

SOFTSCORE 1.31

User Manual

10th August 2011

Table of contents

Welcome	4
PDF Viewer and Notation Editor	4
SoftScore Views	4
Performance View	5
<i>Main Menu</i>	5
File Menu	6
Edit Menu	9
Auto Scroll - start, pause, rewind, speed	9
User Preferences	9
Notation Editor View	11
Selecting notes	11
Note Inversion	11
Editing individual notes	11
<i>Edit Menu</i>	11
Duration	12
Changing a Note to a Rest and vise Versa	12
Ties	12
Triplets	12
Add / Delete Bars	13
Pitch	13
Auto Step	13
Enharmonic Values	13
Audio PlayBack	13
Returning to Performance View	13
Chord Name Editor	14

<i>Chord Entry Edit Bar</i>	14
<i>Changing Key and Clef</i>	15
Changing Key	15
Changing Clef	15
<i>Changing the Tempo</i>	16
<i>Bar line, Repeat Bars and System Symbols</i>	17
Changing the bar line type	17
Changing first and second time repeat bars	17
System Symbols	17
<i>Song Preferences</i>	18
Bars Per Line	18
Global Enharmonics	18
PDF View	19
File Transfer	20
iTunes File Sharing	20
Specification	22

SoftScore - Music notation for the iPad

Welcome

SoftScore is musical notation editing and display application for the Apple iPad.

SoftScore is designed to provide musicians with a portable solution to replace printed paper score sheets. SoftScore takes full advantage of the Apple iPad's large screen, high quality graphics and light form factor to provide an editable notation application for performing musicians. The iPad comfortably sits on a music stand and thus replaces the need for printed scores.

The scrolling capability of the iPad allows the musician to view notation in a continual vertical form avoiding the inconvenience of page turns that can distract concentration.

SoftScore supports single instruments and is suitable for monophonic instruments (i.e. that play single concurrent notes) such as the flute, saxophone, violin, oboe, brass etc.

SoftScore provides full transposition through all twelve keys - a particularly useful tool for transposed instrument players.

SoftScore is also an ideal tool for teaching - both for musical performance and musical theory. With iOS 4.3 and higher the Apple iPad may be connected directly to a projector or wall mounted Television making it the perfect class room teaching tool.

PDF Viewer and Notation Editor

SoftScore is both a PDF viewer and a musical notation editor. In PDF mode SoftScore allows the musician to display standard formatted PDF music files. By switching to the Notation editor the user is able to create and edit standard musical notation and display the resulting score in landscape or portrait orientation during performance.

SoftScore Views

SoftScore has three primary views: Performance, Notation Edit and PDF View.

Each view is specifically designed to provide a specific, simple and intuitive interface.

Performance View

Performance view is design for the displaying the score for the purpose of performance. In Performance Mode the space provided to the score is maximized without the distraction of unnecessary menus and the score is locked to prevent accidental edits thus allowing the musician to focus fully on the music and not be distracted by the application.

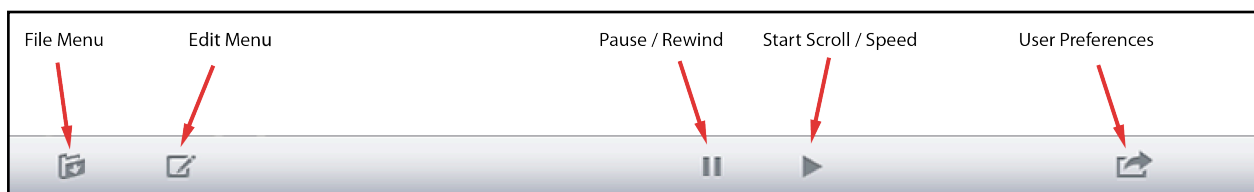
In this view scores can be scrolled manually or automatically - thus allowing hands free performance.

In Performance View the functionality remains the same in both portrait and landscape orientations



Main Menu

The Main Menu is located at the bottom of the Performance View Screen.

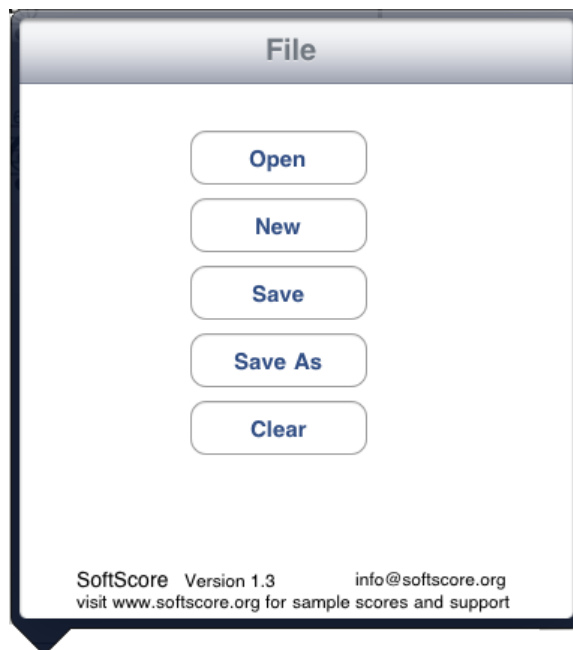


Main Menu

File Menu

The file menu provides access to the following functions:

Open, New, Save, Save As and Clear as described below



File Menu

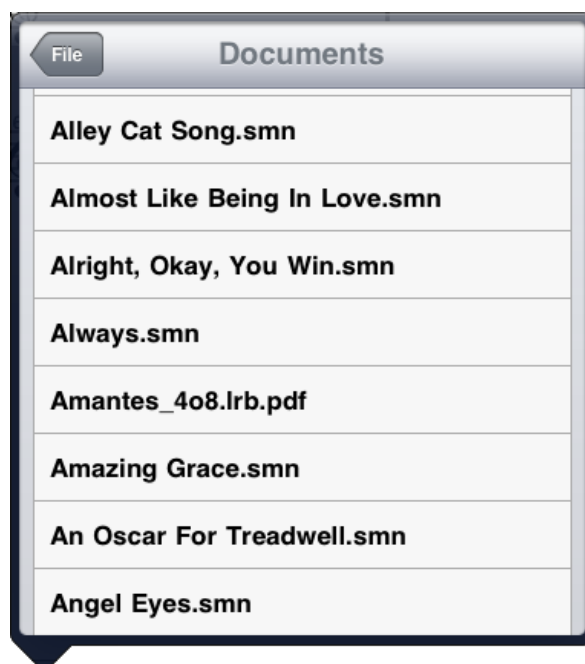
Open

To open an existing song file, tap on the Open button to reveal the Documents folder.

