# **Music Tutor Help Contents:**

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# Menu Choices for the Pitch and Key Signatures Edition:

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## Menu Choices for the Notes and Time Edition:

<u>File</u> <u>Lessons</u> <u>Practice</u> <u>Help</u> <u>Files needed to run the Music Tutor</u>

## **Usage Agreement for the Music Tutor**

The Music Tutor is shareware. The shareware concept allows you to try out software before you purchase. The unregistered version of the Music Tutor has the complete How To Use the Music Tutor, Lesson One and Practice Session One.

You may try out the first Lesson and Practice session without fee. You may also share it with your friends if you desire. There are no restrictions on the unregistered version of the Music Tutor.

If you receive a copy of the registered version of the Music Tutor, you are obligated to register that copy. Registration instructions and a form are also available under the Help Menu.

The Music Tutor has been tested and reviewed by music professionals, but it does not come with guarantees.

Thank you for using the Music Tutor.

### Lessons for the Notes and Time edition:

*How to use the Music Tutor:* An overview of the components of the music tutor. Recommended for first time users.

*Lesson One - Rhythmic Values of Notes:* This lesson introduces whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, sixteenth notes and the use of the dot to modify the rhythmic value of a note.

*Lesson Two -Time Signatures:* This lesson presents four time signatures: 4/4, 3/4, 6/8 and 2/2. The importance of the beat (or pulse) and how beats are grouped into the various time signatures is discussed.

## **Practice Sessions for Notes and Time**

Each of the lessons in the Notes and Time edition of the Music Tutor has an accompanying practice session.

*Practice for Lesson One - Rhythmic Values:* This session is based on the Windows drag and drop capability. The work area randomly brings up a test note. The student is asked to drag and drop notes of various values from the Toy Box until the total value is equal to the test note. Any combination of notes may be tried. This is encouraged to develop more familiarity with all of the note values.

*Practice for Lesson Time Signatures:* Again, the drag and drop capability of Windows is utilized. Time signatures are randomly generated and the student is asked to drag and drop notes into the measure until they feel they have the proper total of rhythmic values. As in the first practice session, students are asked to try all types of combinations of notes to develop a level of comfort with all of the note types.

#### How to use the Music Tutor

The Music Tutor is easy to use. Each edition has 'Lessons' under the lessons menu. These lessons have accompanying text that is displayed in the instructor box. As you proceed through the lessons, examples will be displayed in the work area above the instructor box. Questions appear periodically. You answer the questions by pressing the option button next to your choice with the mouse pointer. The Music Tutor then checks your answer and displays a message box telling you if you are correct

After you complete the text for each lesson, you may select the practice session for that lesson. The practice sessions are designed to help you go over the material in the lessons with repetition. The Practice Sessions are also designed to allow you to come back to the Tutor when ever you need a brush up on that area. You may find that some of the practice sessions will be useful for a period of months until the concepts are securely learned.

The Music Tutor is designed to be used at any pace. You may choose to go through all the lessons at once, or to do a bit at a time, coordinating the ideas you learn in your music lessons with the concepts and practice sessions provided by the Music Tutor.

The Music Tutor was developed by a pianist, and is oriented around that instrument. The practice sessions will work equally well, however, for students of any instrument that uses the treble or the bass clef.

## **Practice Sessions for Pitch and Key Signatures**

Each of the four lessons in the Pitch and Key Signature edition of the Music Tutor has an accompanying practice session.

*Practice for Lesson One - Pitch Names:* This session is based on the Windows drag and drop capability. There are two measures on the grand staff. One with the word <u>lines</u> above it and one with word <u>spaces</u>.

*Practice for Lesson Two -Sharps:* This session allows you to test yourself in recognizing the sharp key signatures. You may select up to four sharps only under the Options Menu Item. When a key signature appears on the grand staff, you press the button on the key pad that you believe is the key represented by the key signature. A message box will tell you if you are correct. If you need help, press the little button with the ?. The correct answer will be displayed.

*Practice for Lesson Three-Flats:* This session allows you to test yourself in recognizing the flat key signatures. You may select up to four flats only under the Options Menu Item. All of the behavior of this session is just like that for the sharp key practice above.

