

# MUSIC LESSONS I Fundamentals (Macintosh) Quick Start Guide

## Twelve Drills

Choose the Drill menu. There are 12 groups of drills you can choose from.

## Multiple Skill Levels

After you've selected the drill, choose the Level menu. You'll see multiple levels of difficulty for each drill. The difficulty items change from drill to drill, so that students can work on each drill at a difficulty level appropriate to them.

## Four Clefs

Choose the Clef menu. You can select between treble, bass, alto, tenor, and a selection of randomly chosen clefs.

## Three Clefs

Choose the Clef menu. You can select between treble, bass, alto, and a selection of randomly chosen clefs.

## Answering Questions

Choose the Note Reading drill from the Drill menu. Choose any level of difficulty from the Level menu. You'll see four notes on the screen with four text entry boxes below them. Click the piano key for the first note; its name will appear in the text box below the note. Click the piano keys for the remaining three notes. Once you've entered your answer for these four notes, click the Check button. You'll see the notes you got right and the ones you got wrong. Your score will appear on the screen. If you got them all right, you'll get a new question.

## Music Theory Reference

Click the question mark icon on the drill window toolbar. A complete Music Theory Reference Manual for all is always available for students. The Help Window is divided into three areas. The lower left area shows all of the files in the MUSIC LESSONS Help folder. The upper left area shows all of the topics in the selected help file. The right area shows the content. Click a file to change to a new help file. Click a topic to change topics.

## Progress Reports

After you've answered some questions, choose "New Progress Report" from the file menu. A window will appear showing you detailed statistics of your scores. Progress Report files can be saved and printed. When you save a Progress Report, you'll see three lines showing dates in the upper portion of the Progress Report window. Each day that you use the program and save your scores, a new date line will be added. It's easy to go back and check student scores for particular assignments. The cumulative scores line shows all of the drills done over a period of time. It can be used for end of the term reports.

**There is no limit to the number of student progress report files that can be created.**

(over)

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## Strict Answers vs. Lenient Answers

In the Major/Minor scales drill, there is an item in the Level menu that lets you select between strict and lenient answers.

Strict Answers are for theory teachers who insist on correct spelling of enharmonic notes. For example, if you need to play an E#, you would click the piano key F. To call it E#, you would first need to click the sharp icon from the toolbar just to the left of the piano, then click the key F. It will now be called E#.

Lenient Answers are for keyboard players who just want to play the correct notes of the scale and have the program worry about enharmonic spellings. If you play the correct note, it will be called by the correct name.

## Custom Levels

The Level menu for each drill contains commands to **create, save, and load custom levels** that you've created. Custom Levels let you tailor the program to work on very specific drills. For example, in the intervals ear training drill you could create a drill that would just work with ascending major and minor seconds.

***There's a lot more in the program. Skim through the User Guide and Reference Manual for details.***