To open a song file tap on song's name.

If the song is of file type .smn the Notation Editor/ viewer will be launched.

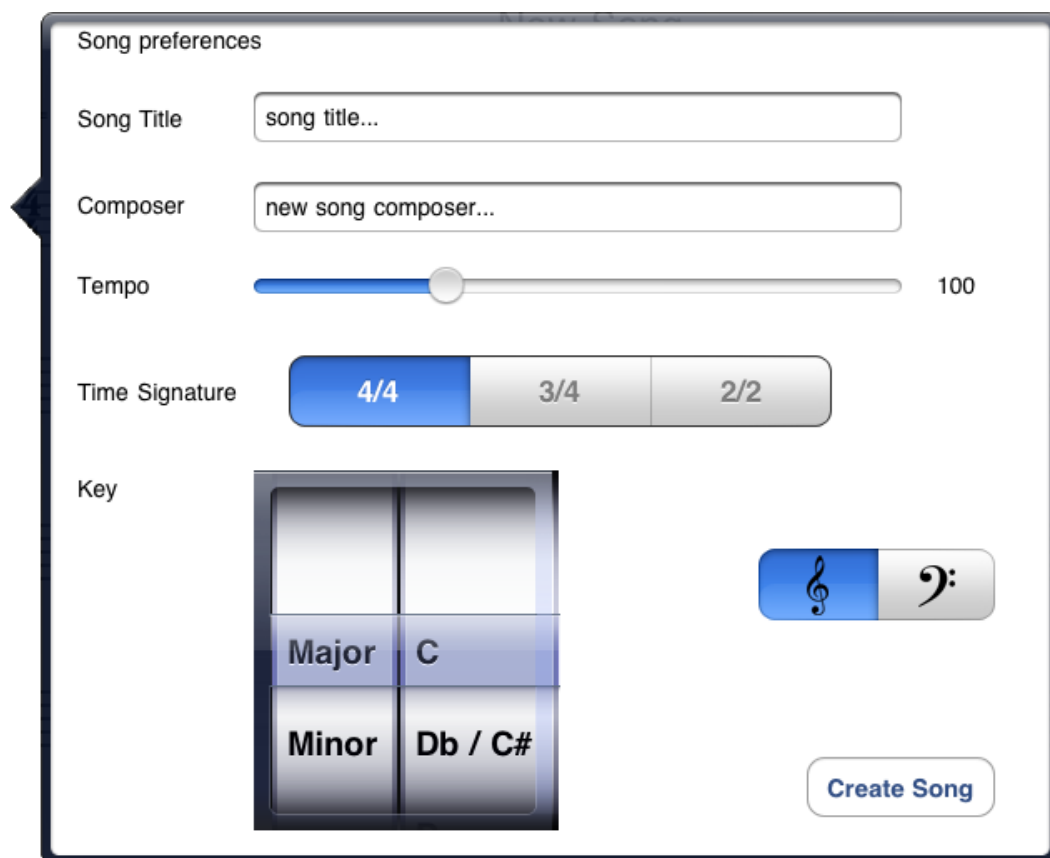
If the song file type is .pdf the PDF viewer will be launched.



Documents Menu

New

To open a new song tap the New button in the File Menu. The New song dialog will appear .

The image shows a 'New Song Dialog' window titled 'Song preferences'. It contains several input fields and controls: 'Song Title' with a text box containing 'song title...'; 'Composer' with a text box containing 'new song composer...'; 'Tempo' with a horizontal slider bar and a value of '100'; 'Time Signature' with three buttons labeled '4/4', '3/4', and '2/2', where '4/4' is selected; 'Key' with a 2x2 grid of buttons labeled 'Major', 'C', 'Minor', and 'Db / C#', where 'Major' is selected; and a 'Clef' section with two buttons labeled with a treble clef and a bass clef, where the treble clef is selected. A 'Create Song' button is located at the bottom right of the dialog.

New Song Dialog

To create a new song, enter the Song Name, Composer, Tempo, Time Signature Key and Clef and tap the Create Song button. With the exception of Time Signature all these values can be changed later.

If the previous song has not been saved you will receive a warning. To exit this dialog without changing the current song click on the screen outside this dialog.

Tapping Create Song will erase the current song and start a new song.

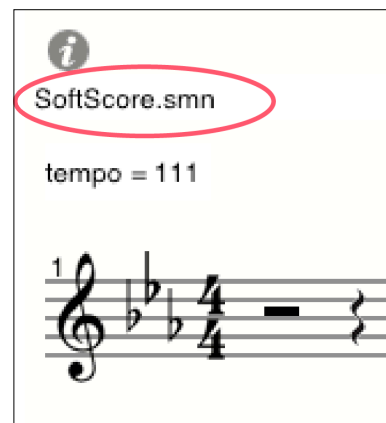
When a new song is created it must then be manually saved, as described below to create the song file.

Save

To save the current song tap on the Save button. The song will be saved to the song file and the user is returned to the song.

When a song is saved for the first time, the Save As dialog will be displayed.

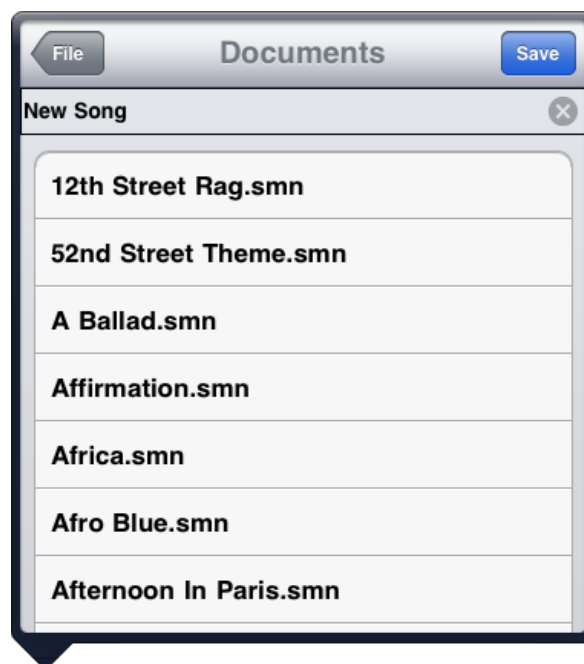
After a song is Saved for the first time the file name is display in the top left of the score.



