

Preliminary Project: Recreating a Score

For this project, you will not only learn about creating a score with various instruments, but you will also learn about transposing instruments and entering lyrics. The directions for this project will be less detailed than the previous ones when dealing with skills used in the previous exercises. Therefore, it is important that you have already succeeded in notating the rhythm and melody.

Directions:

A. Create a new score

1. Title your score "Yankee Doodle."
2. Add the following instruments to your score: Bb Trumpet (from brass), Voice (from chorus) and Piano (from keyboards).
3. Choose the appropriate time signature.
4. Choose "F major" as your key signature.

Notice that the trumpet staff does not match the voice and piano staves. It includes a sharp on the top line rather than a single flat like the other staves. The Bb Trumpet is what we call a transposing instrument. This means that the note the trumpet player reads is not the same pitch that is sounded. The composer, then, needs to adjust the notated pitches to accommodate the difference. For example, when a trumpet player reads and plays a "C," the actual pitch that sounds is a Bb. Therefore, the composer needs to write each note one whole step higher in order for the trumpet to sound the correct pitches. Luckily, Finale NotePad 2003 can do this for you. Finale can also save you time by allowing you to copy music from one instrument to another. Let's see how this works.

B. Transposing score vs. concert-pitch score

1. Input the first measure only of the vocal melody.
2. Now copy that measure to the trumpet staff. From the Main Tool Palette, select the Mass Edit Tool. Click on the first measure of the vocal melody (to select it) and drag it until the first measure of the trumpet staff is highlighted. Release the mouse. Voila! The notes instantly appear in the trumpet part. Notice that each note of the trumpet melody is one step higher than the original. What you are looking at is called a "transposing score." Finale will also allow you to work in a "concert-pitch score." In the Options menu, select "Display in concert pitch." Now the trumpet part matches that of the voice. You will probably find it less confusing at this point of the course by working within a concert-pitch score.

C. Input the vocal melody and copy it to the trumpet staff

1. Input the entire vocal melody as you did in the previous project.
2. At this point you can copy the entire melody to the trumpet part rather than inputting it separately. From the Main Tool Palette, select the Mass Edit Tool. Click on the first measure of the vocal melody. While holding down the shift key, select the last measure of the melody. At this point, the entire melody should be selected. Drag the mouse so the measures line up with the measures of the trumpet staff. Be sure the first measure of the trumpet staff is highlighted before releasing the mouse. Release the mouse and the entire melody should be notated on the trumpet staff.

D. Add Lyrics

1. From the Main Tool Palette, select the Lyrics Tool.
2. Click on the first note of the vocal melody. A cursor appears below the staff.
3. Type the lyrics exactly as you see them in the given score. To create a break between words, simply hit the space bar. To hyphenate between syllables, type a hyphen between syllables without any spaces. The lyrics will automatically line up below the correct notes in the melody.

E. Input the piano accompaniment

1. Input the bass clef notes as usual.
2. The notes of the treble-clef chords are created in the same manner as the individual notes. You merely need to click on the second and third notes in horizontal alignment with the first note entered in the chord.

F. Finishing Touches

1. Finish, listen, proofread and fix if necessary.
2. Convert the score to a transposing score by deselecting "Display in Concert Pitch" in the Options menu.

Notate a Score

("Yankee Doodle")

Your name goes here.

Lively

Trumpet in B \flat

Voice

Piano

Yan - kee Doo - dle went to town ri - ding on a po - ny.

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the score. It features three staves: Trumpet in B-flat (treble clef, key signature of one sharp, 2/4 time), Voice (treble clef, key signature of one flat, 2/4 time), and Piano (grand staff, key signature of one flat, 2/4 time). The tempo is marked 'Lively'. The lyrics are 'Yan - kee Doo - dle went to town ri - ding on a po - ny.' The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

Lively

Tpt.

Voice

Pno.

Stuck a fea - ther in his cap and called it mac - a - ro - ni.

Detailed description: This system contains the next four measures of the score. It features three staves: Tpt. (treble clef, key signature of one sharp, 2/4 time), Voice (treble clef, key signature of one flat, 2/4 time), and Pno. (grand staff, key signature of one flat, 2/4 time). The tempo is marked 'Lively'. The lyrics are 'Stuck a fea - ther in his cap and called it mac - a - ro - ni.' The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.