.msi` file in your Internet download directory or CD drive, and display it in the right panel of the Search Results window.

4. With the mouse, double-click the name of the found file. That will start the setup program.
5. Follow the steps in the Notation Player setup program. If you have difficulty running the setup program, please review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at www.notation.com/FAQs.htm.

- Once the Notation Player Setup program begins, it will ask a few simple questions about how you prefer to install the program. Answer those questions, and the installation will complete quickly, usually within 30 seconds.

1.1.4 Finding and Starting Notation Player on Your System

Once you have installed Notation Player, there are a couple of ways you can start the program. The instructions below show you one way.

- ▶ To start Notation Player after installation on Windows 10:

1. In the Search box on the bottom left of the screen simply type "Player".
2. In the Results area, "Player" will be displayed as an App. Click it to start it.

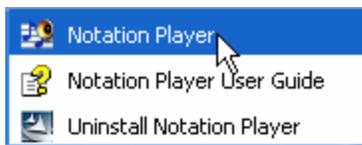
- ▶ To start Notation Player from its Windows program folder:

1. At the lower left corner of the screen, click the Windows Start button:



Windows will display the Start menu.

2. In the Start menu, choose Programs. A submenu with various programs on your system will be listed.
3. In the submenu, choose Notation Player. A second submenu will be displayed, showing various tools available for Notation Player.
4. Select Notation Player from the submenu:



1.1.5 Setting up Your Default MIDI Playback Device

Your computer probably has more than one MIDI device that can be used for producing instrument sounds. You will be able to hear the difference in how one MIDI device versus another plays, for example, a grand piano sound.

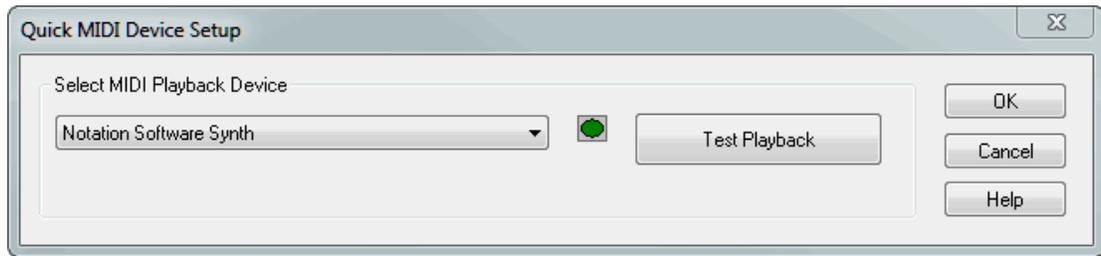
A MIDI device can be "software synthesizer" on your system. Or a MIDI device can be a physical device, most commonly an external MIDI keyboard that is connected to the computer via a USB cable or MIDI cable.

The Quick MIDI Device Setup command in Notation Player's Setup menu offers you an easy way to choose the MIDI device that will be used for playback.

- ▶ To set up the MIDI playback device in Notation Player:

1. In the Setup menu, choose the Quick MIDI Device Setup command.

Notation Player will display the Quick MIDI Device Setup dialog box:



2. Select one of the MIDI playback devices in the list.

To use an external MIDI device that is connected to your system via a USB cable or MIDI cable, select a MIDI device that has "MIDI Out" or "Out" in its name.

3. To test the sound for the selected playback device, click the Test Playback button.

Notation Player will display and play a 12-note chromatic scale. The notes will be highlighted as they play. Also, the green playback indicator in the Quick MIDI Device Setup window will display a bright green color as the notes are played. Upon completion of the playback, Notation Player will close the window that displays the notes.

If the device is an "internal" device on your Windows system, then you should hear sound through the speakers connected to your soundcard. If the device is "external", such as a MIDI keyboard capable of producing its own sound, then you should hear that device play the sound.

4. If you do not hear sound for a device when you choose the Test Playback option, then some possible explanations and remedies are discussed in What To Do If You Do Not Hear Any Sound.
5. Click the OK button when you have selected the desired playback device.
6. After you click OK, if you have already opened a song, Notation Player will display a simple dialog box that offers you the option to reassign all of the tracks of that song to the newly assigned default device.

1.1.6 Uninstalling Notation Player

► To uninstall Notation Player:

1. In Windows 10, click the Settings button and then select "Apps".
 - (a) Navigate to "Player 3" and click it.
 - (b) Click the "Uninstall" option

--OR--

2. In the Windows Start menu, navigate to the Notation Player Uninstall program and run it, as follows:
 - (a) Click the Windows Start button at the bottom left corner of the screen. Windows will display the Start menu.
 - (b) In the Start menu, choose Programs.
 - (c) In the Programs submenu, choose Notation Player.
 - (d) In the Notation Player submenu, choose Uninstall Notation Player.

--OR--

3. Use the Remove option of the Windows Control Panel as follows:

- (a) Click the Windows Start button at the bottom left corner of the screen.
- (b) In the Start list, select the main Settings option. On Windows XP, choose the Control Panel sub-option.
- (c) In the Control Panel folder, choose Add/Remove Programs.
- (d) Scroll down in the list of currently installed programs on your system to the entry for Notation Player.
- (e) Click the Add/Remove button to remove Notation Player from your system.

1.2 Quick Start Tutorial

The following tutorial will get you started quickly in enjoying some of Notation Player's main features. This tutorial can typically be completed in about 10 minutes.

As you follow the steps of this tutorial, you should feel free to explore side tours on your own. After completing this tutorial, you should be able to successfully explore many of Notation Player's additional features on your own without needing to refer to this User's Guide.

There are simple steps in this tutorial

- Opening a Song File on Your System
- Playing the Song

1.2.1 Tutorial: Opening a Song File on Your System

Notation Player can open any correctly formatted MIDI `.mid` or Karaoke `.kar` file, and transcribe it to notation. Notation Player can also open, display, and play, any Notation (`.not`) file created and saved by other Notation products, such as Notation Musician and Composer.

This first step of the tutorial illustrates how you would open a MIDI or Notation (`.not`) file that you had previously downloaded from the Internet to your system. Or, perhaps you have a MIDI file that you created with another tool (such as a MIDI sequencer), and now you wish to view its notation with Notation Player.

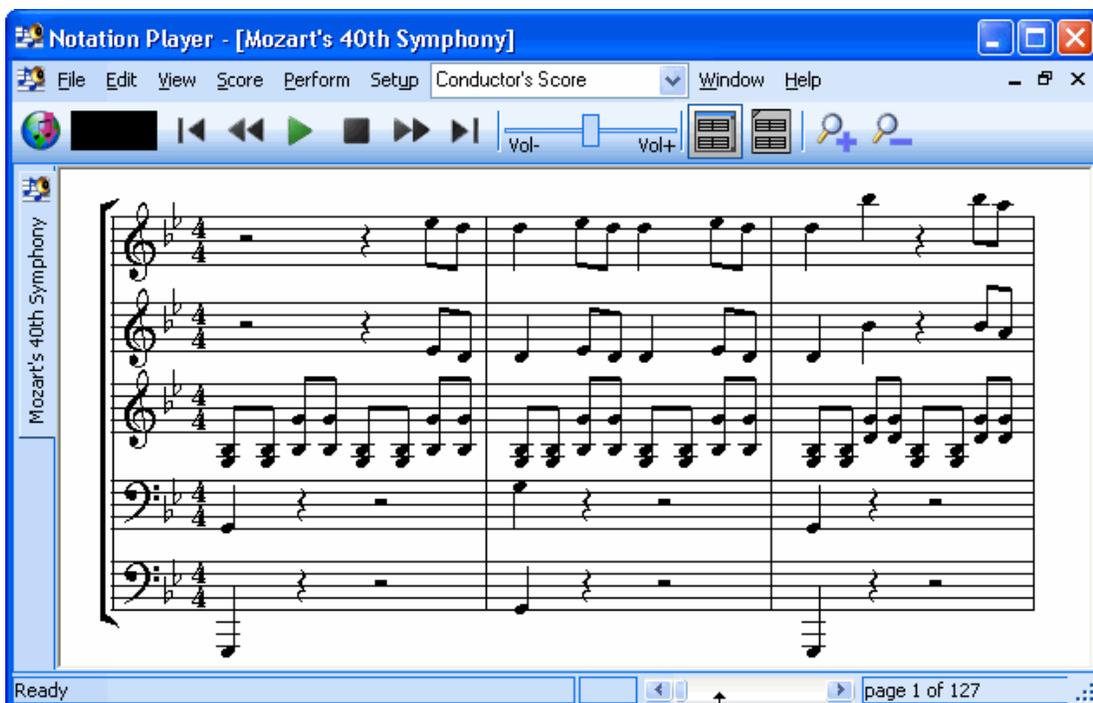
This tutorial will work with an excerpt from the first movement of Mozart's 40th Symphony. You can find the MIDI file for it, `Mozart40thSymphony.mid`, in your `\Program Files\Notation\Songs` directory.

► To open a MIDI file on your system:

1. Start Notation Player, as described in Finding and Starting Notation Player on Your System.
2. In the File menu, choose the Open command.
Notation Player will present you with the File Open dialog box.
3. By default, the `\Program Files\Notation\Songs` directory will already be opened. If another directory is opened, then navigate to the `Notation\Songs` directory.
4. Open the file `Mozart40thSymphony.mid`.

Notation Player will display as many measures of the song as will fill the window. If you want

to see more measures in the window, click the Zoom Out  button in the main toolbar.



This orchestration of Mozart's 40th Symphony displays the General MIDI (GM) names for the instrument sounds, rather than the names of the instruments (Violin I, Violin 2, Viola, etc.) as they would be displayed in a conductor's score. You will find that some MIDI files will more faithfully represent the exact orchestration of the original composition, whereas other MIDI files will provide an approximate orchestration that sounds better for soundcards that adhere to the General MIDI (GM) standard.

In the next step of this tutorial, we will open the same `Mozart40thSymphony.mid` song by downloading it from the Internet, using Notation Player's built-in Internet browser. Therefore, let's close the song file we have opened above.

► To close a song file:

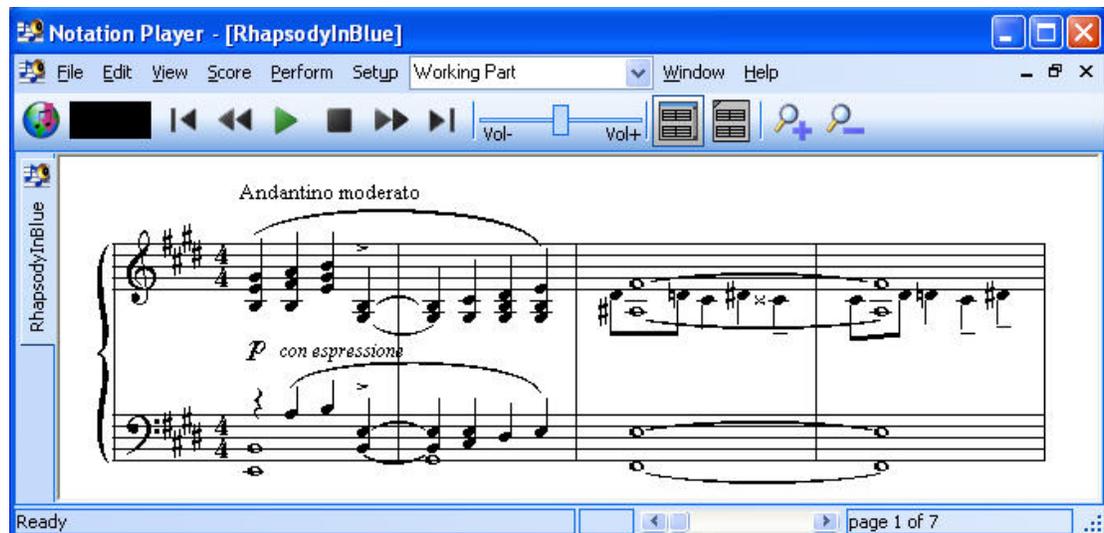
- Choose the Close command in the File menu.
- OR --
- Type CTRL+F4, the standard Windows shortcut for Close Window.

If you have obtained a Notation (.not) file created by Notation Musician or Composer, you can similarly open it.

► To open a Notation (.not) file on your system:

1. In the File menu, choose the Open command.
Notation Player will present you with the File Open dialog box.
2. Open the file `RhapsodyInBlue.not`.

This is a small excerpt of a slightly simplified arrangement of the main theme of George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue:



3. Close the file, using the Close command in the File menu, or by typing CTRL+F4.

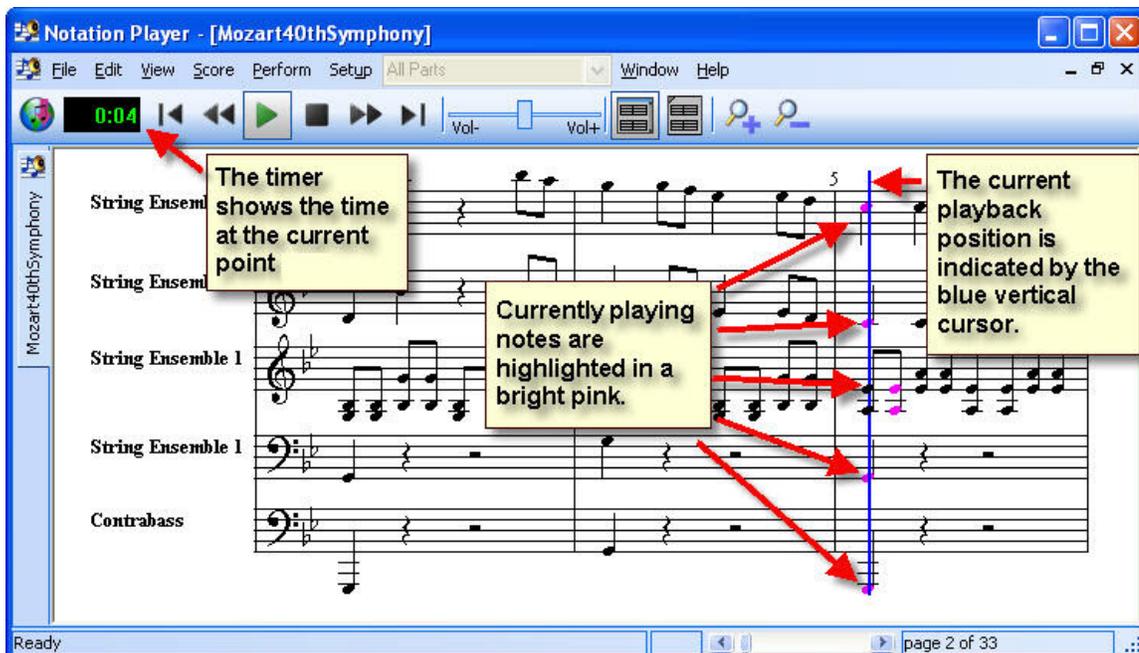
1.2.2 Tutorial: Playing the Song

If your computer has a soundcard, it is likely that Notation Player will be able to immediately play through your computer's soundcard to the speakers. Notation Player requires that the soundcard support MIDI, which is a certain computer music standard that almost all of today's soundcards support.

► To play back the currently opened song:

- Choose the Start Playback command from the Perform menu.
-- OR --
- Hit the SPACE key.
-- OR --
- Click the Play  button in the toolbar at the top of the window.

A vertical blue cursor moves along in the score as the song plays, to indicate the current playback position. The currently playing notes are highlighted in a bright pink color.



TIP: Do you hear the music playing? If so, then Notation Player will not need any assistance from you in setting up the MIDI sound device.