Save As

To save the current song with a different file name tap the Save As button in the File Menu. The following dialog will be displayed.

Select the desired song name and tap Save. It is not necessary to enter the file suffix (.smn) as this will be added automatically.



Documents Dialog - Save As

Clear

To clear the contents of the current song tap the Clear button in the File Menu.

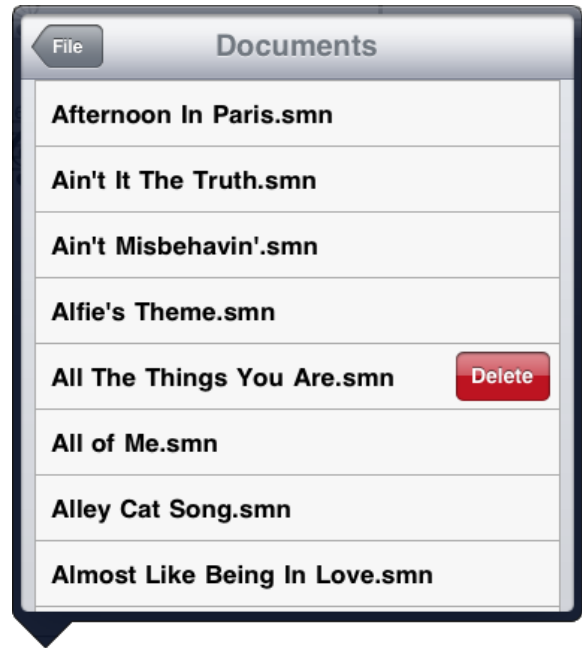
All notes, rests, chords and ties will be removed. The song title, composer, time signature, tempo and key will remain unchanged.

The song file (if the song has previously been saved) will remain unchanged until a subsequent Save is performed.

To revert to the previous song, before a Save is performed, simply go to the File Menu and select Open as described earlier.

Deleting A Song File

To delete a song file tap the Open button in the File Menu. In the Documents folder that opens right swipe on the song that you wish to remove and select delete to confirm.



Documents Dialog - Delete Song

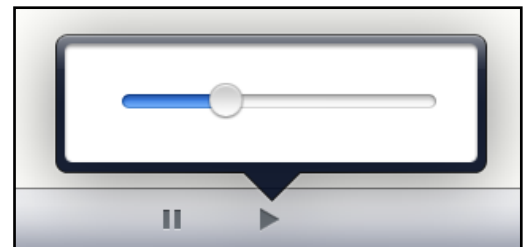
Edit Menu

Tapping on the Edit Menu button opens the current score in the Notation Edit view. Refer to section for more information on the Notation Editor.

Auto Scroll - start, pause, rewind, speed

The Pause / Rewind and Start Scroll / Speed buttons allow the user to control the scroll function. The Scroll function automatically scrolls the page so the performer does not have to manually scroll or turn the page.

Tapping on the Start Scroll / Speed button will start the score scrolling. To adjust the scroll speed, tap on the Start Scroll / Speed button a second time and a speed control will appear as shown in the diagram.



Auto Scroll Controller

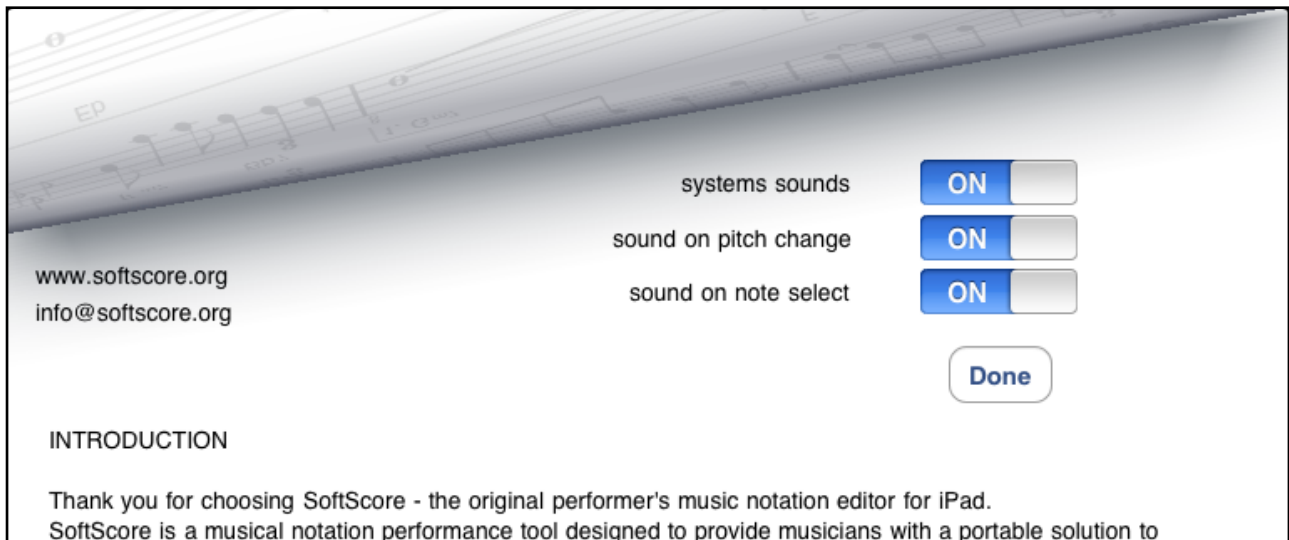
User Preferences

Tapping on the User Preferences button opens the preferences and user guide view as seen below.

The user preferences view allows the user to change sound settings and display the user manual.

These settings are saved on exit and affect all scores i.e. they are specific to the application and not to the individual scores.

