

MUSIC LESSONS I Fundamentals (Windows) Quick Start Guide

Overview

Eleven Drills

Choose the Drill menu. There are 11 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 items in the Level menu change from drill to drill. The idea is that students can work on each drill at difficulty levels appropriate to them.

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 drills in the program is always available for students.

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. A menu in the Progress Report window lets you choose between session scores and cumulative scores. Session scores are all drills you've done since you last saved. They can be printed for daily assignments. Cumulative scores show all of the drills done over a period of time. They can be used for end of the term assessments.

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

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#.

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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.

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