

An easy and free way to engrave your music

Lilypond - A free musical programming language

Point and click is slow, tedious and costs hundreds of dollars

Lilypond is a free and fast way to get the notes on the page and ultimately, under your fingers and into your ear.

Other software can be slow to use, with features buried in menus or hidden behind keyboard shortcuts. Plus, as a student, who wants to spend hundreds of dollars to notate a transcription?

With Lilypond, a simple text editor is all you need! However, there are graphical front ends available for Lilypond, for those who prefer this method. The choice is yours to make. It's all free and available for Linux, Windows, and Mac OS!

OLD FOLKS - GUITAR SOLO

GRANT GREEN

Chords for the first page:

- Staff 1: B7(#5), Em7 #5, A7(#5), Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7
- Staff 2: BbM7, Eb7, Am7, D7(b9)
- Staff 3: Gm7, C7, Eb7(#11), D7(b9)
- Staff 4: G7, Gm7, C7, Fm7, Bb7
- Staff 5: Em7 #5, A7(#5), Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7
- Staff 6: BbM7, Eb7, Am7, D7(b9)
- Staff 7: Gm7, C7, Eb7(#11), D7(b9)
- Staff 8: G7, C7, Fm7
- Staff 9: FM7, Bb/C, Cm7, F7
- Staff 10: BbM7, Eb7

Chords for the second page:

- Staff 1: FM7, B7(#11), BbM7, Eb7
- Staff 2: G7, Gm7, C7, Fm7, Bb7
- Staff 3: Em7 #5, A7(#5), Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7
- Staff 4: BbM7, Eb7, Am7, D7(b9)
- Staff 5: Gm7, C7, Eb7(#11), D7(b9)
- Staff 6: G7, C7, FM7

Just compile your code and it simply spits out a formatted score. This PDF used the project files displayed in the previous slide.

```
\version "2.20.0"  
\language "english"  
  
melody = \relative c' {  
  \clef treble  
  \key ef \major  
  \time 4/4  
  
  %p1 system 1  
  R1  
  r8 fs' \tuplet 3/2 { g8 bf d } f8 g ef f |  
  gr.8 ar' f gr' ef4 r |  
  R1 |  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 2  
  \tuplet 3/2 { r8 g' af } f c af f g c- |  
  c. g4 f8 g2 |  
  f8 ar' ef b r f \tuplet 3/2 { df'16 ef df } bs |  
  br8 af r f g4 r8 d | \bar "||"  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 3  
  ef8 c \tuplet 3/2 { gr8 g bf } b b r g16 f |  
  ef8 c \tuplet 3/2 { ar'8 bf ar } g f d r |  
  f4 \tuplet 3/2 { ef'8 f ef } c df' d r |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { br16 c bf } g8 ar af, ef' g gr d |  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 4  
  f8 d \tuplet 3/2 { ef8 g bf } d4 r4 |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { r8 f e } d df' \tuplet 3/2 { b16 df b } as ar gf |  
  g8 bf ar c, ef g gr d | \bar "||"  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 5  
  f.4 ef \acciacatura \tuplet 3/2 { r16 f gf } g4 c8 bf |  
  r8 d, ef af r gr' g4 | br8 ar gr f r4 |  
  R1 \tuplet 3/2 { r16 df cf } br8 ar gr f r4 |  
  R1 |  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 6  
  g'8 ef' c af \tuplet 3/2 { g16 af g } f8 r4 |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { g8 ar g } f8 g r2 |  
  r2 g'8 ef' c af |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { g16 af g } f8 g4 r2 | \bar "||"  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 7  
  \tuplet 3/2 { g8 ar a } \tuplet 3/2 { bf8 a af } g f ef d |  
  f8 d \tuplet 3/2 { ef8 g bf } \tuplet 3/2 { ds f gr } r4 |  
  r8 d' ar c, ar f bf ar |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { g16 af g } gr8 f ef \tuplet 3/2 { d16 ef d } c8 br af |  
  \break  
  
  %p1 system 8  
  \tuplet 3/2 { g16 af g } f8 \tuplet 3/2 { e8 g af } df c br af |  
  br8 g \tuplet 3/2 { ar8 c ef } \grace { r18 (gr' ) g4 } br |  
  c.4 c' gr' r2 |  
  r2 r8 gr' g c | \bar "||"  
  \break  
  \pagebreak  
  
  %p2 system 1  
  bf4 c r2 |  
  r2 r8 gr' g c |  
  bf4 c r2 |  
  R1 |  
  \break  
  
  %p2 system 2  
  r8 cf, \tuplet 3/2 { c8 ef g } bf a af c, |  
  er8 g' d' f d, e d | \tuplet 3/2 { df'16 ef df } cf8 df4 |  
  ef cf af f, \tuplet 3/2 { df'16 ef df } cf8 df4 |  
  R1 | \bar "||"  
  \break  
  
  %p2 system 3  
  r4 g.8 af a4 g' |  
  g. af8 a f'4 g.8 af |  
  a c ef c f ef \tuplet 3/2 { d16 ef d } c8 |  
  bf g \tuplet 3/2 { af8 c ef } g bf r8 gr |  
  \break  
  
  %p2 system 4  
  g d f d \tuplet 3/2 { ef8 g bf } d4 |  
  \tuplet 3/2 { r8 g' e } d dr' \tuplet 3/2 { b16 dr b } as ar8 gr |  
  f ef c d r4 |  
  r8 g \tuplet 3/2 { af8 c ef } gf bf gf d | \bar "||"  
  \break
```

FOUR - PIANO SOLO

MILES DAVIS

Frescobaldi still makes use of text based input but allows for clicking of the graphical notes to take you to that location in your code. PDF rendering can be set to realtime to monitor your progress as you enter your music.