To return to the Notation Editor view tap on the Done button.



The dialog box features a background image of a musical score. On the left, it displays the website 'www.softscore.org' and email 'info@softscore.org'. The central area contains three toggle switches, all currently set to 'ON', for 'systems sounds', 'sound on pitch change', and 'sound on note select'. A 'Done' button is positioned below these toggles. At the bottom, an 'INTRODUCTION' section provides a welcome message and describes the application as a portable musical notation performance tool.

www.softscore.org
info@softscore.org

systems sounds ☒ ON

sound on pitch change ☒ ON

sound on note select ☒ ON

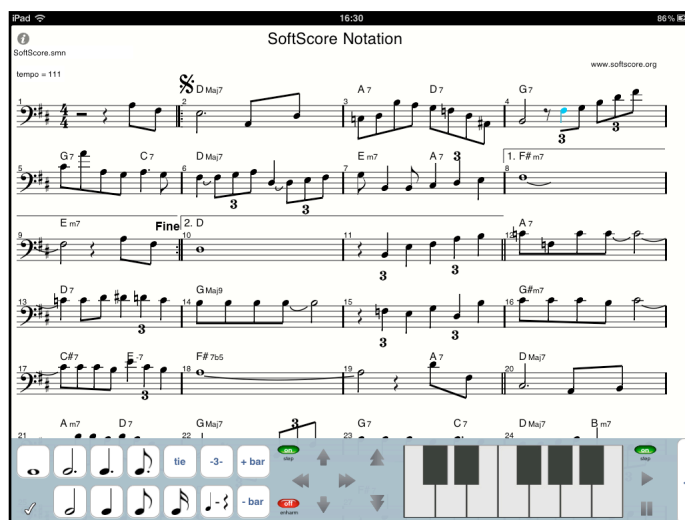
Done

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing SoftScore - the original performer's music notation editor for iPad.
SoftScore is a musical notation performance tool designed to provide musicians with a portable solution to

User Preferences Dialog

Notation Editor View



Landscape Notation Edit View

The notation editor provides an intuitive interface to allow the user to rapidly create and edit musical scores.

To enter the Notation Edit select EDIT from the Main Menu.

For simplicity all editing is performed within the space of each bar i.e. edits made in one bar will not affect other bars. Note and rest durations between a semi-brev (whole note) and semi-quaver (sixteenth note) are supported including dotted values. The editor also supports triplets, ties and chord names. For full specifications please refer to specification section at the end of this document.

SoftScore incorporates an automatic bar completion function. Whenever the duration of a note is changed the subsequent notes in the same bar will be immediately corrected to maintain the musical integrity of the bar.

Similarly, rests are automatically joined to simplify the score and to make sight reading easier. In 4/4 timing the third beat of the bar is left exposed in line with engraving standards

Selecting notes

Notes may be selected individually or as a group. A group of selected notes can be raised or lowered in pitch in semi-tone or octave steps.

To select a note or rest simply tap on the main body. When selected a note will change color to blue to show that it is the currently selected note. Note edits, as described below, are always performed on the currently selected note.

To select a group of notes select the first note in the group by tapping it and then select the second (subsequent note) note by double tapping it.

To deselect a note or a group of notes tap on another note or rest.

Note Inversion

Notes are automatically inverted when they pass the middle of the stave. Notes that are part of a beamed group will invert when the average pitch of the group is above the middle of the stave

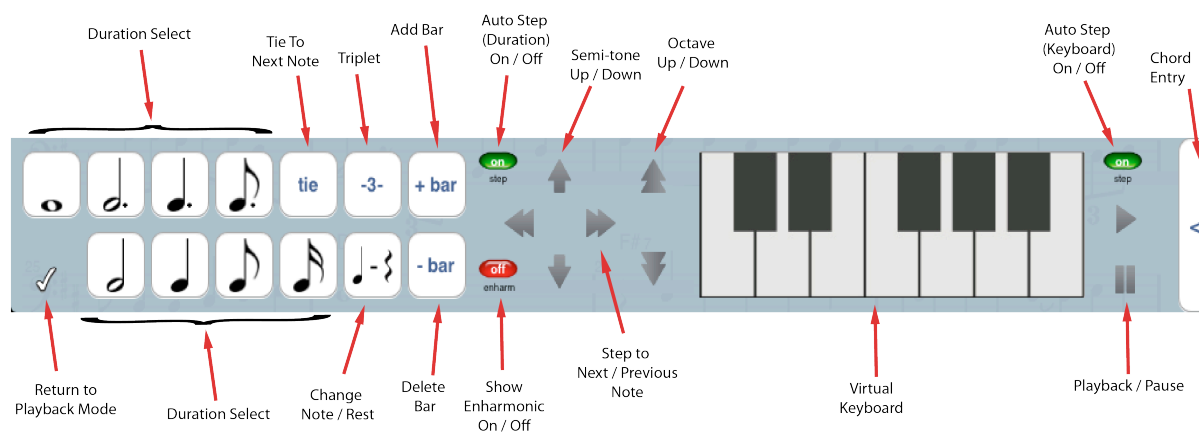
Editing individual notes

All note changes are made from the Edit Menu as described below.

Edit Menu

In landscape orientation the Edit Menu allows the user to add and delete notes (by changing duration), change notes to rests (and vice versa), raise and lower the pitch of a

note in semi-tone or octave steps, to step to the next or previous note, to set a note to display it's enharmonic value and to play back and pause the score.



Landscape Edit Bar

Duration

To change a notes duration, select the note by tapping on it or using the Next / Previous Note buttons and then tap the appropriate Duration Selection button. The note's duration will change.

If the selected duration is less than the current note's duration then a rest will be automatically added to fill the missing duration and maintain the musical integrity of the bar. If the selected duration is greater then the duration of the current note then subsequent notes/rests will be deleted to provide the additional space.

Should a selected note duration exceed the length of the bar then an error sound will be heard and the note will remain unchanged.

Changing a Note to a Rest and vise Versa

To simplify the user interface, musical rest duration buttons are not provided.

To create a rest, first create a note of the same duration and then tap the Change Note / Rest button. Like wise a rest can be changed to a note of the same duration by selecting it and tapping the Change Note / Rest button.