If you do not hear the song play, then follow the instructions in Quick MIDI Device Setup. If after using the Quick MIDI Device Setup option you still do not hear sound, then read about What To Do If You Do Not Hear Sound.

- ▶ To quickly advance forward through the song during playback:



1. Click the Fast Forward button once to increase the playback speed by a factor of five.
2. Click the button a second time to resume the original playback speed.

- ▶ To stop playback:

- Choose the Stop Playback command from the Perform menu.

-- OR --

- Hit the SPACE key.

-- OR --

- Click the Stop button.



-- OR --

- Toggle the Playback button in the toolbar at the top of the window.



You have now completed Notation Player's Quick Start Tutorial.

You will probably be able to discover most of the other features in Notation Player by simply trying out menu commands and buttons. If you are not sure what a menu or button does, remember that you

can hold (hover) the mouse over the menu command name or button, and Notation Player will display a brief tip that explains the purpose of the command or button. Also, you do not have to worry that you might make a mistake. Using the Undo command in the Edit menu, you can undo any recent mistakes you might have made.

2 Opening and Transcribing Songs

Notation Player opens, displays, and plays two types of files: (1) MIDI (.mid) and Karaoke (.kar) files, and (2) Notation (.not) files:

- A MIDI file usually has a .mid file name extension.
- A Karaoke file is a special type of MIDI file, which has a lyrics track normally intended to be displayed as text without notes. A Karaoke file usually has a .kar file name extension. Most Karaoke playing programs display only the lyrics; but Notation Player displays both the lyrics and the notes. Since a Karaoke is technically only a special type of MIDI file, this Notation Player documentation will sometimes use the terminology MIDI file to refer to both .mid and .kar files.
- A Notation file is a song file created by one of Notation Software's products, such as Notation Musician or Notation Composer. A Notation (.not) file contains all of the musical performance data of a MIDI file, plus music notation details that the author enters using one of the Notation programs. Notation Player serves as a free "reader" and "player" of Notation files created by these other products.

Besides serving as a "reader" and "player" of Notation (.not) files, the central feature of Musician is that it can import MIDI and Karaoke files from the Internet, or from another music software program, and transcribe them into music notation with amazing accuracy. When Notation Player imports the MIDI or Karaoke file, it preserves all of the fine details of the musical performance. Even though Notation Player nicely rounds off notes to readable note durations, the underlying exact timings of the notes are preserved and accurately performed by Notation Player during playback.

The topics that follow describe procedures for:

- Opening a song file on your system
- Viewing the song title and author information
- Searching for and downloading MIDI and Notation files from the Internet
- Transcribing MIDI files to notation

2.1 Opening a Song File on Your System

► To open a MIDI (.mid), Karaoke (.kar) or Notation (.not) file on your system:

1. Choose the Open command in the File menu.

-- OR --

Type CTRL+O, the standard Windows shortcut for File Open.

Notation Player will present the File Open dialog box.

2. If the file is not in the default directory, navigate to the directory where it is located.
3. Select the file in the directory.
4. Click the Open button.

2.2 Viewing the Song Title and Author Information

Some MIDI (.mid), Karaoke (.kar), and Notation (.not) files contain song title and author information, which you can view with the File / Song Title and Authors command.

Some MIDI files store song author and copyright information as the names of empty tracks. It is distracting to see these empty tracks as empty staves when the score is displayed. Yet, it is important

the the song author and copyright information is preserved. Notation Player does this by moving the names of empty tracks to the "Other Information" section of the Song Title and Authors window.

► To view the song title and author information:

- Choose the Song Title and Authors command in the File menu.

Notation Player will display the Song Title and Authors window, which includes the following information:

- song title
- composer
- arranger
- lyricist
- copyist
- copyright notice
- other information

2.3 Searching for and Downloading MIDI and NoteSoft Files from the Internet

We strongly recommend that you use your favorite Internet browser to search for and download MIDI files from the Internet. If you have associated the MIDI `.mid` filename extension and Karaoke `.kar` filename extension with Notation Player, then as soon as the download of the file has completed, Notation Player will automatically start up and open the file. You will see the MIDI or Karaoke file transcribed to sheet music.

Also, you can use your favorite Internet browser to download MIDI files to a directory on your system. Then you can use Notation Player's File Open command to open any of the downloaded MIDI files.

Instead of using an external browser, you can use Notation Player's built-in Internet browser to download and open MIDI and Karaoke files. This built-in browser is actually Microsoft's Internet Explorer, repackaged inside of Notation Player's own window. Please note that this internal browser will not work properly on some newer operating systems because of Microsoft's changes in software architecture.

2.3.1 Using Notation Player's Internet Browsing Window

Please note that these instructions will only work on older systems. For Windows 10 and other more modern systems, we recommend using your favorite browser to find files and then download them to your Songs folder.

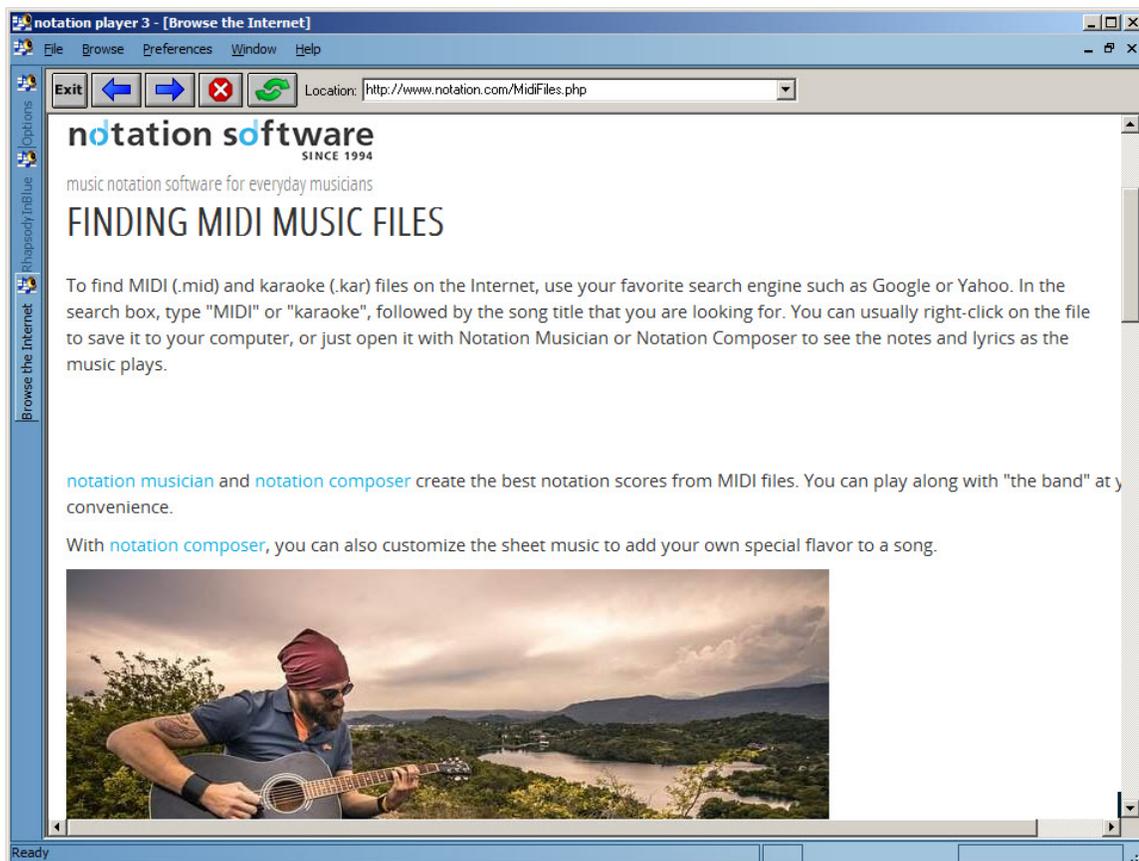
In order to download a MIDI, Karaoke or Notation (`.not`) from the Internet, you need to first navigate to a web site that offers MIDI files.

► To start browsing for MIDI files on the Internet:

- If no files are currently opened, then click the Browse Internet icon:

-- OR --

Choose the Browse Internet for MIDI Files command in the File menu. This will open Notation Player's built-in Internet browsing window. By default, it will display Notation Software's web page



Finding MIDI files

You can instruct Notation Player to always initially open some alternative web page by using the Set Initial Web Page command.

► To navigate to other web pages on the Internet:

- Position the mouse over highlighted text. Near the bottom of the browse window, you will see a web page location. If you click the mouse on the highlighted text, the browser will take you to that location.
-- OR --
- Type in the location (URL) of the web page in the "Location" box near the top of the page. It is not necessary for you to type in the leading "http:///" characters. Press the ENTER key to complete the entry of the location.
-- OR --
- To view the previous web page that you last visited, click the Back  button. If you have browsed back to a previous web page and want to return to the more recently reviewed page, click the Forward  button.
-- OR --
- Click the down arrow at the right side of the "Location" box to list the most recent web pages you have visited. Then click one of the web page locations in the list to view the page again.

▶ To interrupt the downloading of a web page:

- Click the  button. This option is handy if the web page is taking too much time to download, which sometimes happens if the web site offering the page is temporarily not working or too busy.

▶ To exit the browser:

- Click the  button.
-- OR --
- In the Window menu or File menu, choose the Close Window command.

2.3.2 Specifying the Initial Web Page for Browsing

Please note that these instructions will only work on older systems. For Windows 10 and other more modern systems, we recommend using your favorite browser to find files and then download them to your Songs folder.

You can specify a default web page. Then, whenever you use the Browse command, **Notation Player** will first take you to that web page to begin your search.

▶ To specify the initial web page for browsing:

1. In the browser window, navigate to the web page that you wish to establish as the initial web page for browsing.
2. In the Preferences menu of the browser window, choose the Set Initial Web Page command. It will display a dialog box that looks like this:



3. The dialog box will display the web page location (URL) for the page you are currently viewing. You can enter a different web page location if the currently viewed page is not the one you intend.
4. Click the OK button.

2.3.3 Downloading MIDI Files and Zip Files

Please note that these instructions will only work on older systems. For Windows 10 and other more modern systems, we recommend using your favorite browser to find files and then download them to your Songs folder.

See Using Notation Player's Internet Browsing Window for instructions in starting Notation Player's built-in Internet browser.

Once you have arrived at the initial web page for browsing, you can browse around the Internet, searching web sites that offer MIDI files, Karaoke files, or Zip files containing MIDI or Karaoke files. The techniques you should use for finding MIDI files with the built-in browser are the same that you would use in Internet Explorer or your favorite browser.

You can perform searches using general search engines such as Google. Just type "www.google.com" for the Location in Notation Player's browser window, and hit the  key.



Once you arrive at Google, do a search on "midi" and the name of the song or artist you are interested in. For example, do a search on "midi twinkle" to look for MIDI files for the children's song Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

When you visit a web page that publishes MIDI files, you may find the files in a couple of different formats. Also, the links might be displayed in some different ways. MIDI files usually have a `.mid` filename extension. Karaoke files have a `.kar` filename extension. Sometimes just the name of the MIDI or Karaoke file is displayed. In other cases, the song title is displayed instead of the file name. In this case, you can confirm that the highlighted text corresponds to a MIDI or Karaoke file by moving the mouse cursor over the highlighted text and noting the location (URL) displayed at the bottom of the browse window.

Once you have found the file you want to download, the procedure is simple.

► To download a MIDI (or Karaoke) file:

1. Click the name of the MIDI music, or filename of the MIDI file shown at the web page. Notation Player will start downloading the file.

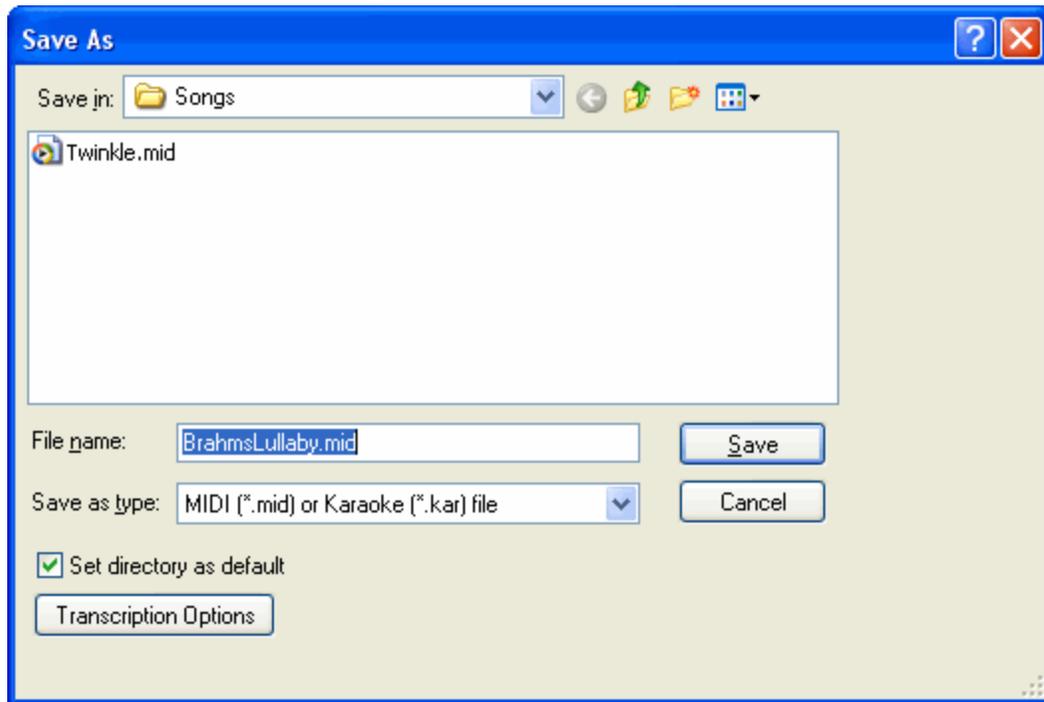
NOTE:

If the MIDI file immediately plays rather than starting to download, you probably have a MIDI player plug-in installed on your system. Some MIDI player plug-ins provide an option for saving the MIDI file to your hard drive. You should use this option, and specify your song directory as the download location. Upon completion of the download, Notation Player will automatically open the MIDI file if you have associated Notation Player with the `.mid` file name extension. If Notation Player does not automatically open the MIDI file, then you can open it using the Open command in the File menu.

If you are not able to keep the MIDI player plug-in from playing the MIDI file instead of letting you download the MIDI file, then the steps to correct this problem depend on which particular MIDI player is installed on your system. The Notation Software web site provides answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding how to handle such conflicts with common MIDI player plug-ins. We provide the answers at our web site rather than in this help documentation, because the answers change over time as new versions of MIDI player plug-ins are released by their manufacturers. Visit www.notation.com/FAQ.htm, and search for "MIDI Player".

2. If the download takes longer than you want, click the  button. This will abort the download.

3. Notation Player will present you with a file Save As dialog. Navigate to the directory where you want to save the file. You can keep the same file name as downloaded, or change it now. The file Save As dialog looks like this:



4. Click the Transcription Options button to provide Notation Player instructions for how to transcribe the downloaded MIDI file.

This is necessary only if you want to change the Transcription Options from their most recent settings. For details, see [Transcription Options](#).

5. Click the Save button to save the MIDI file.

TIP: If you find that you usually want to save MIDI files in the same directory, then turn on the "Set as default directory" check mark in the above Save As dialog. Then, whenever you run Notation Player, it will automatically open this directory in the Save As dialog.

6. As soon as Notation Player has completed the download, it will save the MIDI file in the directory you specified above. It will then convert the MIDI file to notation, and display the score on the screen. To start playing the music, press the play button or hit the SPACE bar.