*Practice for Minor Keys:* To practice the key signatures for minor keys, you need to select the practice session for either sharps or flats and then go to the Options Menu item and select Minor Keys. When you are in

either Practice Session Two for Sharps or Practice Lesson Three for Flats you may toggle to minor keys or back to Major keys by selecting and de-selecting the Minor Keys menu item under Options. Be sure that when you are practicing key signatures that the Major or minor mode is set to the properly. If you want to practice Major keys, you will be frustrated a lot if the Music Tutor is set in minor mode. A message box asks you when you toggle if you are sure that you want to change the mode. **Lines and Spaces:** Each staff is composed of five parallel lines and the four spaces they create. These lines and spaces are used to represent musical pitches.

## **Options Menu Item for Pitch and Key Signatures**

The Music Tutor Pitch and Key Signatures edition offers three options under the Options Menu.

*Practice Only to 4 Sharps:* This option allows you to practice key signatures that have 0 to 4 sharps or all seven, depending on the setting. When you are just beginning, it may be easier to do only up to 4 sharps.

*Practice Only to 4 Flats:* This options allows you to practice up to 4 flats or all seven of the flat keys.

*Practice Minor Keys:* This important option changes the mode from practice for Major key signatures to practice for minor key signatures. Be sure you know the mode you are using!

## How to Register Your Copy of the Music Tutor

Thank you for using the Music Tutor. If you register the Music Tutor you will receive the following:

#### The Music Tutor - Pitch and Key Signatures Edition

Pitches and the Staff Sharp Key Signatures Flat Key Signatures Minor Scales - A Brief Overview

#### The Music Tutor - Notes and Time Edition

Rhythmic Value of Notes Time Signatures

Each lesson in the Music Tutor presents a lesson on the subject and a practice session which allows you to '*practice*' the principles you have learned. Then Music Tutor is ideally suited for adults of all ages who wish to learn about the world of music. Younger children will also benefit from the Music Tutor with the guidance of an adult. The practice sessions should be especially useful in teaching kids the note names, key signatures and time signatures. The Notes and Time edition of the Music Tutor provides a great way for kids to practice the rhythmic values of notes with various time signatures.

You may register both editions of the Music Tutor for just \$9.00. See the <u>RegistrationForm</u> for details.

### **Registration Form for the Music Tutor**

Fill out this form and send it with your enclosed check or money order to:

Candlelight Software 13298 Rocky Ridge Road N.W. Silverdale, WA 98383

Choose Print Topic under the File Menu Item in Help to print this form. If you do not have a printer just send your request to the address above. Be sure to include the information on this form.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your City: \_\_\_\_\_

Your State: \_\_\_\_\_ Your ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Both Editions of the Music Tutor for \$9.00.

Indicate the amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow a few weeks for delivery of the Music Tutor. Thank you for Registering your copy of the Music Tutor.

## File Menu Item

The File Menu item offers one selection:

**Exit** - Selecting Exit will close the application.

## Lessons Menu Item for the Pitch and Key Signatures edition.

*How to use the Music Tutor:* An overview of the components of the music tutor. Recommended for first time users.

*Lesson One - Pitches and the Staff:* The lesson covers the pitch names for all of the lines and spaces of the staff. It also discusses the clefs used with the grand staff.

*Lesson Two -Sharp Key Signatures:* This lesson introduces you to all of the Major key signatures that use sharps. It discusses the need for accidentals and why they are required to indicate the keys.

*Lesson Three - Flat Key Signatures:* This lesson takes you through all of the flat key signatures for Major keys.

*Minor Keys - A Brief Overview:* This lesson briefly introduces the relationship of major keys to minor keys. When you arrive at the point in your musical training that you need to learn and practice recognizing the minor keys, this section of the Music Tutor will be helpful.

## Help Menu Item

Help Contents brings you to the main help screen. Search allows you so search for topics based on keywords. How to use help accesses Windows help.

The About Box identifies the application.

# FILES Needed to Run the Music Tutor:

### Pitch and Key Signatures Edition:

### Notes and Time Edition:

Music Tutor Executable
How to use text file
Lesson on notes
Lesson onte time
Practice session one
Practice session two
2/2 bit map
3/4 bit map
4/4 bit map
6/8 bit map

### **Both Editions:**

vbrun300.dll	Visual Basic Dll
threed.vbx	Visual Basic Custom Control

Note: The Music Tutor is designed for Standard VGA 640/480. Higher resolutions cause unpredictable results in drag and drop operations in Lesson One of the Pitch and Key Signatures Edition.