Ties

To add a tie to a note, select the note and tap the Tie button. If there is not a subsequent note that is of the same musical pitch then an error sound will be heard and the tie will not be added.

Ties may be added over bar and line breaks.

Triplets

To add a triplet, create and select a note of the full value and then tap the Triplet button. For example to create a quaver (eight note) triplet select a crochet (quarter note) and tap the Triplet button.

To remove a triplet, select the first note in the triplet and select a new duration.

Crochet (quarter note), quaver(eight note) and semi-quaver(sixteenth note) triplets are also supported.

Add / Delete Bars

To add or delete a bar, tap on the Add Bar or Delete Bar button accordingly. When a new bar is added it is placed immediately before the current bar. When deleting bars the last bar in a score cannot be deleted.

Pitch

When the first note in a song is created it's pitch is set to the pitch of the selected key. Subsequent notes are set to the pitch of the previous note.

To change the pitch of a note tap the semi tone up / down buttons or the octave up / down buttons. Alternatively, (in landscape mode only) tap the required pitch on the virtual keyboard.

Auto Step

Auto Step automatically steps the selected note (or rest) to the following note (or rest) when an edit is made. In most cases this allows for faster input.

Auto Step can occur after either a duration change or when a pitch is set on the virtual keyboard - therefore there are two Auto Step buttons - one on the left for duration changes and one on the right next to the virtual keyboard for pitch changes.

To turn Auto Step on or off, simply tap the appropriate button. Green indicates that Auto Step is turned on.

Enharmonic Values

An enharmonic value is a musical alternative visual representation of the same note. For example a Bb may also be written as an A#. Enharmonic values are often used to improve the readability of a song.

As an example, if an A# is followed by an A natural and then by another A#, three accidentals are required i.e. two sharps and one natural. However if the A#'s are shown as Bb's (thus moving them up to the B line of the stave) only one accidental is required - i.e. a flat.

SoftScore provides the option of displaying a note in it's enharmonic mode. Note that switching to an enharmonic value does not change the pitch (sounding) of the note.

If a note has an alternative enharmonic value the Show Enharmonic On / Off button will be displayed. Tapping the button will shift the note to it's enharmonic value.

Audio Playback

To playback the score tap the playback button. The playback will begin from the currently selected note or rest.

To pause playback tap the pause button.

To return to the beginning of a paused song tap the pause button a second time.

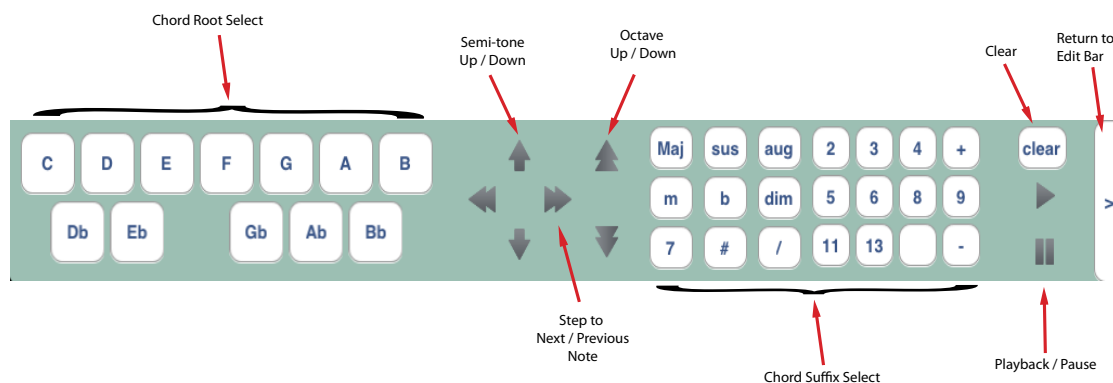
Returning to Performance View

Once you have finished editing the song tap the check mark in the bottom left of the Edit Menu to return to Performance View.

Chord Name Editor

To enter the Chord Name Editor tap on the Chord Entry button on the far right of the Edit Menu. The functionality of the Chord Entry Edit Bar are described below.

Chord Entry Edit Bar



Chord Entry Bar

To enter a chord name, first select the note and then tap on the respective Chord Root Selector Button. To add a chord suffix tap on the respective Suffix button. To clear a chord name tap on the Clear button.

When a Chord Root button is tapped the previous chord name and suffix is erased.

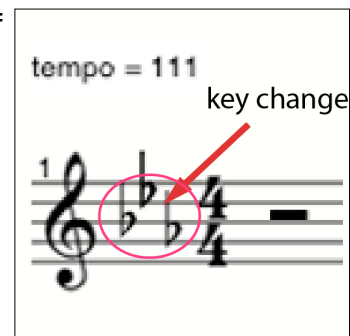
Whilst in the Chord Entry editor, note pitches may be raised or lowered in semitones or octaves using the Up / Down arrowed buttons.

To select the next note tap on the Next / Previous button.

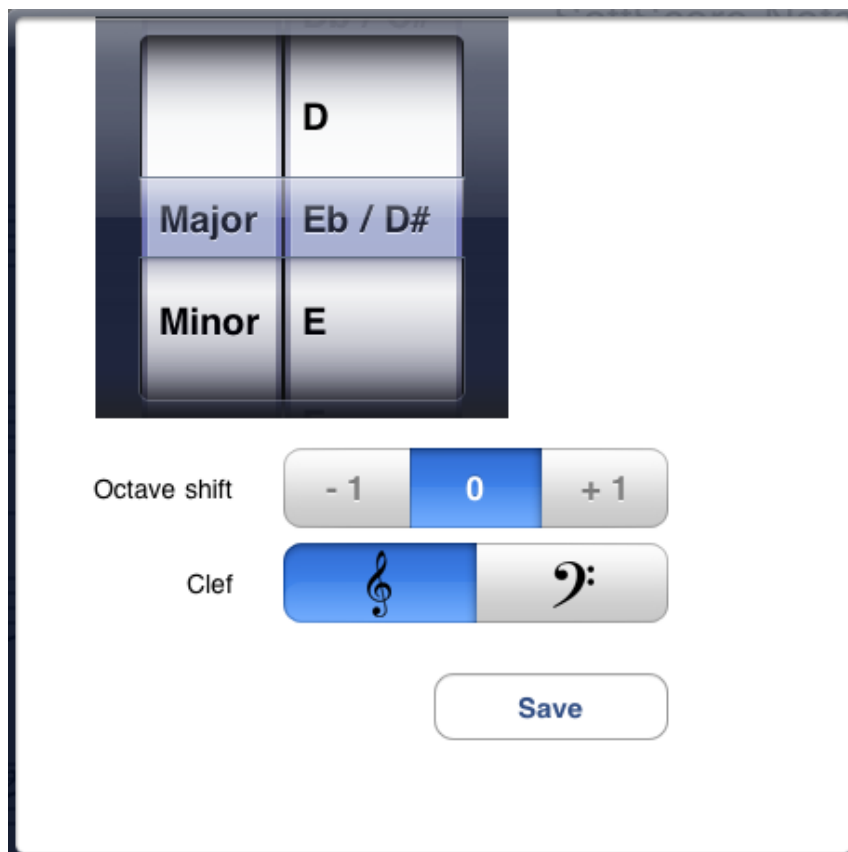
To return to the Edit Menu, tap on the Return to Edit Bar button on the right of the bar.