2.3.4 Associating Notation Player with .MID, .KAR, and .NOT Files

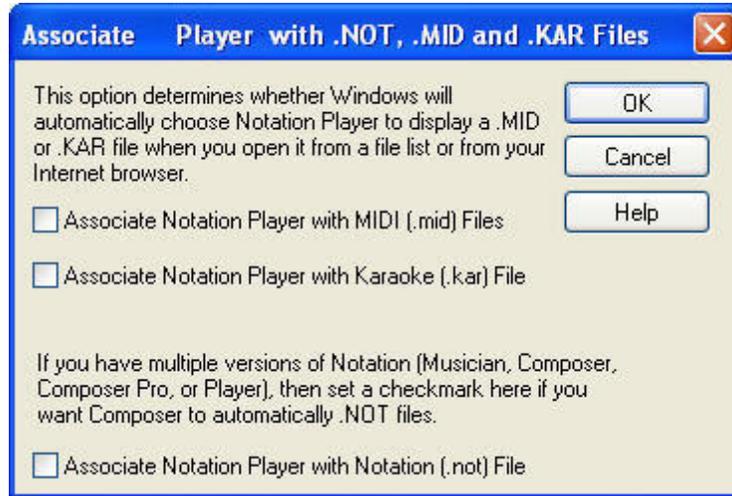
Please note that these instructions will only work on older systems. For Windows 10 and other more modern systems, we recommend using your favorite browser to find files and then download them to your Songs folder. You can set up file associations in your favorite browser by using the "Tools", or "Options" area and then "Default programs" (or similar terminology) to set the file association with Notation Player 3.

You can set up Windows to always use Notation Player to open a MIDI (.mid) or Karaoke (.kar) file when you open it from Windows Explorer, or download it using the Internet Explorer™ or other browser.

When you first installed Notation Player, you were asked whether you wanted to "associate" Notation Player with .mid and .kar files. Associate is the term that Windows uses to say that a specified program is used to open files with a certain file name extension, such as .mid or .kar. If you did not request Notation Player to be associated with .mid and .kar files when you ran the Notation Player setup program, you can still do this later, as described below. Or the other way, if you did request Notation Player to be associated with .mid and .kar files, but change your mind, you can remove the association.

► To associate Notation Player with MIDI (.mid) and Karaoke (.kar) files:

1. Choose the Associate Notation Player With .MID Files command in the Setup menu. Notation Player will display the following dialog box:



Note: On Windows Vista and Windows 7, the above dialog box is replaced with a different set of instructions.

2. Add a checkmark next to each of the two options and click the OK button.

► To remove the association of Notation Player with MIDI (.mid) and Karaoke (.kar) files:

- Follow the same procedure as above, but remove the checkmark(s).

After you remove the association of Notation Player with .mid or .kar files, Notation Player will restore the previously associated MIDI program with .mid or .kar files. If the previously associated MIDI program no longer exists on your system, then you will need to associate another MIDI program with .mid or .kar files, as described in the next procedure.

► To manually associate another program with MIDI (.mid) and Karaoke (.kar) files:

The instructions below use MIDI files as the example, but they apply equally to Karaoke files.

Note: On Windows Vista and Windows 7, choose the Associate Notation Player With .MID Files command in the Setup menu, and follow the instructions there, instead of the procedure below.

1. Right-click the Windows Start button at the lower left corner of the screen.
2. Choose Explore from the Start menu.
3. In the Tools menu of the newly opened Explore (or Start Menu) window, choose the Folder Options command.
4. In the Folder Options window, click the File Types tab.

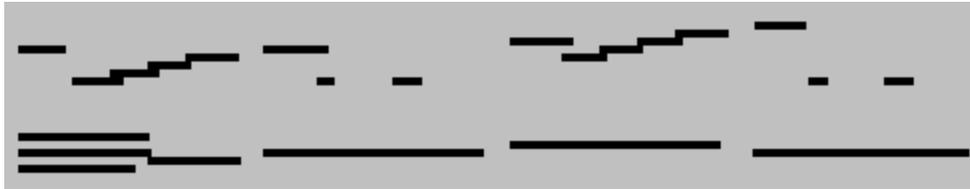
5. In the File Types window pane, scroll down in the list of Registered File Types until you find the extension MID. Or, if you do not find the MID extension, click the New button, and add an entry for the MID file extension.
6. Once you select the MID file extension, click the Add or Change button for Opens With. Windows will display an Open With dialog with a list of all of the programs registered on your system.
7. In the Open With dialog, choose the program you wish to newly associate with the MID file extension.

2.4 Transcribing MIDI Files to Notation

When you import a MIDI file, Notation Player transcribes the musical performance in the MIDI file to music notation. The data stored in the MIDI file is basically a recording of what notes (pitches) are played at what exact times by various instruments (in tracks).

A good way to understand transcription is to think of the MIDI performance as a piano roll used on player pianos that were popular in the late 1800's and early 1900's. The holes in the piano roll determine what notes are played at what times. If you unroll the piano roll horizontally, you will observe that the holes mark the beginning and ending times of played notes. The vertical position of the holes determine the pitch of the notes.

Here is an example of a piano roll:



Basically, the above piano roll is all that Notation Player is given when it must transcribe a MIDI file, to notation. Notation Player is able to cleverly transcribe the above piano roll information into notation. This example happens to be the Bach Minuet file, `minuet.mid`, that is installed in the `C:\Program Files\Notation\Songs` directory. The result of the transcription looks like this:

Notation Player must make many decisions about how to transcribe any given MIDI performance to notation. These decisions are similar to those that a trained musician would make when he or she hears music and writes down the notes on paper. (Very few musicians have this special training in "music dictation".)

Some decisions about how to transcribe the music are closely related to the style of the music. Notation Player does not attempt to determine what the style of music is, in order to make the appropriate decisions in transcribing the MIDI performance to notation. Instead, Notation Player lets you make a few simple choices about how to transcribe the music.

In particular, you can instruct Notation Player to:

- Choose one or the other of Standard versus Swing style in determining how to display rhythms such as illustrated here:

Standard Rhythm**Swing Rhythm**

- Detect and display split upper and lower voices as opposed to single voice, as illustrated here:

Split Upper and Lower Voices**Single Voice**

- Remove overlapping notes in order to reduce the number of ties, as illustrated here:

Transcription Without Removal of Note Overlaps**Transcription With Removal of Note Overlaps**

- Remove rests smaller than some size you specify, such as a quarter rest, as illustrated here:

Transcription With Eighth Rest Minimum Size**Transcription With Quarter Rest Minimum Size**

- Detect grace notes, trills, and tremolos.

Transcription Without Detection of Ornaments**Transcription With Detection of Ornaments**

The options described above are offered in the Transcription Options dialog described in the next topic. Notation Player offers you the opportunity to specify the transcription options in several circumstances:

- As you import a MIDI file, click the Transcription Options button in the File Open dialog box.

- As you download a MIDI file from the Internet, click the Transcription Options button in the File Save As dialog box.
- With the Re-Transcribe command in the Score menu.

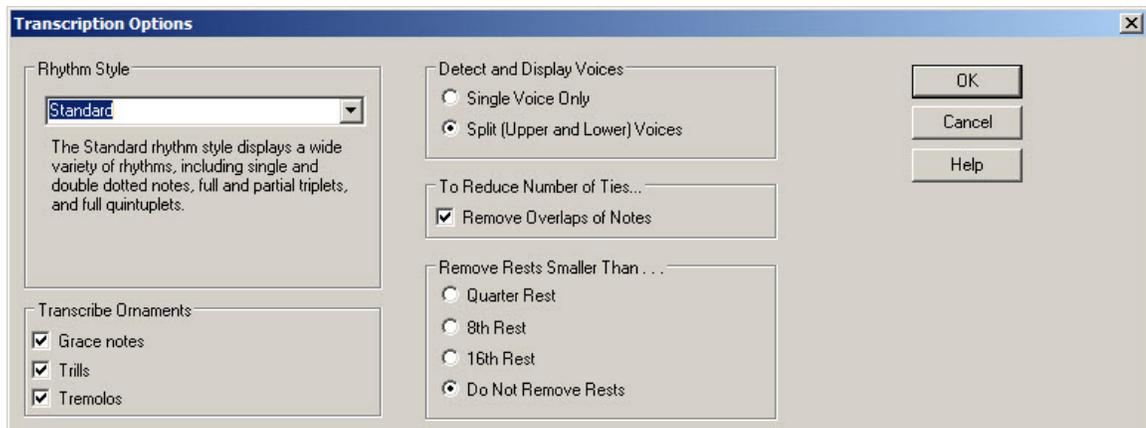
About Quantization

If you have used other music notation programs with a transcription feature, that feature very likely includes an option for specifying the "quantization level". Such an option tells the program to round note duration values and attack times to the nearest, say, thirty-second note, or sixteenth note. You may wonder why such an option is missing in Notation Player. The reason is that Notation Player has a better way of determining note durations and attack times than simply rounding to some nearest value. Such quantization only works well for fairly simple rhythms. Notes with long values tend to be "over-enthusiastically" notated with extra dotted values and ties. Separate notes with short values and small differences in attack times may be incorrectly collapsed into chords. Notation Player does a much better job at transcribing rhythms than notation programs that use a simple quantization approach. Notation Player analyzes the rhythmic context of each note to determine what quantization level to apply to the note.

2.4.1 Transcription Options

For an overview of how Notation Player transcribes an imported MIDI file to music notation, see the preceding overview topic, Transcribing MIDI Files to Notation.

The Transcription Options dialog box offers you the opportunity to determine how Notation Player transcribes an imported MIDI file to music notation:



There are several ways that you can access the Transcription Options dialog box:

- Choose the Transcription Options command in the Setup menu.
- Click the Transcription Options button in the File Save As when downloading a MIDI file from the Internet.
- Choose the Re-Transcribe command in the Score menu (this option allows you to select only certain staves to re-transcribe).

The transcription options you choose will be applied in all subsequent transcriptions, not only in the current session in which you are running Notation Player, but also in future sessions.

Each of the transcription options are described below.

Detect and Display Voices

The difference between the two voice options is illustrated here:

Split Upper and Lower Voices



Single Voice



Choose the Split (Upper and Lower) Voices option under these circumstances:

- The MIDI file includes keyboard parts, or your recording is at a music keyboard.
- You want the notation to clarify how some notes are held for longer durations while other notes played at the same time are held for shorter durations.

You can simplify the notation by choosing the Single Voice Only option, but only if you also choose the Remove Overlaps of Notes option. The above single voice example is actually more difficult to read than the split voice example, because the overlapping of notes have not been removed.

Remove Overlaps of Notes

The result of choosing the Remove Overlaps of Notes option is illustrated here:

Transcription Without Removal of Note Overlaps



Transcription With Removal of Note Overlaps



Removing overlaps of notes reduces the number of ties, and thus simplifies the overall notation. However, this also results in notation that less accurately represents the actual duration of notes.

If you are working with keyboard parts and find that transcriptions have too many ties, you first should consider choosing the Split (Upper and Lower) Voices options. Then, if there are still too many ties, use the Remove Overlaps of Notes option.

If you are working with single-note instrument or vocal parts, then choose the Single Voice Only option and the Remove Overlaps of Notes option.

Reduce Rests Smaller Than...

If you find that Notation Player transcribes with too much accuracy with respect to the use of dotted note values and rests, then you can instruct Notation Player to eliminate any rest that is smaller than a certain size (quarter rest, eighth rest, or sixteenth rest), as illustrated here:

Transcription With Eighth Rest Minimum Size



Transcription With Quarter Rest Minimum Size



In general, you should choose a smaller minimum rest size for slow tempos, and a larger minimum rest size for fast tempos. In slow tempos, you may want the notation to clarify the duration of notes and rests. In fast tempos, you may want to reduce the complexity of the notation by eliminating smaller rests.

Rhythm Style

In jazz and swing styles of music, triplets with a missing middle member are quite common. There is a convention in jazz and swing notation that simplifies the notation of such partial triplets by displaying the two members of the triplet as a simple pair of notes with equal durations. You can instruct Notation Player which style of rhythm notation to use, as illustrated here:

Standard Rhythm



Swing Rhythm



Transcribe Ornaments

Notation Player recognizes grace notes, trills and tremolos. Instead of literally writing the notes of the ornamented performance, Notation Player displays the standard notation for the type of detected ornament. All of the details of the ornament's performance are preserved-- the exact timing of the notes and the loudness of each note. You can view the written-out performance at any time, and edit the performance. While viewing the written-out performance you can edit details of the performance-- the timing and loudness of the notes.

Transcription Without Detection of Ornaments



Transcription With Detection of Ornaments



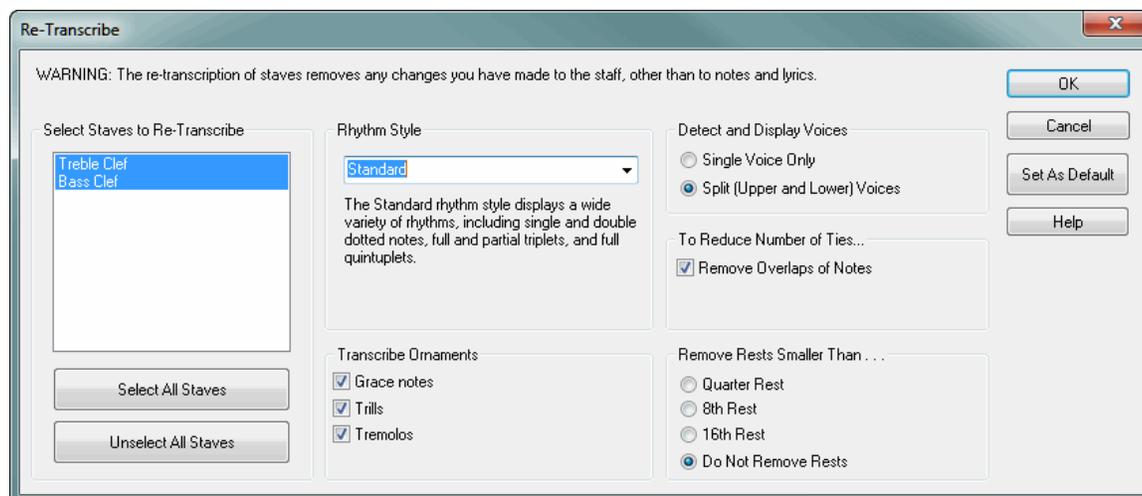
2.4.2 Re-Transcribing a MIDI File

When you import a MIDI file, Notation Player applies the transcription options that you have most recently specified in the Transcription Options dialog. If you are not satisfied with the results of the transcription, you might be able to improve the results by choosing different transcription options. You can select specific tracks to which the new transcription options are applied.

► To re-transcribe specified tracks in a song:

1. Choose the Re-Transcribe command in the Score menu.

Notation Player will display the Re-Transcribe dialog box, such as the following:



2. Select the staves that you wish to re-transcribe. Click a staff name to toggle its selection. Use the buttons below the list of staves to select all of the staves, or to unselect all of the staves so that you can then select individual staves.
3. The re-transcription options are the same as those in the Transcription Options dialog box. Refer to the [Transcription Options](#) topic for a description of the options for voices, overlaps of notes, minimum rest size, and rhythm style.
4. If you wish to set the new transcription options as the default for future transcriptions, click the Set As Default button. This is equivalent to choosing the Transcription Options command in the Setup menu, and selecting the same options.

NOTE: Some MIDI files are recorded without reference to a metronome.

