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Subject: midi / notation software

Posted by [Ed](#) on Mon, 05 Nov 2007 20:01:17 GMT

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Hi Guys and Gals. I am an old school musician and I never ventured into the electronic realms of midi and all that stuff. The closest I came to this was running a midi cable from my Roland A-70 to an old Akai synth. The synth played some nice strings while I played chords. Very simple.

I recently purchased a small 25-key Korg midi keyboard... and I was so upset. Just like my bundle with the Roland A-70 when I purchased it back in 98, the instructions are absolutely the pits. The software that came with it looks nice on my screen, but there is ZERO instruction on how to use it... except description of knobs and such. It's not that I want to know everything about midi... I just want to understand it and play... not download a .mid or .kar file. I tried a few Notation software and I can not find anything that I really truly need and want.

Here is my question... is there a semi-easy notation software out there that will easily setup... and record what I am playing. So I can dub another midi track over that? Everything seems to be directed at pre-made midi, or notation software when you have to manually change the bar, beat, note, etc. I want to hit freakin "record" and hear a pre-selected tempo, play chords along with my midi keyboard and it record the darn thing. I don't want to stop and change things.. I want the software to know what I am changing and record it...

Perhaps I am asking too much? Surely these midi files were not created note or staff at a time. Of course, my notebook's soundcard is limited and that is my only playback... but maybe the sequencer software can enable me more sounds?

Is there anything out there that is like that? I tried the Finale freebie... but that's a no-go. I play to try the Notation Composer which claims to do this (but so did Finale).

Any midi/Notation gurus out there?

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Subject: Re: midi / notation software

Posted by [Ed](#) on Mon, 05 Nov 2007 20:10:39 GMT

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Oh Shoot! I think I found what I was trying to find...

Anyone familiar with this software?

<http://www.wildcat.com/Web/Wildcat/Html/Site/Homepage.htm>

I am gonna get it and try it... Hopefully it is not a waste of my time and especially my money...

"Ed" <askme@email.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: midi / notation software

Posted by [Sarah](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 02:25:55 GMT

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I use Sibelius. I like it.

S

"Ed" <askme@email.com> wrote in message news:472f687d\$1@linux...

>

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> the

> electronic realms of midi and all that stuff. The closest I came to this

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Subject: Re: midi / notation software  
Posted by [Ed](#) on Fri, 09 Nov 2007 16:06:50 GMT  
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Ok... why do you like it? Does it do what I was trying to achieve? What makes it better than say, Finale?

I haven't tried that Wildcat program yet... I got involved in something else... and I see that Sibelius 5 is \$499. Not sure I want to spend that much unless I know it is going to take me into another freakin dimension! In fact, I don't think any software is worth \$499! That is ridiculous! And they wonder why people are pirating and enjoying the newsgroups! I can not fathom paying 500 bucks for buggy software... that's proly pounded with DRM! Unbelievable!

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

>I use Sibelius. I like it.

>

>S

>

>"Ed" <askme@email.com> wrote in message news:472f687d\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: midi / notation software  
Posted by [Edna Sloan](#) on Sat, 10 Nov 2007 17:51:55 GMT  
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Hi Ed,

"Ed" <askme@email.com> wrote in message news:472f687d\$1@linux...

>

> Hi Guys and Gals. I am an old school musician and I never ventured into

> the  
> electronic realms of midi and all that stuff. The closest I came to this  
> was running a midi cable from my Roland A-70 to an old Akai synth. The  
> synth  
> played some nice strings while I played chords. Very simple.

I'm sure you know that MIDI is not sound, but a code of instructions a MIDI instrument interprets to play sounds. You don't have to be a programmer to make use of it though.

> I recently purchased a small 25-key Korg midi keyboard... and I was so  
> upset.  
> Just like my bundle with the Roland A-70 when I purchased it back in 98,  
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> or .kar file. I tried a few Notation software and I can not find anything  
> that I really truly need and want.

You might try to contact Korg for a manual. Unless you need to write arrangements or sheet music in standard music notation, you shouldn't require a notation program. A software, or hardware, sequencer should be all you need. I still use an onboard hardware sequencer in my workstation to make quick rough MIDI compositions, which I import into my software sequencer for further editing and such.

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> Here is my question... is there a semi-easy notation software out there  
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> chords along with my midi keyboard and it record the darn thing. I don't  
> want to stop and change things.. I want the software to know what I am  
> changing  
> and record it.

I would think any of the standard software sequencers would work, Cubase, Cakewalk, Logic, Reason, etc. You might look at some older versions of these. Some have virtual instruments(VSTis) included. You can also find free VSTis online. You might download a demo of Reaper and see what it will do (a \$40 software).

>  
> Perhaps I am asking too much? Surely these midi files were not created  
> note  
> or staff at a time. Of course, my notebook's soundcard is limited and

> that  
> is my only playback... but maybe the sequencer software can enable me  
> more  
> sounds?

MIDI files can be created either by programming (step sequencing a note at a time) or by playing or both. I assume that your laptop has a MIDI in, so you can use your MIDI keyboard, and that you are playing the laptop's soundcard synth? If your Korg has sounds, you could get a USB MIDI interface for your laptop, so it could play the Korg or other external MIDI devices. Of course you would also need some playback amp/speakers for this.

Edna

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Subject: Re: midi / notation software  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Sat, 10 Nov 2007 19:21:25 GMT  
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"Edna" <edna@texomaonline.com> wrote:

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>You might try to contact Korg for a manual.

Go here...

<http://www.korg.com/service/support.asp>

And click on "Documents", from there you can pull up a ton of their products & doc for same, including manuals. maybe they'll have the one for whichever model keyboard you have.

Neil

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