Changing Key and Clef

To change the key or clef, double tap on the area between the clef mark and the time signature.



The following dialog will open.



Key and Clef Change Dialog

Changing Key

Select the desired mode (Major or Minor) and key. To shift the entire score up or down an octave select the -1 or +1 buttons.

If the key signature is left unchanged and the octave shift is selected the entire score will be shifted up or down an octave without changing key.

To execute the changes tap Save.

If after the song has been transposed some groups of notes are too high or too low then group select them as described in above and shift their pitches up and down using the arrow buttons on the edit menu.

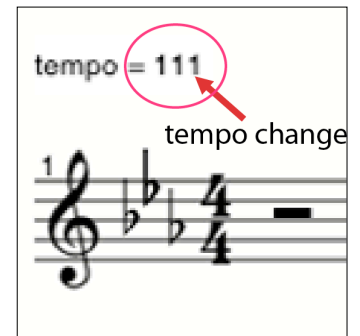
Changing Clef

To change the song clef (Treble or Bass) select the appropriate button in the dialog above.

Existing notes will remain in the clef range that they were added in and may need to be lowered or raised in pitch to bring them into the appropriate clef.

Changing the Tempo

To change the song tempo double tap on the tempo mark at the top left of the score.



The following dialog will open:

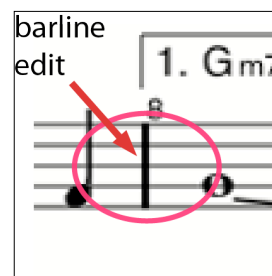


Tempo Change Dialog

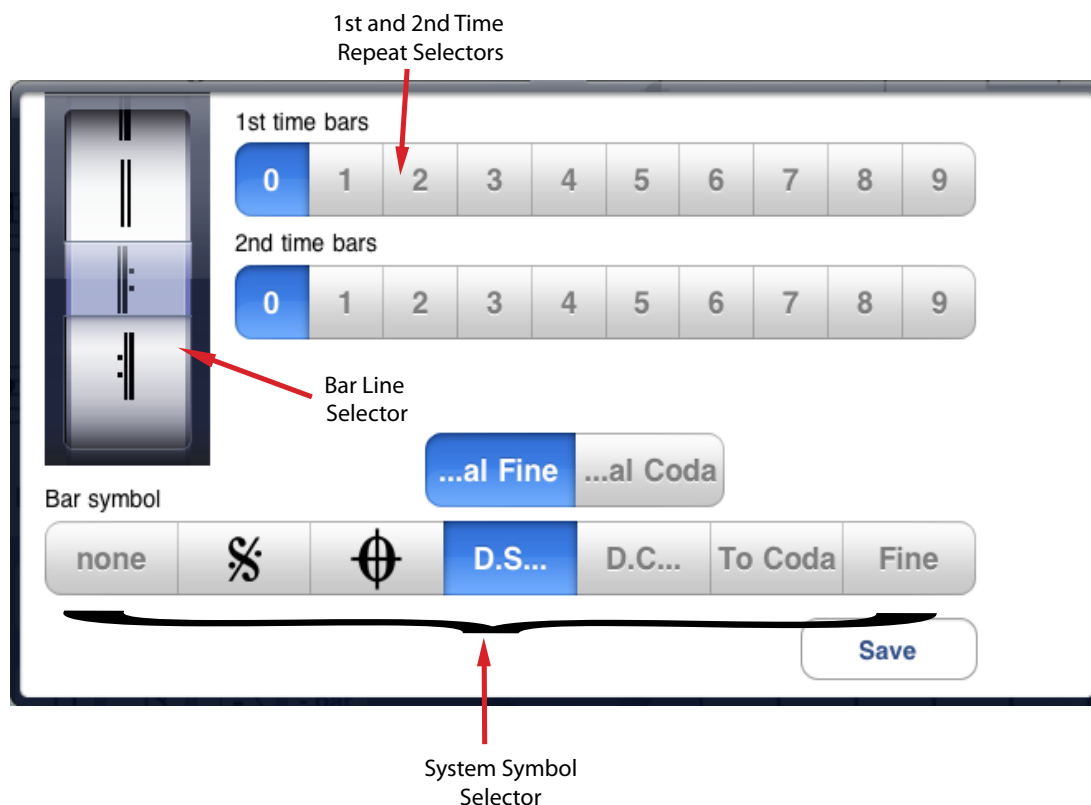
Adjust the slider to the required tempo and tap the Select tempo button. The tempo determines the song audio playback speed.

Bar line, Repeat Bars and System Symbols

To change bar line type, repeat bars and system symbols double tapping on the appropriate bar line.



The following dialog will open:



Bar Line Edit Dialog

Changing the bar line type

To change the bar line type, e.g. single, double, repeat, final, etc, simply rotate the picker wheel to the required bar line.

Changing first and second time repeat bars

Select the appropriate number of repeat bars before and after the current bar. Up to nine repeat bars can be selected. Repeat bars are not recognised during audio playback.