You can tell whether a MIDI file has been recorded without reference to a metronome by following this simple procedure: After Notation Player has opened the MIDI file, start playback. Watch the vertical playback cursor (blue, by default) move along with the playback. Listen to playback and start tapping the beats with your hand or foot. Does the playback cursor move in synchronization with the beats you hear? If so, the MIDI file was indeed recorded with reference to a metronome. If the beat movements of the playback cursor do not relate to the beats you hear, then the MIDI file was recorded without reference to a metronome. Notation Player cannot correctly analyze the rhythms in such MIDI files, but Notation Composer has a Rebar feature that allows you to get sheet music from such files.

3 Navigating through Notation Player and the Score

This section is organized as follows:

Parts of the Notation Window

Showing and Hiding Parts of the Window

Menus

Toolbar

Play Buttons

Volume Control

Zoom-In and Zoom-Out Buttons

Window View and Page View

Viewing Multiple Songs at a Time

Scrolling, Resizing and Zooming the Window

Scrolling the Window

Resizing the Window

Zooming the Window

Navigating through Pages of the Score

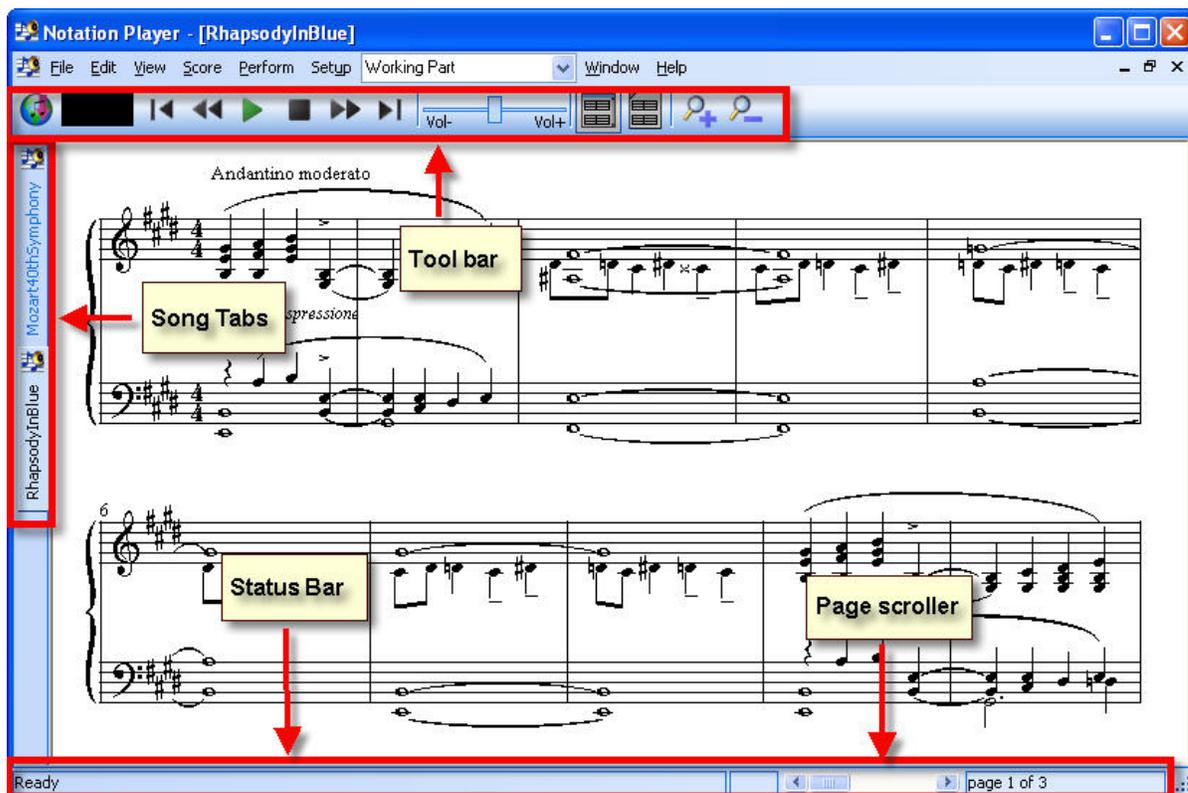
First Page, Next Page, Previous Page, and Last Page

Go to a Measure or Page

Go to a Rehearsal Mark

3.1 Parts of the Notation Window

The following picture identifies the main elements of Notation Player's window:



Each part of Notation Player's window is briefly described below. Some parts of the window are described in more detail throughout the remainder of this section.

■ Toolbar

The toolbar offers a variety of buttons and controls for playing back songs; controlling the volume level; zooming in and out; and adding key signatures and clefs. For details, see the Toolbar topic.

■ Song Tabs

The song tabs let you quickly access any song that you have open with a single click of your mouse.

■ Status Bar

The status bar shows:

- the most recent tip or error message.
- the Page Scroller, which allows you to quickly jump to any location in the score.
- the page number of the currently displayed page.

3.1.1 Showing and Hiding Parts of the Window

Notation Player offers options to show or hide most of the parts of the window described in the previous topic: the toolbar and the status bar.

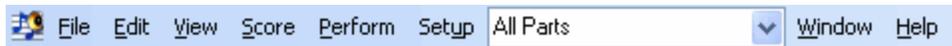
- ▶ To show or hide a part of the Notation Player window:
 - In the View menu, add or remove a checkmark next to the Show Toolbar or Show Status Bar menu item.

3.1.2 Menus

Notation Player offers a convenient way for you to learn about the purpose and use of any menu command.

- ▶ To display Help for a menu command:
 1. Click the menu, and submenu if needed, that has the command.
 2. Hold the mouse over the text of the command name.
 3. Without clicking the mouse, hit the F1 key. This will display the on-screen help topic that describes the purpose and use of the selected menu command.

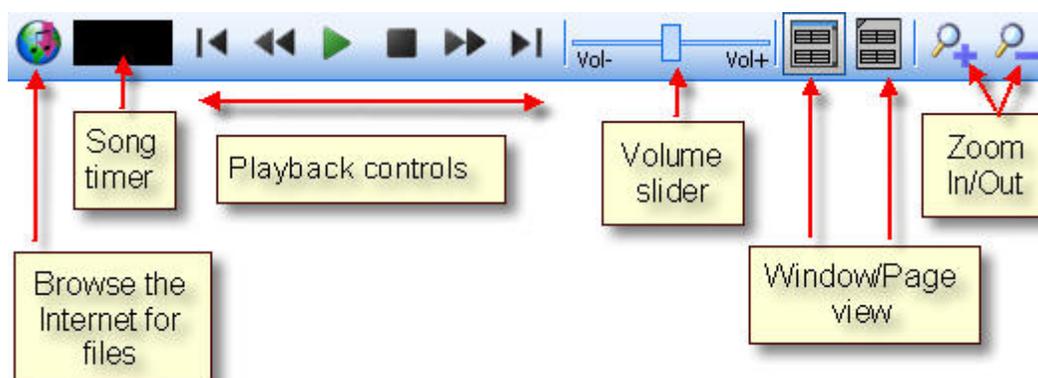
Listed below is a summary of each main menu selection in Notation Player.



- File
 - Open, download from the Internet, and close MIDI, Karaoke and Notation (.not) files.
- Edit
 - Add key signatures and clefs. Undo and redo transactions.
- View
 - Determine how the Notation Player window displays the score (in Window View or Page View) and shows or hides the palette and status bar.
- Score
 - Format the score. Re-transcribe the score.
- Perform
 - Play and control the playback of a song.
- Setup
 - Select the MIDI device for playback.
 - Set up Notation Player as the program to automatically play MIDI (.mid) and Karaoke (.kar) files.
 - Set up transcription options.
- Parts
 - Select the part (MIDI file track) you wish to display, or "All Parts".
- Window
 - Within Notation Player's window, arrange the size and positions of score windows for multiple songs.
- Help
 - Get help from Notation Player's online documentation or from Notation Software's web site.

3.1.3 Toolbar

The toolbar is displayed along the top of Notation Player's window. The buttons and controls in the toolbar are grouped as indicated:



Each group of buttons and controls are described in the topics that follow:

- Browse the Internet for MIDI Files
- Play Buttons
- Volume Controls
- Zoom-in and Zoom-Out Buttons

► To show or hide the toolbar:

- Toggle the Show Main Toolbar checkmark in the View menu.

3.1.3.1 Play Buttons

The following buttons for controlling playback and recording are located in Notation Player's toolbar:



Rewind or Previous Page

During playback, click this button to immediately re-start playback again at the beginning of the score.

If playback is not in progress, then single-click this button to go to the previous page. Double-click

it to "rewind" to the beginning of the score. The next time you hit the Playback  button, or hit the SPACE key, playback will start at the beginning of the score.



Start/Stop Playback

Click this button to start playback. This button is shown in a down position if playback is in

progress. If playback is in progress, click either this button or the Stop  button to stop the playback.



Stop

Click this button to stop playback that is in progress.



Fast Forward or Next Page

If playback is in progress, click this button to quickly play through the song at five times normal speed.

If playback is not in progress, then single-click this button to go to the next page.

3.1.3.2 Volume Control

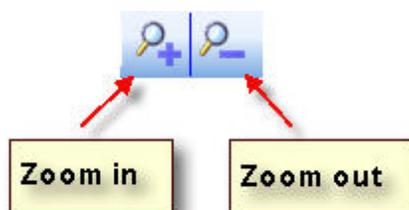
The following volume control is located in Notation Player's toolbar:



During playback you can adjust the overall volume level by dragging the volume control slider to the right or left with the mouse, or by clicking the mouse on the left or right side of the slider knob.

3.1.3.3 Zoom-In and Zoom-Out Buttons

The following buttons in Notation Player's toolbar let you temporarily enlarge or shrink the size of the score notation viewed on the screen:



Zoom In makes everything look bigger, and Zoom Out makes everything look smaller.

3.2 Window View and Page View

Notation Player offers two ways to view a score on the screen: Window View and Page View.

In Window View, Notation Player arranges the pages of the score as though the page size were exactly the size of the window. If you **change the window size**, Notation Player will automatically and quickly repaginate the score for the new "page size", which is, in this case, the window size.

In Page View, Notation Player displays an image of the page as it would be printed, which is usually larger than what can be seen all at once in the window. Therefore, in Page View, Notation Player usually displays scrollbars that enable you to scroll horizontally and/or vertically in the page. In Page View you can view the entire page by using the Zoom Out command.

TIP: Page View is the same thing as Print Preview.

Some software programs offer a Print Preview command, which enables you to preview pages exactly as they would be printed. Notation Player's Page View command does the same thing. Please note that Player does not print scores but is a viewer and audio audition player only.

In Window View, Notation Player evenly spaces the measures so that the barline of the last visible measure is right-justified in the window. As many measures are displayed as can comfortably fit horizontally. If more than one system (also called a "line", which includes multiple staves) can be displayed in the window, then multiple systems are displayed. If only one system can be displayed, but it has more staves (tracks) than can be shown without crowding, then the window adds a vertical scrollbar that enables you to view the lower staves.

In Page View, Notation Player simulates the layout of the notation symbols as they would appear on a printed page.

- ▶ To view the score in Window View:
 - Choose the Window View command in the View menu.
- ▶ To view the score in Page View:
 - Choose the Page View command in the View menu.

3.3 Viewing Multiple Song Files at a Time

You can open multiple songs in Notation Player and view them in separate sub-windows. Normally, you will see one song at a time. However, you can arrange the Notation Player window so that you can see multiple songs at the same time. You might want to do so in order to compare the notes in two songs.

- ▶ To open a second song in Notation Player:
 - Open the file as usual, using the Open command in the File menu, or download and open a MIDI file from the Internet.
- ▶ To change the view from one song to another that has been opened:
 - In the left hand side of the window, select the song tab for the song you wish to view.
- ▶ To view multiple opened songs at the same time:
 - In the Window menu, choose the Cascade, Tile Horizontally, or Tile Vertically command. These are standard Windows commands for organizing multiple windows within a single application. Try them out to see how they work.

After you have used one of these commands, you can resize the individual song windows within Notation Player's overall window by dragging sides or corners of the windows with the mouse.

3.4 Scrolling, Resizing and Zooming the Window

The Notation Player window shows some portion of the score at any given time. In Page View, the window shows some or all of one printed page of the score. In Window View, the window shows some range of measures of the score-- as many as will fit in the window.

The window will display a vertical scrollbar in the following circumstances:

- In Page View, if the entire height of the page does not fit in the window.
- In Window View, if only part of one system fits in the window.

The window will display a horizontal scrollbar in the following circumstances:

- In Page View, if the entire width of the page does not fit in the window.
- In Window View, if only part of one measure fits in the window.

If a vertical and/or horizontal scrollbar is present in the window, then you can use it to scroll the window, to see other parts of the page in Page View, or other staves of a system in Window View, or other beats of a measure in Window View. You can also scroll from one page to the next or previous. If your

mouse has a scroll wheel, you can use it to scroll the window. You can also use keyboard shortcuts, such as PAGEDOWN to scroll down through a large portion of the page, and CTRL+PAGEDOWN to advance to the top of the next page.

If you want see a larger portion of the score in the window, you can resize the window to see more. Or you can use the Zoom Out command to make the notes smaller and therefore view more notes at once.

If are editing the score and need to increase the accuracy of the placement of objects in the score, you can use the Zoom In command to make the notes and annotations larger.

All of the options summarized above are described in detail in the topics that follow.

3.4.1 Scrolling the Window

Notation Player displays a horizontal and/or vertical scrollbar along the right and bottom edges of the window if the page does not fully fit within the window.

▶ To scroll the current page displayed in the window:

- If there is a vertical scrollbar, hit the PAGEDOWN or PAGEUP key to scroll the window by almost the full height of the window. Alternatively, click the mouse cursor in an empty area of the scrollbar.

-- OR --

- To scroll by smaller amounts, move the horizontal or vertical scrollbar button with the mouse.

-- OR --

- If your mouse has a scroll wheel, scroll it up or down to scroll the window vertically.

▶ To continue scrolling to the next or previous page:

- Hit the PAGEDOWN or PAGEUP key for the next or previous page.

-- OR --

- When you reach the bottom of a page, click the bottom vertical scroll button ; or when you reach the top of the page, click the top vertical scroll button.

-- OR --

- If your mouse has a scroll wheel, continue scrolling it up or down to scroll the window vertically.

Notation Player will hesitate for about a half second between each page, so that you do not unintentionally overshoot the next page.

▶ To advance to the top of the next or previous page, without scrolling through the rest of the current page:

- Type CTRL+PAGEDOWN for the next page, or CTRL+PAGEUP for the previous page.

Also see [Navigating through Pages of the Score](#).

3.4.2 Resizing the Window

To change the size of Notation Player window, use the mouse to drag one of the corners or edges of the window. As with any Windows program, to "drag" the window corner or edge means to hold the mouse down, starting at the corner or edge, and move the mouse to the new position before releasing the mouse button. In Window View, Notation Player automatically and quickly repaginates the score so that each page exactly fits the window size.

3.4.3 Zooming the Window

Notation Player enables you to change the magnification of the score displayed on the screen. "Zooming in" increases the magnification so that the music symbols appear larger. "Zooming out" makes the symbols appear smaller, so that more of the musical score appears at once in the window.

Although you can specify exact zoom percentage levels with the Zoom Percentage command in the View menu, Notation Player may limit small zoom values to 30% or 40% if you are using Windows Millennium or 98. On Windows XP, 2000 and NT, Notation Player can handle arbitrarily small zoom levels.

NOTE: Changing the zoom level affects only the size of music symbols as displayed on the screen.

► To change the zoom level:

1. Choose the Zoom command in the View menu, and the Zoom In or Zoom Out command from the Zoom submenu.

--OR--

2. Type Z+  to zoom in, or Z+  to zoom out.

--OR--

3. In the toolbar, click the  button to zoom in, or the  button to zoom out.

--OR--

4. To change the zoom level to a specific percentage magnification, choose the Zoom command in the Zoom menu, and the Zoom Percentage command in the Zoom submenu.

