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Mastering MuseScore: Make Beautiful Sheet Music With MuseScore 2

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Synopsis

MASTERING MUESCORE is the definitive guide to MuseScore 2, the free and open source music notation program for Windows, Mac OS, and Linux. This book starts with the basics, walking you through the notation of a very simple song. Next it explores the process of note entry and editing in depth, covering everything from notes and rests to triplets and grace notes to cross staff notation and feathered beaming. The book then explains how to create and edit each of the many different types of markings supported by MuseScore, including time signatures, repeats, tablature, chord symbols, slash notation, and much more. The book covers score and part organization and page layout, as well as the playback, graphics, import, and export features, and it explains the many customizations the program offers. Hundreds of examples and illustrations are included to make it easy to follow along. MASTERING MUESCORE is all you need to become an expert in using MuseScore, the most powerful free music notation software in the world.

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Customer Reviews

MuseScore 2 has powerful capabilities and an elegant user interface. It produces the beautiful results it promises, and, most amazingly, it's freely downloadable — thanks to the tireless devotion of an awe-inspiring team of developers who devote incalculable amounts of time and energy pursuing their passion for this project. Any outstanding piece of software deserves a worthy manual that's comprehensive, well written, well organized and easy to follow. Optimally, it can serve as both a how-to guide and a handy reference tool. That's what 'Mastering MuseScore' is, and that's what it does. I've studied classical piano — and been happily immersed in the wonderful world of musical notation — since early childhood. My personal experience with MuseScore is that of an avid daily user for nearly six years, going back to version 0.9.5. I've embraced this brilliant endeavor wholeheartedly, and I can now recommend 'Mastering MuseScore' with equal enthusiasm. For all those who wish to understand MuseScore 2 and to use it skillfully, this book is a great complement to a great program.

Music notation programs are by necessity fairly complex. MuseScore is a user supported program that directly competes with some rather expensive professional products. My needs were such that paying for and keeping a commercial product current was not a viable option. I discovered MuseScore in its earlier 1.x version and was immensely pleased with the upgrade to 2.x. The old documentation was so-so (for version 1.x) but barely adequate. (It could be viewed online or downloaded as a PDF.) Note: I did have some previous experience with a commercial notation program about a decade back... but keeping it current (as the computer OS was upgraded) was not cost effective for my needs.) Version 2 of MuseScore is a much more polished program. The online instructions/reference manual are far more polished than the 1.x version... it is accessed through a browser -- and can be downloaded as a PDF. The online reference manual is a bit terse at times, making it necessary to experiment a bit to "get" how a feature works. The book is a well thought out explanation of the program -- it's independently produced and has about double the page count of the online instructions. It has numerous screen grabs as illustrations. (Minor gripe is that they're from a Windows computer and look clunky compared to the windows on a Mac.) Each chapter had a brief chart of the functions (and related commands) covered therein. Obviously with a book, you can place sticky notes -- and even keep a couple of fingers in the book so you can flip back and forth between relevant sections as you work on a notation project. (Once you're more experienced with the program, the need to have the reference manual at hand will be reduced -- but there are many features that one might not encounter frequently, and having a reference manual is a big help

I am working with the program for about 8 to 9 months, mostly with the help of the online manual which can be downloaded. The disappointment in the book *Mastering MuseScore* couldn't have been greater because of the font which is used. The text is very thin, the space between the characters and between the lines as well is very small which makes reading for me too difficult. Apart from this readability issue I didn't find one item which I couldn't find in the online or downloaded manual so to be honest I cannot understand the 5 star rating of the book. Which does not make the book useless, of course. A rating of 5 stars means the extra ordinary quality of the material (media AND content offered), in other words: when you have a certain question, what then would be the first source which comes up in your mind? Nine times out of ten I'd favour the manual. *Mastering MuseScore* would be the second.

I have been using MuseScore for about a year now. It is a wonderful program. This book will help me get to the next level in composition and providing beautiful scores. This complete book of *MuseScoreology* leaves no stone unturned. If you have questions, this book will provide the answers. Great job Marc!!

If you use MuseScore you definitely want this book. I am very happy I ordered it. The layout is great and I have had no trouble finding what I need to know. Every question I have had so far has been answered in this book.

The ordinary keyboard is not able to type out music symbols. With MuseScore, you can type out all the music symbols such as the clef, the dotted crochets, the minims, etc. In fact, putting a music sheet together takes minimal effort with the MuseScore apps and a copy of '*Mastering MuseScore*'. All music enthusiasts - professionals and amateurs too should get a copy of '*Mastering MuseScore*'. It's a must-have!

"*Mastering MuseScore*" is not an easy book to read, let alone a "fun" read. Even those who can easily pick out a German Sixth in a platoon of Plagal Cadences will, I think, need to roll up their studious sleeves anew if they are to benefit from this book. It is not primarily about creating or performing beautiful music, but about formulating, refining and then communicating composers' and arrangers' definitive musical instructions to interpreters and performers (and discerning listeners), so that beautifully performed music may result. At the heart of this impressive enterprise is a software suite, "MuseScore 2.0". In most cases it is not very intuitive, and without the detailed guidance

provided by "Mastering MuseScore" it would be useless to most people, among them me. But the book made all the difference! (And, it has a happy ending..)

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