System Symbols

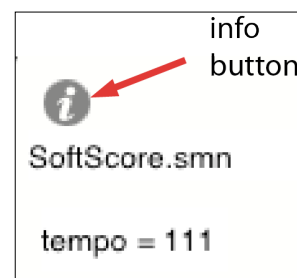
A variety of system symbols are available and may be selected by tapping the appropriate button. To remove a system symbol simply select 'none'.

Song Preferences

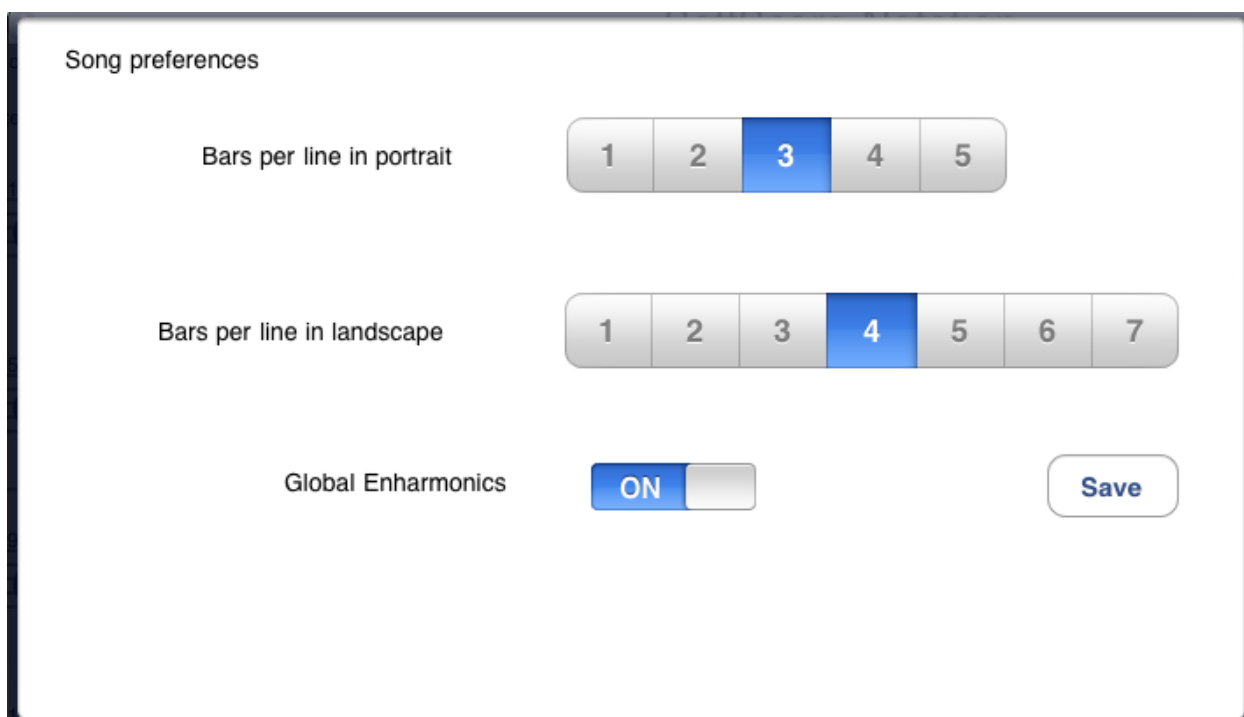
To edit the song preferences tap on the info button at the top left of the score.

Song preferences allow for changes to the number of bars displayed per line and whether or not enharmonic values are displayed in the score.

Song preferences are saved with the current score and do not affect other scores.



The following dialog will open:



Song Preference Dialog

Bars Per Line

SoftScore layout scores with a set number of bars per line. This value can be set for both portrait and landscape orientations.

To set the required number of lines simply tap on the appropriate button.

Global Enharmonics

SoftScore supports enharmonic note display as described [earlier](#). To turn this function on or off use the Global Enharmonics button. When Global Enharmonics is set to OFF all notes will be shown in their standard representation relative to the key signature on the stave.

PDF View

SoftScore supports pdf file display in portrait and landscape view.

To open a pdf file select Open from the File Menu and select the appropriate file from the Documents list.

The selected PDF file will be displayed.

To close the PDF file tap the Exit button and SoftScore will return to the Performance View.

iPad 5% 4:29 PM 100%

exit

22

no - ches de tor - men - ta, y a sí tan so - lo con su a - mor
 F MA^6 C A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(11)$ F G F F MA^7
 (horns)

so - bre - vi - vi sin dar - me cuen - ta. Sa -
 F MA^7 F $\text{M}\text{I}^7(5)$ B 13 E $^7(alt)$ E MI^7 A 7

L D MI^9 G 13 C MA^9
 brán que el tiem - po pa - sa - rá, qui - zás mi vi - da si - gue he -
 ran - te. Qui - zás ja - más las vuel - va a ver, pe - ro yo
 A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(11)$ F MA^7 E MI^9 D $\text{M}\text{A}^7(5)$ C
 (horns)

sé que nun - ca ol - vi - da - ré. A -
 B $^13(9)$ E bass E $^7(15)$

M A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(11)$ F MA^7 A A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(\text{M}\text{A}^7)$ 1st x begins muted Trp. solo
 man - tes, a - man - tes.