► To reset the zoom level back to 100%:

1. Choose the No Zoom command from the Zoom submenu.

--OR--

2. Type Z+ENTER.

3.5 Navigating through Pages of the Score

You can go to different pages of the score by referring to any of the following:

- Page number.
- Measure number.
- Rehearsal mark.

You can accomplish this by using:

- Commands in the Go To submenu of the View menu.
- Keyboard shortcuts, such as CTRL+PAGEDOWN for next page.

- The Fast Forward  and Rewind  buttons in the main toolbar.

For details about the above navigation options, see the topics that follow.

3.5.1 First Page, Next Page, Previous Page, and Last Page

In Page View, the page on the screen is an image of the page as it would be printed. In Window View, the page on the screen simulates a printed page that is exactly the size of the window. In either Page View or Window View, you can advance forward and backward through the pages.

If the song is currently playing when you use any of the First Page, Next Page, or Previous Page commands, then the song will continue playing where it was, without jumping to the new page. After a few seconds, Notation Player will return to the page that is currently playing. However, if you use one of these commands during playback and you decide you would like playback to jump to the new page, just click on that page.

▶ To advance to the next or previous page:

- Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and Next Page or Prev Page in the GoTo submenu.

-- OR --

- Type SHIFT+PAGEDOWN for next page, or SHIFT+PAGEUP key for previous page.

- Click the Fast Forward  or Rewind  button in the main toolbar, for the next or previous page.

▶ To go to the first or last page of the score:

- Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and First Page or Last Page in the GoTo submenu.

-- OR --

- Type CTRL+HOME for first page, or CTRL+END key for the last page.

-- OR --

- Double-click the Rewind  or Fast Forward  button in the main toolbar, for the first or last page.

3.5.2 Go to a Measure or Page

In Page View, the page on the screen is an image of the page as it would be printed. In Window View, the page on the screen simulates a printed page that is exactly the size of the window. In either case, the pages are numbered, as indicated in the bottom right corner of the window:

page 5 of 29

If the page count is reported as ". . ." instead of a number, this means that Notation Player is still busy formatting remaining pages of the score.

▶ To go to a specific page of the score:

1. Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and Go to Page in the Go To submenu.
You will be presented with a dialog to enter a page number.
2. Enter the page number.

If you enter a page number beyond the end of the score, Notation Player will display the last page of the score.

▶ To go to a specific measure of the score:

1. Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and Go to Measure in the Go To submenu.
You will be presented with a dialog to enter a measure number.
2. Enter the measure number.
If you enter a measure number beyond the end of the score, Notation Player will display the last page of the score.

▶ To go to the beginning of the score:

- Double-click the Rewind  button
-- OR --
- Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and First Page in the Go To submenu.
-- OR --
- Type Ctrl-Home.

▶ To go to the end of the score:

- Double-click the Fast Forward  button.
- Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and Last Page in the Go To submenu.
-- OR --
- Type Ctrl-End.

If the song is currently playing when you use any of the above commands, then the song will continue playing where it was, even though you will be looking at a different page. After a few seconds, Notation Player will return to display the page that is currently playing. If after using Go To during playback you want playback to jump to that page, just click somewhere on that page.

If the song is not currently playing when you use Go To command, then the playback position (the song location where playback will resume) will be set to that page. To view another page without changing the playback position, use Next Page or Previous Page one or more times to move to that page. The Next Page and Previous Page commands do not change the playback position.

3.5.3 Go to a Rehearsal Mark

A Notation (.not) (but not MIDI (.mid) or Karaoke (.kar) file) may include rehearsal marks there were added by the author using Notation Musician or Composer.

▶ To go to the location of rehearsal mark:

1. Choose the Go To command in the View menu, and Rehearsal Mark in the Go To submenu.
Notation Player will display the Go To Rehearsal Mark dialog box.
2. In the dialog box, select the rehearsal mark that you want to go to.

4 Playing Songs

With Notation Player you can play back a song while viewing the score on the screen. Notation Player highlights notes as they are played, and automatically turns pages.

This section describes:

- Quick MIDI Device Setup
- Starting and Stopping Playback
- Fast Forwarding
- Changing the Song Position During Playback
- Turning Off Stuck Notes
- Controlling Overall Volume Level
- Playing or Ignoring Repeats and Endings During Playback
- What to Do if You Do Not Hear Sound

4.1 Quick MIDI Device Setup

Most computer systems include MIDI soundcards and alternative synthesizers (which we call MIDI devices) for creating instrument sounds for MIDI playback. You might find it helpful to think about a synthesizer (MIDI device) as an orchestra ready to play various kinds of instrument sounds at your request. Your system most likely has a couple of MIDI devices, which are like different orchestras with different personalities or sound qualities.

The Quick MIDI Device Setup command in the Setup menu lets you quickly select and test the alternative MIDI devices. You should use the Quick MIDI Device Setup command especially if you do not hear any sound when you first run Notation Player, or after you have installed a new soundcard.

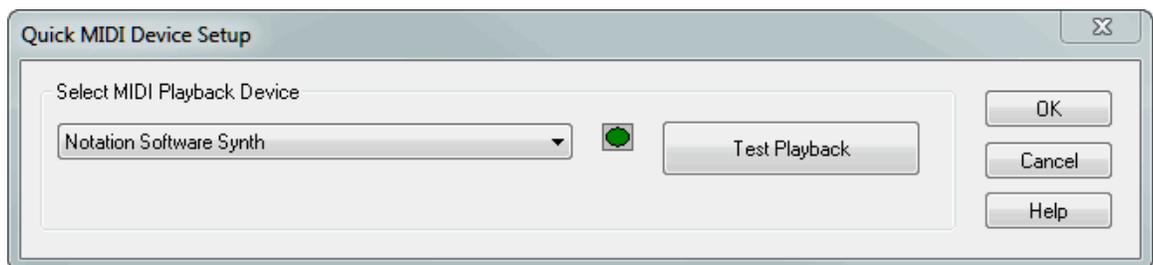
The MIDI playback device that you select in the Quick MIDI Device Setup window will be the default playback device assigned to any new MIDI or Karaoke file you subsequently open.

If your soundcard is externally connected via a MIDI cable to a MIDI keyboard (or MIDI guitar or other input device), then the Quick MIDI Device Setup command lets you quickly test whether the connection to your MIDI keyboard is working.

► To test and select a MIDI playback device on your system:

1. Choose the Quick MIDI Device Setup command in the Setup menu.

Notation Player will display the Quick MIDI Device Setup window, as illustrated here:



2. To test the sound for a playback device, select one in the dropdown list, and then click the Test Playback button.

Notation Player will display and play a 12-note chromatic scale. The notes will be highlighted as they play. Also, the green playback indicator in the Quick MIDI Device Setup

window will display a bright green color as the notes are played. Upon completion of the playback, Notation Player will close the window that displays the notes.

If the device is an internal device on your Windows system, then you should hear sound through the speakers connected to your soundcard. If the device is external, such as a MIDI keyboard capable of producing its own sound, then you should hear that device play the sound.

3. If you do not hear sound for a device when you choose the Test Playback option, then some possible explanations and remedies are discussed in What To Do If You Do Not Hear Any Sound.
4. Click the OK button when you have selected the desired playback device.
5. After you click OK, if you have already opened a song, Notation Player will display a simple dialog box that offers you the option to reassign the song to the newly assigned default device.

NOTE: Notation (.not) files may assign tracks to more than one device. If your system has Windows MIDI output ports named exactly as those of the author of the Notation file, then you will the tracks will be correctly assigned on your system, regardless of which MIDI device you select in the above dialog box.

If your system does not have the same Windows MIDI output ports as those used by the author of the Notation file, then you will be able to assign only one device to all of the tracks with Notation Player. Other versions of Notation (Musician and Composer) support reassigning multiple devices to the tracks.

4.2 Starting and Stopping Playback

► To start playback:

1. Choose the Start Playback command from the Perform menu.
- OR--
2. hit the SPACE key.
- OR--
3. Click the Play  button in the toolbar at the top of the window.

► To stop playback:

1. Choose the Stop Playback command from the Perform menu. (The Stop Playback menu item replaces the Start Playback menu item while playback is in progress.)
- OR--
2. hit the SPACE key.
- OR--
3. Click the Stop  button in the toolbar at the top of the window.
- OR--
4. Toggle the Play  button in the toolbar at the top of the window.

4.3 Fast Forwarding

► To temporarily fast forward through the song during playback:

- Click the Fast Forward  button once to increase the playback speed by a factor of five.
- Click the button a second time to resume the original playback speed.

4.4 Changing the Song Position During Playback

While the song is playing back, you can immediately change the playback position by clicking the mouse elsewhere on the same page or on another page.

During playback you can change the currently displayed page, even if the music is playing from a different page. Use the Next Page or Prev Page commands of the Page menu, or hit the PAGEDOWN or PAGEUP keys. Playback will continue uninterrupted, without changing its song position. This feature is intended to offer you the opportunity to look ahead (or behind) in the score, without having to commit to a decision to change where the song is currently playing.

If you then click somewhere on the currently displayed page, playback will immediately jump to that position.

If you do not click anywhere after moving to another page, Notation Player will, after a few seconds, return to the page that is currently playing.

4.5 Turning Off Stuck Notes

Occasionally, you may hear stuck notes that continue sounding indefinitely. This can happen if the connection to your MIDI device is temporarily disrupted, so that it does not signal the "note-off" corresponding to a preceding "note-on".

If you hear stuck notes, you can turn them off, either during playback, or after playback has completed.

► To turn off stuck notes:

1. Choose the Turn Off Stuck Notes command from the Perform menu.
- OR --
2. Type CTRL+SHIFT+S.

Note that this command not only turns off the stuck notes but also turns off any other notes that happen to be playing.

4.6 Controlling the Overall Volume Level

If you do not hear any sound during playback, then see [What To Do When You Do Not Hear Any Sound](#).

There are several ways that you can control the volume level for playback:

1. Turn the volume level up or down on the speakers connected to your computer.
2. Use Notation Player's volume control, located in the main toolbar:



With Notation Player's volume control, you can dynamically change the volume level of one or more selected instruments during playback.

- Use the Windows volume control in the Windows task bar:



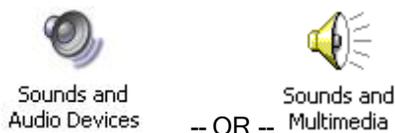
Windows will then display the following sound volume level control:



Move the volume lever up and down to increase and decrease the volume level.

- On some versions of Windows, the volume level for playback of MIDI can be controlled separately from the volume level for playback of other types of audio. This feature is particularly useful when you find, for example, that MIDI playback generally sounds a lot different than the Windows welcome sound, or the playback of others kinds of sound files.

To separately control the volume level for MIDI, click the Windows Start menu at the bottom, left corner of the screen. Windows will display a pop-up menu. Choose the Control Panel option, which is a suboption of Setting on some versions of Windows. In the Control Panel folder, choose the Sounds and Multimedia (or Sounds and Audio Devices) option:



Recent versions of Windows will display a Sounds and Audio Device Properties dialog box. Click the Volume tab, and then the Advanced button. Windows will show the the Playback Control dialog box, such as show below. For earlier versions of Windows, navigate to the Play Control Panel. In the Play Control Panel, observe that there is a separate volume control for MIDI. Adjust the MIDI Volume lever to control the volume of MIDI playback relative to that of other types of audio playback.

4.7 Ignoring Repeats and Endings

A Notation (.not), but not MIDI (.mid) or Karaoke (.kar) file, may include repeat marks and endings there were added by the author using Notation Musician or Composer.

By default Notation Player performs the repeats and endings during playback. However, you can instruct Notation Player to ignore them.

- ▶ To perform or ignore repeats and endings during playback:
 - Toggle the Ignore Repeats and Endings option in the Perform menu.

4.8 What To Do If You Do Not Hear Any Sound

If you do not hear any sound during playback of a song, you should use the Quick MIDI Device Setup to try out alternative MIDI playback devices that are available on your system.

This topic offers several possible explanations and remedies for the problem of no sound. Some explanations and remedies are not specific to Notation Player. It is quite possible that you will not

hear MIDI playback in any MIDI program, not just Notation Player. If you have explored several possible explanations and remedies within Notation Player, and still do not hear sound, it is a good idea to determine whether the problem is just with using Notation Player, or whether the problem is common to any MIDI program on your system. A good way to do this is to try playing a MIDI file using another MIDI program. We recommend using the Windows Multimedia Player, which is almost always installed on a Windows system. For detailed instructions on testing MIDI playback using the Windows Multimedia Player, see the procedure at the end of this topic.

The first test you should do within Notation Player is to try the Test Playback option in the Quick MIDI Device Setup window. If you unexpectedly do not hear sound for a particular device, then several possible explanations and remedies are offered below. The most common explanations, and the easiest ones to solve, are listed first:

- Your sound speakers are turned off or are disconnected.

Make sure that the speakers are connected to your soundcard; that the power cord to the speakers is connected; and that the volume level of the speakers is turned up.

- Another application is using the MIDI output device.

In this case, exit the other application and try the MIDI device again in Notation Player. It may be necessary to also exit Notation Player and then start Notation Player again.

- The volume level in Notation Player is set to zero (silent).

In this case, increase Notation Player's volume level.

- The Windows sound volume level is set to zero, or is muted. In this case, click the following icon in the Windows taskbar at the bottom of the screen:



on Windows 7 or Vista,  on Windows XP, or  on earlier versions of Windows

Windows will then display the following (or a similar) sound volume level control:

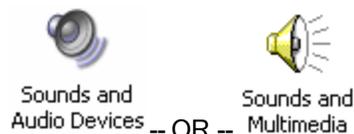


Make sure that the volume level is above the lowest setting, and that there is no checkmark for Mute.

- The specific volume level for MIDI playback is muted or set to an inaudible level.

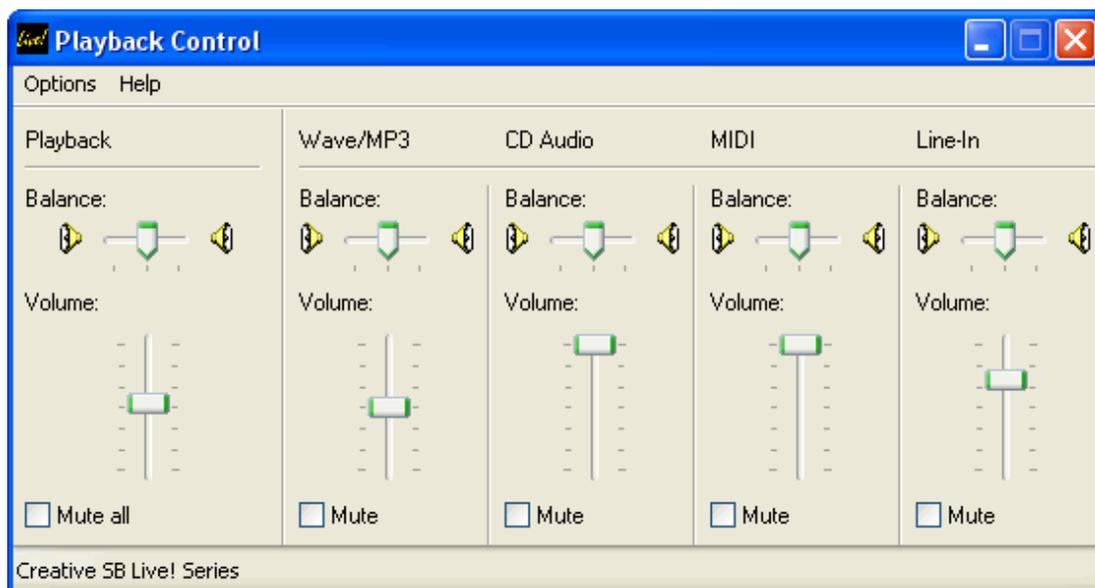
On some versions of Windows, the volume level for playback of MIDI can be controlled separately from the volume level for playback of other types of audio. Make sure that the volume level for MIDI playback is not zero and not muted, as follows.

Click the Windows Start menu at the bottom, left corner of the screen. Windows will display a pop-up menu. Choose the Settings / Control Panel option. In the Control Panel folder, choose the option named "Sounds and Audio Devices" or "Sounds and Multimedia":



Windows XP will display the Sounds and Audio Devices dialog box. Click the Volume tab. Under "Device Volume", click the Advanced button.

Windows will display the Playback Control panel. It looks like the following on Windows XP, and similar to this on earlier versions of Windows:



Observe that there is a separate volume control for MIDI. Make sure that the MIDI volume level is above the lowest setting, and that there is no checkmark for Mute.

- You have opened a Notation (.not) file that assigns tracks to multiple devices. Notation Player cannot predict how you would want to reassign the tracks to devices on your system. By default, it assigns all of the tracks to the single MIDI device that you specify with the Quick MIDI Device Setup command; but that might overload the device with too many (more than 16) track assignments. In that case, some tracks may not be heard, or might conflict with other tracks.

You can correct this somewhat rare problem by using the Reassign MIDI Device command in the Perform menu.

- You selected an external playback device, but there is no external MIDI device, such as a MIDI keyboard, connected via a MIDI cable to the MIDI Out connector of your soundcard.

In this case, choose an internal playback device instead of an external device.

- There is a problem with the external MIDI device or cable connecting it to your computer.

If the output device is an external MIDI synthesizer or sound module connected via a MIDI cable to the MIDI output connector of your soundcard, then there are a couple of reasons why you may not hear any sound.

- Make sure that the output device power is turned on.
- Make sure that the cable is connected to the MIDI connector of the soundcard. The other end of the cable should be connected to the MIDI In connector of the external MIDI device.
- Make sure that the volume level of the external device is at an audible level.

- The device driver for the MIDI device is not installed correctly.

To determine if this is the case, explore whether this MIDI device can be used by another MIDI application, such as the Windows Multimedia Player, as described in the last procedure of this topic.

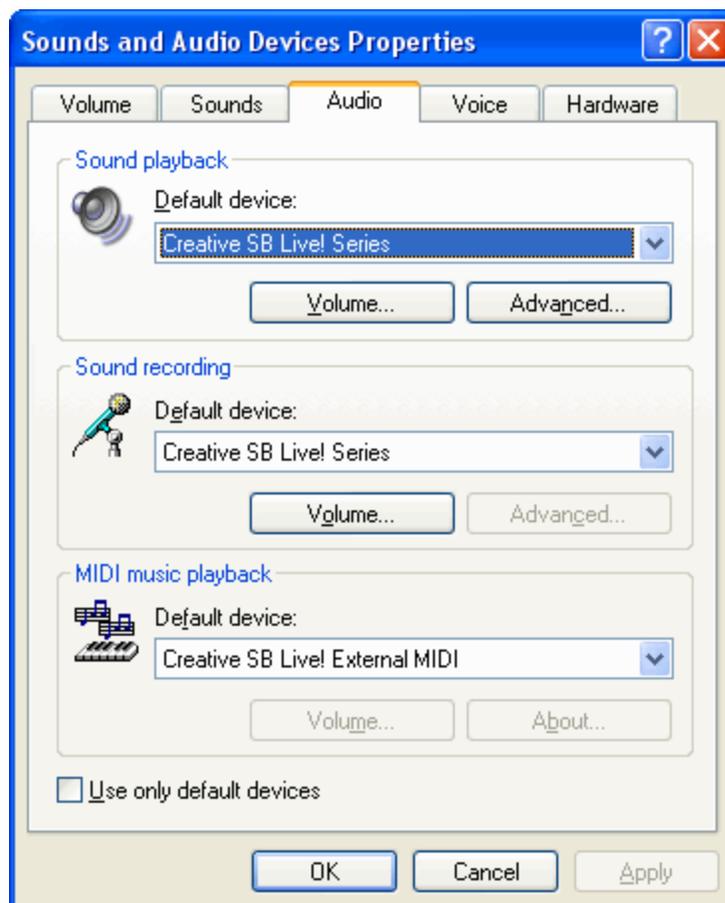
If the device cannot be used in other MIDI applications, then try re-installing the device drivers for your MIDI soundcard.

Sometimes problems with non-responsive MIDI devices can be resolved by updating the driver to the most recent one available from its manufacturer. Search the Internet for the manufacturer's web site. Look for the "download" or "drivers" section of its web site. Find and download the driver that matches the model of your MIDI device and the version of Windows you are using (Windows 98, Me, 2000, XP, etc.)

- To test the playback of MIDI files using another MIDI program on your system, and using a specific MIDI playback device:

TIP: Although the names of the Windows options, folders, and dialog boxes vary among different versions of Windows, the following instructions are still basically the same.

1. Review, and optionally change, the default MIDI playback device that Windows chooses for playing MIDI files:
 - (a) With the left mouse button, click the Start button in the lower, left corner of the screen.
Windows will display the Start menu.
 - (b) Choose Settings in the Start menu, and Control Panel in the Settings submenu.
Windows will display the Control Panel folder.
 - (c) In the Control Panel folder, choose Sounds and Multimedia.
Windows will display the Sounds and Multimedia Properties window.
 - (d) In the Sounds and Multimedia Properties window, choose the Audio tab.
The window will look like this:



- (e) Make note of the MIDI Music Playback default device.

2. Run the Windows Multimedia player, as follows:
 - (a) With the left mouse button, click the Start button in the lower, left corner of the screen. Move the cursor to the "All Programs" listing.
Windows will display a menu.
 - (b) In the menu, choose Accessories.
 - (c) In the Accessories submenu, choose Entertainment.
 - (d) In the Entertainment submenu, choose Windows Media Player.
This will start the Windows Media Player program.
3. In the Windows Media Player, play the `Minuet.mid` MIDI file that is installed with Notation Player:
 - (a) In the File menu of the Windows Media Player, choose the Open command.
 - (b) In the File Open dialog box, navigate to this directory, if it is not already opened as the default directory:

```
c:\Program Files\Notation\Songs
```
 - (c) Double-click the file name `Minuet.mid`.
4. Play the MIDI file by pressing the play control in the Windows Media Player, or by choosing the Play command in the Play menu.
5. If you do not hear sound from Windows Media Player, then repeat the following steps until you find an available MIDI device by which you can hear sound in the Windows Media Player:
 - (a) Exit the Windows Media Player.
 - (b) Repeat all of the steps in this procedure, starting at step #1, except as noted next.
 - (c) After step 1(d), select another available MIDI playback device.
6. Once you have found a MIDI device that works with the Windows Media Player, select that device in the Quick MIDI Device Setup.
7. If you do not find a MIDI device that works with the Windows Media Player, then there may be a problem with the installation of the soundcard and/or its drivers on your system. Try re-installing your soundcard driver, or downloading and installing the latest version of its driver from the web site of the manufacturer of your soundcard.

4.9 Reassigning MIDI Devices

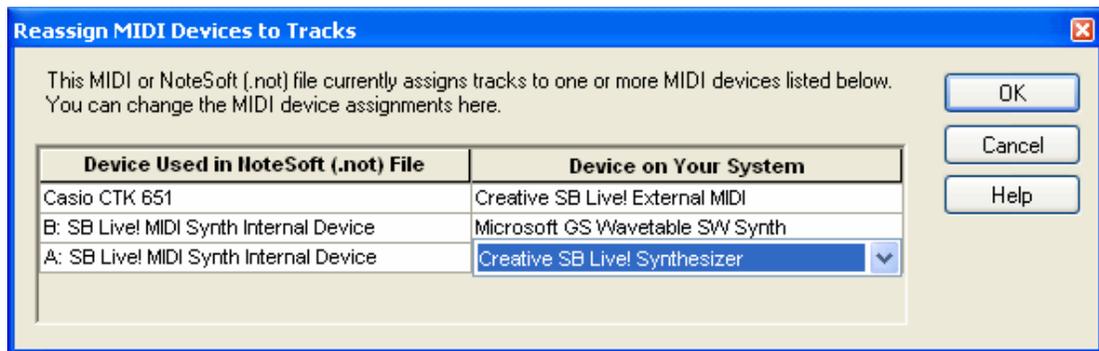
Most MIDI files and Notation (.not) files play back to a single MIDI device. Normally, this will be the MIDI device that you specify with the Quick MIDI Device Setup command.

Some Notation (.not) files assign more than one MIDI device to the tracks. The Notation file stores for each track the name of the device the track is assigned to. If your system happens to have the same MIDI devices as those used by the author of the Notation file, and if the author has not renamed the devices, then Notation Player will automatically assign the tracks to the same MIDI devices on your system as those intended by the author of the Notation file.

If the Notation file has tracks assigned to more than one MIDI device, and the devices do not have the same name as those on your system, then Notation Player will need your help in reassigning the devices. If you do not hear all of the tracks (instruments) during playback, one possible reason is that the tracks were assigned to devices that are not present on your system. You can easily fix this problem using the Reassign MIDI Devices command in the Perform menu.

- ▶ To reassign MIDI devices to tracks in the Notation (.not) file:
 - Choose the Reassign MIDI Devices command in the Perform menu.

Notation Player will present a dialog box such as shown below:



The MIDI devices listed in the left column are those that were assigned to tracks by the author of the Notation (.not) file. The list of devices in the right column will be initially blank.

- For device listed in the list column, select a MIDI device that is present on your system. Click the mouse in the right cell. Notation Player will present a list of MIDI devices available on your system.
- Click the OK button to finalize the MIDI device reassignments.
- Play the song to confirm that all of the tracks (instruments) are heard. If not, then try assigning different MIDI devices.

5 Formatting the Score

Notation Player offers options listed below for formatting the score:

Show or Hide Instrument Names

Hide Empty Staves

Measure Numbers

The above options serve the most common needs for reviewing scores quickly. For advanced formatting options, such as inserting page breaks and system breaks, or changing the font size of individual music symbols or text, you will need Notation Musician or Notation Composer.

A Notation (.not) file may have been carefully prepared by the author with special formatting. In this case, it is generally advised that you do not edit the Notation file, unless you have a good reason. Otherwise, the formatting prepared by the author will be disrupted. Notation Player does not offer the tools that Notation Musician or Notation Composer do for re-formatting the score.

A Notation (.not) file may include multiple instrumental or vocal parts for a small or large ensemble. You can select each part in Notation Player and see it, exactly as originally prepared by the Notation file author.

5.1 Selecting a Part

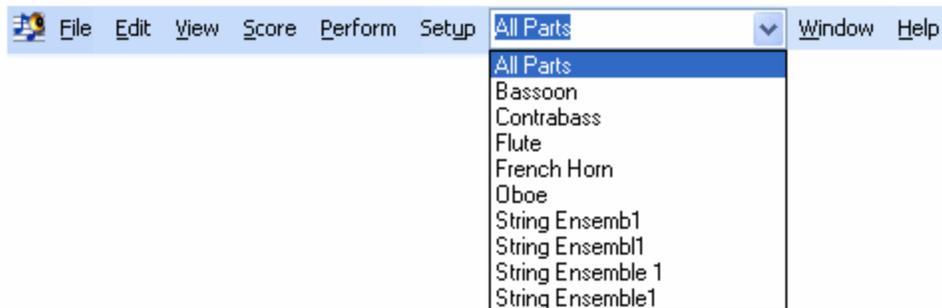
Use the Parts List in Notation Player's menu to select the part you wish to view.

If a MIDI (.mid) or Karaoke (.kar) file has multiple tracks, then the Parts List will have one entry for "All Parts", plus one entry for each track in the file. You can view all of the parts at once, or any one of them. (In Notation Musician and Composer you can view any combination of parts at one time.)

A Notation (.not) file may include separately formatted parts prepared by the author using Notation Musician or Composer. A part typically displays the notes performed by one musician in a small ensemble, or by musicians playing a like instrument in a large ensemble. A good way to think about Notation's definition of a part is to visualize the printed music that one member of an ensemble reads during a performance. If a Notation file has been prepared with parts, then you can select any part to view and play.

► To select a part:

1. Click the dropdown arrow at the right of the Parts List in Notation Player's menu:



2. Click on one of the parts.

5.2 Showing or Hiding Instrument Names

When you open a MIDI file, Notation Player will, by default, display the track names as instrument names along the left side of staves:

The image shows a musical score snippet for three instruments: Violin 1, Violin 2, and Cello. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. A red arrow points from a yellow box labeled 'Instrument Names' to the instrument labels on the left.

If you open a Notation (.not) file, the instrument names may or may not be visible, depending on how the author of the file saved them using Notation Musician or Composer.

- ▶ To show or hide instrument names:
 - Toggle the checkmark for Show or Hide Instrument Names in the Score menu.

5.3 Hiding Empty Staves

In a conductor's score, it is common practice to present staves only for those instruments that are playing. For example, if a system in the score displays measures 10 through 14, and the flutes are not playing in these measures, then the conductor's part omits the flute staff in this system.

Notation Player offers an option to hide empty staves, according to this common practice for a conductor's part. If a staff has lyrics, but no notes, Notation Player will still display the staff. If no staves in a system have notes or lyrics, then Notation Player displays only the first staff.

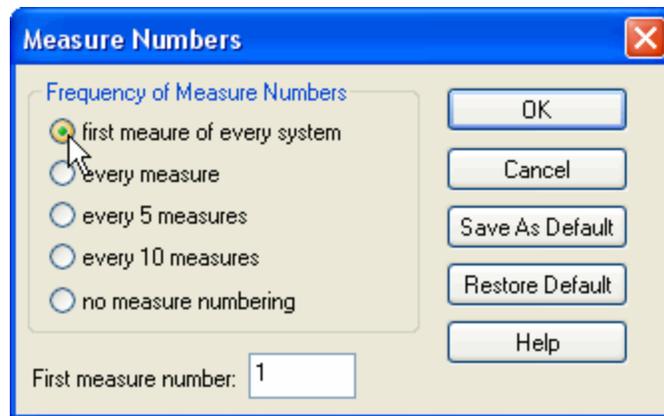
- ▶ To hide empty staves:
 - In the Score menu choose the Hide Empty Staves command.

5.4 Measure Numbers

Notation Player offers several options for displaying measure numbers, such as at every 5th measure, or at the first measure of every system.

If a large musical work is divided into more than one MIDI file, then you might want the measure number of the second file to follow the last measure number of the previous file. You can do this as described below.

- ▶ To choose a measure numbering option:
 1. In the Score menu choose the Measure Numbers command.
Notation Player will display the Measure Numbers dialog:



2. Choose one of the options in the dialog, and click OK.

All of the options are self-explanatory except perhaps for the first one: "first measure of every system". A system is one line of measures on a page. The line of measures includes the staves for all of the instruments or voices that are playing. Thus, this option displays a measure number at the first measure of each line (system) on each page of the score.

► To specify some starting measure number, other than 1, for the continuation of a song in a second MIDI file:

- Follow the same procedure as above. Enter the starting measure of the second `.not` file in the "First measure number" field of the Measure Numbers dialog box.

6 Editing and Saving Songs

Notation Player offers various options for formatting and editing the score. The options for formatting the score are described in a separate section in this Users Guide.

Notation Player enables editing only of a few important elements of the score. Notation Player's main purpose is to display and play the sheet music for a MIDI or Karaoke file, or of a Notation (.not) file previously authored by a user of Notation Musician or Composer.