1. F MA^7 A 2. F MA^7 A N (Trp. solo) A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(11)$ F MA^7 A
 A -

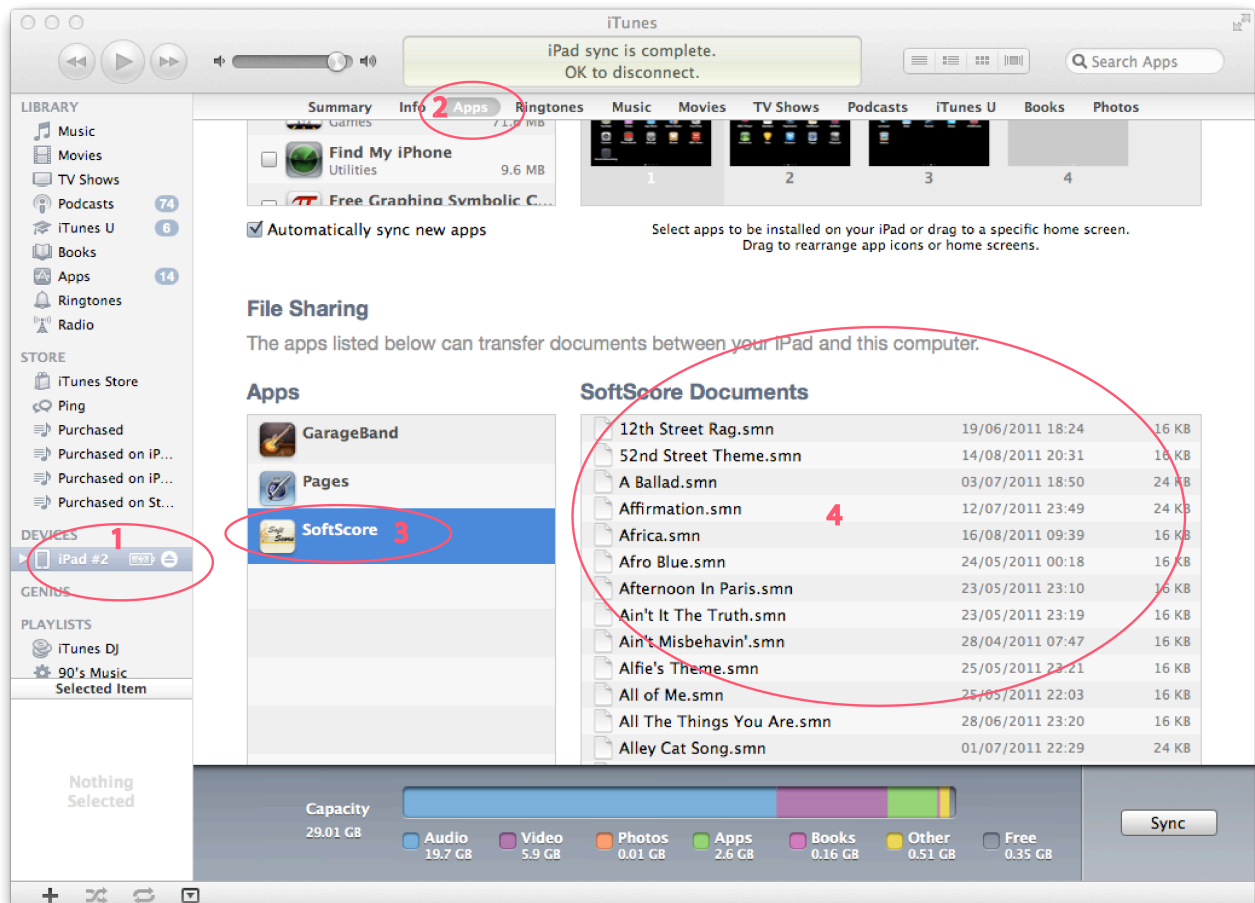
1. A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(\text{M}\text{A}^7)$ F MA^7 A 2. A $\text{M}\text{I}^9(\text{M}\text{A}^7)$

PDF Viewer - Portrait

File Transfer

SoftScore currently allows the transfer of song files, in .pdf or .smn format. from an iPad to a MAC or PC via iTunes File Sharing.

iTunes File Sharing



iTunes File Sharing

With the iPad connected to your MAC or PC, open iTunes and select your iPad under devices in the left hand column - 1.

Click on Apps - 2, then select SoftScore in the File Sharing area- 3. If File Sharing is not visible you may need to scroll iTunes down.

Your SoftScore files are now displayed in the SoftScore Documents area - 4.

To transfer files from iTunes (on you MAC or PC) to your iPad, simply drag and drop them into the SoftScore Documents area - 4.

When the iPad is connected to iTunes the files will be immediately synchronised to your iPad. Note that you do not need to perform a manual Sync.

In a similar manner, with the iPad connected to iTunes file changes in SoftScore's iPad documents area will automatically be synchronised to iTunes.

If your iPad is not connected and file changes are made, either on in iTunes or on the iPad, then they will be synchronised next time the iPad is connected.

It should be noted that if file changes are made to the same file in both iTunes and in SoftScore, next time the iPad is connected there will be a conflict between the two version of the same file and changes made be lost.

Specification

Version 1.31 supports the following:

- ☒ Devices: iPad and iPad 2
- ☒ Note Durations : Whole Note (semi-brev) to 16th (semi-quaver) including dotted durations.
- ☒ Clefs: Treble
- ☒ Voices: Single
- ☒ Time Signatures: 2/2, 3/4 and 4/4
- ☒ Tempo: 20 - 300 bpm
- ☒ Bar Line Types: normal, double, final, repeat start and repeat end
- ☒ 1st and 2nd time repeat bars
- ☒ Screen Orientation: Portrait and Landscape
- ☒ File Types: PDF and .SMN (SoftScore Music Notation) notation files
- ☒ Auto beaming: 8th and 16th note (quavers and semi quavers)
- ☒ Triplets: 1/4, 1/8 and 1/16 note (crotchet, quaver and semiquaver)
- ☒ Keys: Twelve Major and Minor
- ☒ Transposition: Through twelve keys with +/- octave pitch shift
- ☒ Select: Single and multiple note selection
- ☒ Pitch: C1 - C8 (notes below C4 are currently off stave)
- ☒ Ties: including tie across bar line and new line.
- ☒ Auto Scroll: In performance mode with variable scroll speed
- ☒ Play Back: Audio playback in notation mode
- ☒ Layout: add and delete bars. User defined number of bars per line
- ☒ Bars Numbers
- ☒ Song data: Song Title and Composer.
- ☒ Sharing: iTunes File Sharing
- ☒ File Management: Open, New, Clear, Save, Save As, Delete (swipe)
- ☒ Help files included: Yes
- ☒ User preference: system and note sounds on/off
- ☒ Note tail inversions
- ☒ System symbols: Coda, Segno, D.S, D.C, al Fine, al Coda, Fine
- ☒ Bass clef
- ☒ Chords names
- ☒ Virtual Keyboard Input
- ☒ Enharmonic Note replacement (manual) Bass clef
- ☒ Chords names
- ☒ Virtual Keyboard Input
- ☒ Enharmonic Note replacement (manual)