Notation Player especially enables the editing of key signatures and clefs because these music symbols are typically missing in MIDI files, and Notation Player cannot always guess correctly what they should be. Notation Player gives you a chance to correct mistakes it might make in determining key signatures and clefs.

Notation Player might also make some mistakes in determining the accidentals (enharmonic spelling) of notes, such as C# versus Db. Usually, the scores are quite readable even if a few such spelling mistakes are made. If you find that you need to correct the note spellings, then you should consider using Notation Musician or Notation Composer.

The topics that follow describe how to:

- Add Key Signatures
- Add Clefs
- Collapse Multiple Measure Rests
- Reverse (Undo) Commands

6.1 Adding Key Signatures

You can add key signature changes at the beginning of any measure of any staff in the score.

In transcribing a MIDI file, Notation Player examines whether the file includes key signatures. If it does, then Notation Player uses the key signatures saved in the file. Otherwise, Notation Player analyzes the harmony of the song to determine the key signature. This analysis does not account for possible mid-song key signature changes. Notation Player determines a single key signature for the whole song.

If you open a Notation (.not) file, you may find that some parts have been transposed according to the key of the instrument, such as a B-flat clarinet. If you want parts displayed in concert pitch rather than transposed pitch, then you should use the Select Part command in the Score menu to find out whether the author of the Notation file had saved an extra conductor score in concert pitch; if so, then select the concert pitch score.

You should not attempt to convert transposed instrument parts to concert pitch parts by changing the key signature. Changing the key signature will not transpose (or remove the transposition of) notes. Rather, changing the key signature only adds or removes sharps or flats in front of notes.

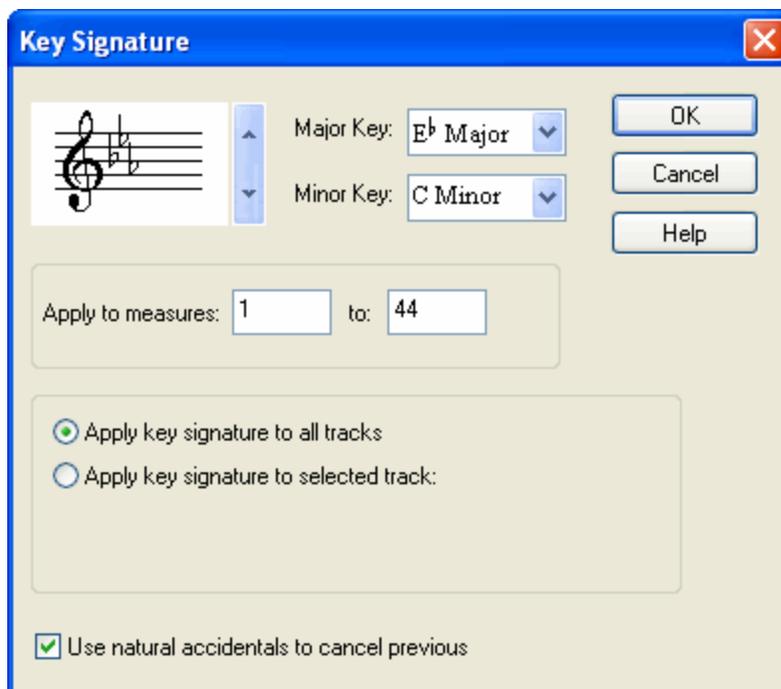
► To insert a key signature:

1. Choose the Add Key Signature command in the Edit menu.

The mouse cursor will turn into this shape: 

2. Click the mouse anywhere in the measure where you want the key signature to be added or changed.

Notation Player will present you with the following dialog box:



3. Choose the key signature from the dialog box by using the up and down arrows to spin through 0 to 7 flats or sharps, or select the key signature by major or minor key name.
4. If you wish the key signature change to be applied to all parts, rather than to just the part where you clicked the mouse, then set a checkmark for "Apply key signature to all parts".
5. Add or remove a checkmark in the last box, according to whether you want the new key signature to be preceded with natural accidentals for each accidental removed in the new key signature. For example, if the previous measure has a key signature of four sharps, and the new key signature is two sharps, then this option produces the following key signature with two cancelation natural accidentals:



6. Click the OK to complete the change.

Notation Player will apply the new key signature from your selected measure up to the next measure where there is a different key signature, or to the end of the song if there are no other key signature changes.

▶ To change a key signature:

- Follow the same instructions as above, adding the new key signature "on top" of the old one.

▶ To remove a key signature:

- Follow the same instructions as above, choosing a key signature that is the same as the other key signature immediately preceding the key signature which you wish to remove.

6.2 Adding Clefs

You can add clef changes at the beginning or middle of any measure of any staff in the score.

Clef information is not stored in MIDI files. Therefore, in transcribing a MIDI file, Notation Player guesses what the clefs should be based on a number of factors. Usually Notation Player makes good guesses, but these guesses will not always be correct. You can correct the clefs by following the procedure below.

► To insert a clef:

1. Choose the Add Clef command in the Edit menu.

The mouse cursor will turn into this shape: 

2. Click the mouse anywhere in the measure where you want the clef to be added or changed.

Notation Player will present you with the following dialog box:



3. Choose the clef from the dialog box by using the up and down arrows to spin through the various choices.
4. Click the OK to complete the change.

Notation Player will apply the clef from its location up to the next measure where there is a different clef.

► To change a clef:

- Follow the same instructions as above, adding the new clef "on top" of the old one.

► To remove a clef:

- Follow the same instructions as above, choosing a clef that is the same as the other clef immediately preceding the clef which you wish to remove.

6.3 Collapsing Multiple Measure Rests

Throughout a score, wherever there are two or more measures with only rests for all of the staves, you can specify whether each measure will be displayed with a whole measure rest, or whether all measures are collapsed into a multiple measure rest. The following is an example of a two-measure rest:



► To display multiple measure rests:

- In the Score menu, turn on the checkmark for Collapse Multiple Measure Rests.

► To display each measure with its own whole measure rest:

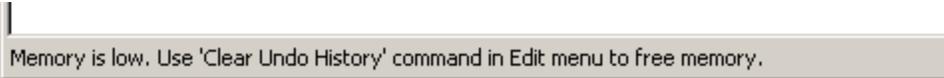
- Turn off the checkmark for Collapse Multiple Measure Rests in the Score menu.

6.4 Multiple Level Undo

Notation Player supports multiple level undo. For example, if you change the font size, then add a clef in some staff, and then use the Hide Empty Staves command, you can undo all of these editing operations, called transactions, one by one in reverse order. Further, you can undo several transactions at once. Also, once you have undone a transaction, you can change your mind and redo it again.

Note that if you make some change to the score after undoing a transaction, then the undo of that transaction is committed. That is, you can no longer redo that undone transaction.

Notation Player's multiple level undo feature requires the allocation of additional memory for each transaction that is saved. Eventually, if little memory is available on your system, Notation Player will display the following message in the status bar:



Memory is low. Use 'Clear Undo History' command in Edit menu to free memory.

When you see this message, you should use the Clear Undo History command in the Edit menu. If you need to undo any recent editing operations, you should undo them first before using the Clear Undo History command. After you use the Clear Undo History command, the "memory is low" message will usually go away. If the message is still displayed, then you may need to exit other programs that are running at the same time as Notation Player. If that does not work, then save your work with the Save or Save As command in the File menu; exit Notation Player; then run Notation Player again and reopen the file.

► To undo one or more of the most recent editing operations (transactions):

1. Click the Edit menu in the main menu bar. Beneath the Edit menu label, a command name for undoing the most recent transactions will be listed, such as "Undo Set Key Signature." The undo command for the first most recent transaction will be listed first; the undo command for next most recent transaction will be listed second; and so on.
2. Click the first Undo transaction command listed to undo the most recent transaction.

-- OR --

Click some other Undo transaction command further down the list. All of the transactions from that point through the most recent will be undone.

-- OR --

Type CTRL+Z. This is a standard keystroke combination for the Undo command in most Windows software applications.

After you undo one or more transactions, the next time you view the Edit menu, it will display Redo transaction names for each of the most recently undone transactions.

► To redo one or more of the most recent undone operations (transactions):

1. Click the Edit menu in the main menu bar. Beneath the Edit menu label, review the list of Redo command names, such as "Redo Set Clef".
2. Click the first Redo transaction command listed to redo the most recently undone transaction.

-- OR --

Click some other Redo transaction command further down the list. All of the transactions from the first up to the one you clicked will be redone.

-- OR --

Type CTRL+Y. This is a standard keystroke combination for the Redo command in most Windows software applications.

► To free memory used to support the undo of transactions:

1. Make sure that you do not want to undo any previous transactions, because once you follow this procedure, you will no longer be able to undo them.
2. Choose the Clear Undo History command in the Edit menu.

7 About Notation Musician and Composer

If you are enjoying the free Notation Player, then you might enjoy also using one of the other music software programs in Notation Software's Notation product line, as summarized below. For a detailed comparison of features in the four Notation products, see Comparison of Notation Products.

Who It's For	Notation Product	What It's For
Music Lovers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Watch the notes as they play your favorite music. ■ View and play Notation (.not) files saved by any Notation program.
Music Hobbyists Instrument Ensemble Members Choir Members		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Have more fun listening to music. ■ Practice singing or playing your instrument. ■ Save money on sheet music. ■ Learn music notation. <p>For more details, see About Notation Musician or visit our website to learn more about Notation Musician.</p>
Music Students (Voice and Instrument) Musical Parents of Students Music Teachers Instrument Ensemble Directors Choir Directors Semi-Professional and Professional Musicians Song-Writers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enjoy a truly musician-friendly user interface. ■ Arrange music for your own playing or singing. ■ Arrange music for your child or music student. ■ Practice music. ■ Prepare parts for your band or choir. ■ Compose and record your own songs and music. ■ Prepare music that not only <i>looks</i> good but also <i>sounds</i> great <p>For more details, see About Notation Composer or visit our website to learn more about Notation Composer.</p>

7.1 About Notation Musician



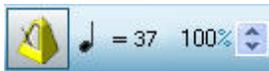
Notation Musician is the first member in the Notation product line above the free Notation Player version. Notation Musician adds to Notation Player many features that offer more musical enjoyment, educational value, and practical uses.

The primary purposes of Notation Musician are summarized below. For a tabular comparison of features in Notation Musician and Notation Player, see Comparison of Notation Products.

- indicates a feature or purpose shared by both Notation Musician and Notation Player
- indicates a feature or purpose included in Notation Musician but not Notation Player

Have more fun listening to music

- Download any of 100,000s of MIDI files on the Internet. Notation Musician converts MIDI files to sheet music with amazing accuracy.
- Watch the notes on the screen as they play. Hear and see the score as a conductor does.
- Slow down the tempo for closer listening.



- Increase the volume for a selected instrument so that you can focus your listening on that instrument.
- Improve your listening skills, and enhance your enjoyment of music with an exciting new visual dimension: the music notation.

Practice singing or playing your instrument

- Play along with your acoustic instrument, or sing along, as you read the notes from your part from the screen.
- Let Notation Musician play the accompaniment for other instruments.
- Transpose the music for your instrument or voice range.
- Slow down the tempo when you are first learning the music.
- Let Notation automatically turn pages for you.
- Set up practice loops for any range of measures, for any number of repeats, with optionally increasing tempo.

Save money on sheet music

- Convert to sheet music any of 100,000s of MIDI files on the Internet.
- Correct errors that Notation might make transcribing the MIDI file to sheet music, such as enharmonic spelling errors (eg, C# versus Db).

- Add a wide variety of music annotations, such as: accent marks, dynamic marks, hairpin crescendos, slurs (phrase marks), sustain pedal marks, 8va (octave) marks, such as shown below:



- Editing the beaming of notes.
- Convert written-out graces, trills and tremolos to notated ornaments, such as illustrated below:



- Annotate the score with free text, such as for tempo marks:

Allegro (♩=124)

- Add page titles, headers, and footers.

A musical score for Brass Section 1 and Brass Section 2. The score is annotated with page headers and footers. A yellow box contains the text "Page text for the page header." with red arrows pointing to "Star Mission" on the left and "Page 2" on the right. The score includes measures 9, 10, and 11.

- For the **voice**, easily merge lyrics and the melody, or add and edit lyrics.

A musical staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The melody is written with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Herz-lich lieb hab' ich dich, o Herr, ich Die gan-ze Welt er-freut mich nicht, nach

- For the **piano**, split a MIDI keyboard track into right- and left-hand staves. With a single command, prepare a piano reduction of a instrumental or choir score.
- For the **guitar**, **autoharp**, and **piano**, rearrange the score into a "fake book" with chord names, Musician analyzes the harmony of the music and displays chord names, such as C7 and Gm9.

A musical staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The melody is written with chord names above it: Cm7, F7, and Bb7.

Enjoy a truly musician-friendly user interface

- Think like a musician, not like a computer expert, to intuitively do what you want.
- Enjoy an elegant, un-cluttered user interface, which is optimized for learning as you go.

Arrange music for your own playing or singing

- Find a music (MIDI) file on the Internet for the song or piece you want to play, and convert it to sheet music.
- Arrange the music to fit your performance skills.
- Transpose the music for your instrument or voice range.
- Add your own musical style to the arrangement. Add notes and change note pitches. Change rhythms.
- Prepare fake book lead sheets for the guitar or keyboard.

Arrange music for your child or music student

- Find a music (MIDI) file on the Internet for the song or piece for your child or your music student, and convert it to sheet music.
- Arrange the music to fit your child's or music student's performance skills. Remove notes from a more complicated arrangement.
- Increase the font size for easier reading. For beginning students, display 'Easy Notes' with pitch letters (e.g. C) inside the large notes.



- Export MusicXML files that other members can import into other music notation programs to work with.
- At any time, toggle between concert pitches and instrument transpositions. The score or part is correctly reformatted.
- Aurally audit each part by muting other parts, or by temporarily increasing the volume level of one part relative to others.

Compose and record your own songs and music

- Start a new song, easily setting up the staves, meter, and key signature using the New Song Wizard.
- Add notes with the mouse, or record from a music (MIDI) keyboard in real time or step time. Edit the notes with quick, easy, and intuitive methods. Composer transcribes your MIDI recording to notation with excellent accuracy.
- Record multiple "takes" of a section and choose the one you like best using multiple-level Undo and Redo.
- Add a wide variety of music annotations, including accent marks, dynamic marks, ornaments (grace notes, trills, tremolos, etc.), and slurs (phrase marks).



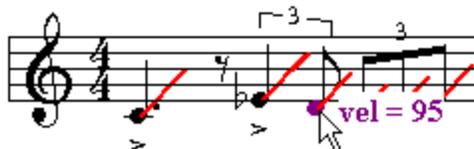
- Add a variety of ornaments: grace notes, trills, tremolos, turns, mordents, arpeggios. Control the exact performance of each note of the ornament: its attack, release, and loudness.
- Move sections on a song from one location to another, or to another song, via the clipboard.

Prepare music that not only *looks* good but also *sounds* great

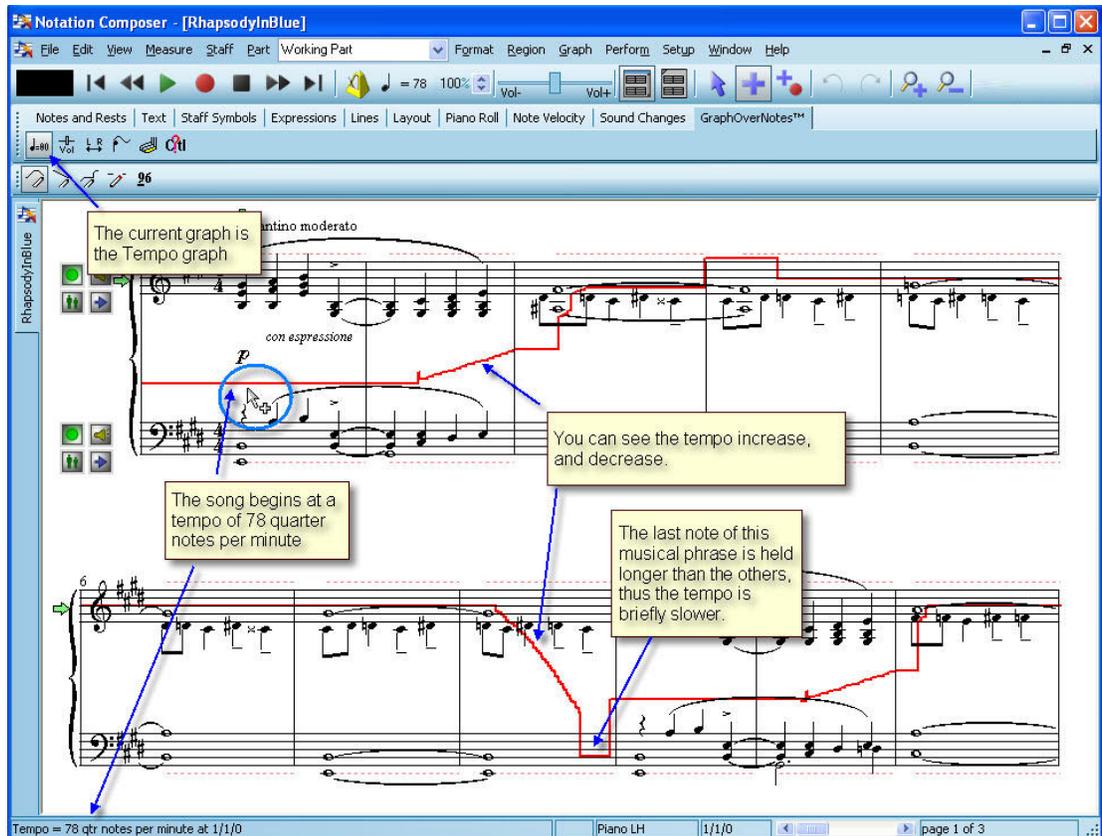
- Refine the playback performance with the capabilities of a MIDI editing application, but with a musical, notation-based user interface. Edit the exact timing of notes using piano notation that is displayed on top of the notes:



- Graphically view and edit the loudness of individual notes:



- Graphically edit the song tempo, volume levels, pitch bends, and other MIDI data, by drawing curves displayed on top of the notes:



- Insert instrument sound changes (MIDI program/patch events) anywhere within tracks.
- Export audio files (.wav, .mp3, .flac, .ogg) for others to enjoy.
- Configure your MIDI devices so that you can refer to MIDI banks, programs (patches) and drum notes by names rather than by numbers. Insert MIDI program changes anywhere within tracks.

Visit our website to learn more about Notation Composer, see videos of Composer in action, and consider purchasing Notation Composer.

7.3 Comparison of Notation Products

The following chart compares the purposes and features of the following three products in Notation Software's Notation line: Notation Player, Musician and Composer. For ordering and pricing information for these two products, please visit our web site at www.notation.com.

Purpose and Features	Notation Player	Notation Musician	Notation Composer
Purpose: Download MIDI files Internet and transcribe them to sheet music that you can view on the screen as the notes play.	Yes	Yes (and print)	Yes (and print)

Transcribe MIDI file to sheet music with excellent accuracy, including detection of swing rhythms, grace notes, trills and tremolos.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Correct any errors that might be made in the transcription of the note rhythms.	No	Yes	Yes
Automatically analyze and display chord names.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose: Enjoy and study the music notation a song as it plays.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Highlight the notes and lyrics as they play.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Slow down the tempo so that you can hear the rhythms more clearly.	No	Yes	Yes
Temporarily increase the volume of one track while decreasing the volume of other tracks, so that you can focus your listening on a particular instrument or voice. "Solo" a track while the others are muted.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose: Practice music as you sing along or play your instrument with accompaniment	No	Yes	Yes
Transpose the pitch of a vocal part to match your voice range.	No	Yes	Yes
Automatically turn pages.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Set up practice loops, to repeat a section of the song at optionally increasing tempos.	No	Yes	Yes
Remotely execute commands from your keyboard, such as Start Playback, End Playback, and Fast Forward.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose: Quickly prepare parts from a MIDI file, for use by yourself or musicians in a performing group.	No	Yes	Yes
Prepare an "Easy Notes" part for student musicians, showing note letters (for example "C") in the noteheads.	No	Yes	Yes
Prepare a "Sing-Along" vocal part, for easy sight-reading from the screen while the song plays.	No	Yes	Yes
Prepare a fake book lead sheet part, with melody and chords.	No	Yes	Yes
Prepare piano reduction of a score that has multiple instruments or voices.	No	Yes	Yes

Extract individual parts for the players or singers in your music group.	No	Yes	Yes
Transpose an instrument's part to its natural key, such as for a Bb clarinet,	No	Yes	Yes
Split a single piano/keyboard track into right- and left-hand staves.	No	Yes	Yes
Split a MIDI drum track into separate one-line drum instrument staves.	No	Yes	Yes
Split a track into melody and accompaniment parts.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose : Annotate the sheet music that has been transcribed from a MIDI file.	No	Yes	Yes
Add lyrics.	No	Yes	Yes
Change enharmonic spellings of notes, such as C# to Db.	No	Yes	Yes
Edit note beams.	No	Yes	Yes
Transcribe the following types of ornaments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ grace notes ■ trills ■ tremolos Temporarily display an ornament as written-out notes, or revert it to a written-out performance.	No	Yes	Yes
Add accent marks and articulations, dynamic marks, hairpin crescendo marks, slurs, pedal marks, and other special music symbols.	No	Yes	Yes
Add staff symbols: brackets and braces, clefs, key signatures, and barline types.	Clefs and Key Signatures	Yes	Yes
Add free text anywhere in the score.	No	Yes	Yes
Add rehearsal marks.	No	Yes	Yes
Add 8va octave marks.	No	Yes	Yes
Add repeat barlines and endings, which will be interpreted during playback.	No	Yes	Yes
Add special repeat directives, such as "D.C.", for which you can specify the destination measure.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose : Format and print the score and parts.	No	Yes	Yes

Print an entire score, or an individual part.	No	Yes	Yes
Choose the default font size, face, and style for various categories of music symbols and types of text. The default can be overridden for specific items.	No	Yes	Yes
Specify the default horizontal spacing (degree of stretch or compression) and default vertical spacing between staves.	No	Yes	Yes
Control the layout of each page: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ page breaks, system (line) breaks ■ number of measures on any given system, ■ number of systems on any given page ■ vertical spacing between any pair of staves ■ vertical spacing between adjacent systems ■ relative horizontal spacing of individual measures within a system (line). 	No	Yes	Yes
Add and control the placement of page title, footer and header text.	No	Yes	Yes
Optionally hide empty staves.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Expand or collapse multiple-measure rests.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Format parts using templates.	No	Yes	Yes
Display one-line drum instrument staves using special percussion noteheads.	No	Yes	Yes
Purpose: Re-arrange the notes of an existing song, or create music from scratch.	No	No	Yes
Create a new song using a pre-defined template for a variety of solo instruments, duet pairs, small ensembles, and large ensembles. Or, use a custom song template that you have previously prepared.	No	No	Yes
Add notes by whatever method is most convenient for you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ with the mouse and computer keyboard. ■ using the Sequential Note Entry method, whereby where you rarely have to select the note duration, even when the sequence of notes has different note duration. ■ using Step-Time recording, one note or chord at a time, from your MIDI keyboard or input device. 	No	No	Yes

Change pitches of notes.	No	No	Yes
Add tracks (instrument parts).	No	No	Yes
Add measures.	No	No	Yes
Add ornaments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ graces notes ■ trills ■ turns ■ mordents ■ arpeggios ■ tremolos 	No	No	Yes
Change the meter and barline positions.	No	No	Yes
Purpose : Record music from your MIDI keyboard or input device.	No	No	Yes
Your performance is transcribed using the same excellent MIDI-to-notation transcription technology that Notation uses to transcribe MIDI files to sheet music.	No	No	Yes
Set up the tempo for recording.	No	No	Yes
Set up the number of pick-up measures.	No	No	Yes
Record (punch in) into a selected region of a track.	No	No	Yes
Add (punch in) a recording of pitch bends or MIDI controllers, on top of notes previously recorded.	No	No	Yes
Purpose : Edit the performance (MIDI) of the song.	No	No	Yes
Notation Composer offers the features of a typical MIDI sequencer program but in a more musically oriented way. Editing of the music performance is highly integrated with the music notation. Notation Composer offers an intuitive and fun way to refine the details of the performance without requiring that you know MIDI or work with tedious numbers.	No	No	Yes
Edit the exact as-performed rhythms of notes while viewing Piano Roll Notation that is drawn on top of the notes.	No	No	Yes
Edit the loudness of individual notes while viewing "vectors" (lines drawn at an angle from each notehead) that graphically show the loudness of each note.	No	No	Yes

Snap ("quantize") the as-perform attack or release of a note to its notated rhythm.	No	No	Yes
Lock the as-performed rhythm of a note, as that you can independently change its notated rhythm.	No	No	Yes
Edit the underlying performance of ornaments: grace notes, trills, turns, tremolos, and arpeggios.	No	No	Yes
Graphically edit the song tempo.	No	No	Yes
Graphically edit the volume level, left-to-right pan, pedal, and pitch bend activity in a track.	No	No	Yes
Graphically edit any MIDI controller data.	No	No	Yes
Edit MIDI data via event list view.	No	No	No
Edit System Exclusive (SysEx) events.	No	No	No
Edit keyswitch (KS) events, such as used by sound libraries.	No	No	No

8 Appendixes

Appendix A: What is MIDI?

Appendix B: Technical Support

Appendix C: Notation Player License Agreement

8.1 Appendix A: What is MIDI?

MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) is an industry standard for passing musical performance information among electronic musical instruments and computers. There are very few details about MIDI that are necessary for you to understand in order to use Notation Player. However, a general understanding about MIDI will help you to more quickly understand how Notation Player lets you see as notation the music that you hear.

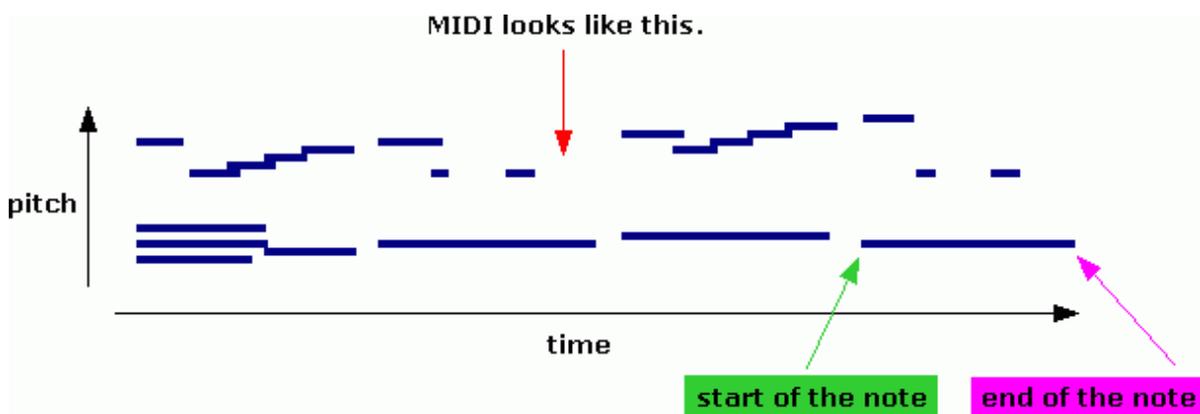
Most audio equipment that you are familiar with-- such as CD players and radios-- receive and send sound in the form of sound waves, such as shown below.



In contrast, MIDI instruments receive and send music data as specific actions to be performed, such as "play a Middle C note softly using the clarinet sound, for a duration of a quarter note at the current tempo." The MIDI instrument receiving such an instruction then produces the sound wave such as the one shown above.

When Notation Player (or any MIDI program) records a musician's performance on a MIDI keyboard, Notation Player does not record the actual sound waves, such as shown above. Instead, Notation Player simply records what keys are played by the musician at what times, and with what loudness.

The following diagram illustrates MIDI note performance data. Each rectangle represents a single note that is to be performed using some instrument sound, such as a clarinet. The left edge of each rectangle marks the starting time of the note, and the right edge marks the ending time of the note. The vertical position of the rectangle represents the pitch of the note. This diagram does not illustrate the additional MIDI information for the loudness of the note.



A diagram of a MIDI performance, such as shown above, is commonly called "Piano Roll Notation" in music software programs that support the viewing and editing of MIDI. It is called Piano Roll Notation,

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By clicking 'I Agree' before installing the program from Notation Software Germany GmbH, you are consenting to be bound by this agreement. If you do not agree to all terms of this agreement, click the 'I Do Not Agree' button and Cancel. The installation process will terminate.

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Eduard-Thoeny-Str. 6
D-86919 Utting am Ammersee
Germany
Amtsgericht Augsburg, Germany HRB 27100
USt-IdNr.: DE283550976

8.4 Appendix D: Licensing and Acknowledgements

Library	License
Prof-UIS	purchased license from Foss Software, Inc
QTHM	purchased license from GipsySoft
Ultimate Grid	Code Project Open License (CPOL) 1.02
TinyXML	zlib/libpng License
Haru PDF	zlib/libpng License
libfluidsynth(-pl).dll	LGPL v2.1 or later
glib	LGPL v2.1 or later
portaudio.dll	MIT license
libsndfile.dll	LGPL v2.1 or later
libglib-2.0-0.dll	LGPL v2.1 or later
libgthread-2.0-0.dll	LGPL v2.1 or later
lame_enc.dll	LGPL v2.1 or later (www.mp3dev.org)

libogg.dll	BSD-Style Source License
libvorbis.dll	BSD-Style Source License
libFLAC.dll	LGPL v2.1 or later
Smtplib	special license agreement by PJ Naughter (www.naughter.com)
contains QHTM code	QHTM is copyright (c) 1999 Russ Freeman

For Linux and Mac Notation Software uses the concept of WineHQ (www.winehq.org), in particular for Mac we use the Wine package built by Mike Kronenberg (<http://winebottler.kronenberg.org/>).

The libs with the LGPL license are built according to the license agreement in separate dll files. In that set-up they are available for distribution in commercial applications like Notation Software products. The source code can be downloaded from the according distributor. All libs are built using the instructions of the distributor.



ASIO is a registered trademark of Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH (www.steinberg.net)

Steinberg ASIO SDL Licensing Agreement signed between Notation Software Germany and Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH on Dec. 3rd, 2018

Soundfont

License

TimGM6mb.sf2 LGPL v2.1 or later

FluidR3Mono_GM.sf3 agreement with owners, license included in the package

MusicXML MusicXML Public License 3.0

The **Band-in-a-Box®** plugin for **notation composer** is licensed from PG Music, Inc. (www.pgmusic.com).

Acknowledgements

Thanks to the open source community for all their work, and that Notation Software Germany GmbH can use the dll libraries under the LGPL license.

Thanks to Steinberg Media Technologies for signing the license agreement so that Notation Software can use the ASIO compatible driver inside of **notation musician** and **notation composer**.

In particular we appreciate the great support from many people which we have received during our development efforts.

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