Transpositions, rhythmic augmentation/diminution, etc... can be achieved using the "tools" menu

Commonly used chunks of code can be created and reused quickly using these snippets

```
% System 1
r4 g, bf d f4 d |
d5 d, d4 r4 r8 g- |
\tuplet 3/2 { bf d c } r4 r d |
\break % Line break
% System 2
c8 c- c4 r2 |
r2 a4 bf c- |
e,4 e e8 e r4 |
r4 \tuplet 3/2 { r8 g a } \tuplet
\break
% System 3
f4- f8- f2 |
d5- f16 ef d c bf8 c r d- |
d5 r2 |
ef4, d5 c bf c d |
\break
% System 4
c4 g a2 |
r4 a bf8 d c |
e,4 a g r4 |
r2 r8 g \tuplet 3/2 { f8 g a } |
\bar "||" % Double bar line
\break
% Section Solo
% System 5
\tuplet 3/2 { bf8 c df } d4- d2 |
g,8 a- a4 bf2- |
bf2- bf8 a g |
c4 r r2 |
\break
% System 6
r8 f ef g bf d f4 |
d4 f d f |
bf8 bf r4 r2 |
r2 r8 f d f | \bar "||" % Double bar line
\break
% Section Solo
% System 7
ef2- ef4, d8 |
ef2- ef4, d8
d2- d8 c d c |
d2 f2 |
\break
% System 8
c8 c c4 c |
c4 c8 d c d |
a4 a- a r |
r2 r8 f r4 | \bar "||" % Double bar line
\break
\pagebreak % Page Two
% Second Chorus of Solo
% System 1
f4 f f r |
r2 a2- |
a2- \tuplet 3/2 { a8 g f } d8 c- |
c2 r4 d8 ef |
\break % Line break
% System 2
c2 r2 |
f16 d, f d \tuplet 3/2 { efs f g }
\tuplet 3/2 { a8 bf c } dfa d ef d |
\acciacatura d8 ef d \acciacatura
d8 ef d \acciacatura d8 ef d
\acciacatura d8 ef d
\acciacatura d8 ef d \acciacatura
d8 ef- d2 |
\break
% System 3
LilyPond Log
Leaves - Miles Davis Solo.ly...
Processing C:/Users/Troy/Documents/transcriptions/
Autumn Leaves - Miles Davis Trumpet Solo/Autumn Leaves
- Miles Davis Solo.ly
Parsing...
Interpreting music... [8][16][24][32][40][48][56][64]
Preprocessing graphical objects...
Finding the total number of pages...
Fitting music on 1 or 2 pages...
Drawing systems...
Layout output to "http-ilypond-3H11x"...
Converting to "Autumn Leaves - Miles Davis Solo.pdf"...
```

AUTUMN LEAVES TRUMPET SOLO

MILES DAVIS

Things like dynamics, ties, etc... can be entered using the GUI, if preferred

Documents

- ~/lilymusic/reubke/ps...
 - 1-grave.ly
 - 2-larghetto.ly
 - 3-allegro.ly
 - 4-adagio.ly
 - 5-fuga.ly
 - 6-piu mosso.ly
 - definitions.ly
 - psalm94.ly
 - psalmtext.ly
 - remarks.ly
 - titlepage.ly

MIDI

Quick Insert

Direction: Neutral

Articulations

Allow shorthands

Articulations

Ornaments

Signs

Other

Dynamics

Spanners

Bar Lines

```

\version "2.12.0"
\include "definitions.ly"
global = { \key c \major }
adagioMusic = {
  % bar 232 - 242
  <<
  \context Staff = "rh" \context Voice = "rh" \relative c' {
    \bar "|"
    \global
    \tempoMark #"Adagio."
    r4 \clef bass f#
    \markup \whiteout { M. III. Salicional und Gedackt 8'. }
    e4. -gis, b:8 |
    <a d-4. gis8 <-f- gis->4) <f gis c' ( |
    <e a> <e gis> <e g> <d fis> |
    <<
    {
      \voiceOne
      f e8 dis b'4. a8 |
      a4 gis2)
    }
    \new Voice {
      \voiceTwo
      c,2 <dis fis> e2.
    }
    >>
    \oneVoice r4 |
    r: a e'4. ais,8- |
    ais4 b2. r4 |
    r4 \clef treble <<
    {
      c' g'4. dis8- |
      dis4 e fis g |
      b4. a8 g4 fis |
    }
    >>
    \{
      c4- c b- |
      b c2 b4 |
      <d g> <c fis> b2 |
    }
    >>
  }
  \context Staff = "lh" \context Voice = "lh" \relative c {
    \global
    r2 r4 r8 e ( |
    << f2 \{ { d4 c } >>
    <b d'> <-e, d'> |
    <a c> <e b'> <c c'> <d a'> |
    << a'2 \{ { f4 fis } >> b2~
    <e, b'>2. \}
    r4 |
    r4 e'8( fis g4 fis8 e- |
    e4 dis2) r4 |
    r4 \voiceTwo e! f2- |
    << { f4 e } \new Voice { \voiceOne g2 } >> \oneVoice c,4 d |
    d2. dis4)
  }
  \context Staff = "ped" \context Voice = "ped" \relative c {
    \global
    R1*4 |
  }
}

```

Line: 58, Col: 6 4-adagio.ly

An advanced example from Frescobaldi's website featuring a Lilypond project of different complexity and genre.

Music View

Adagio.

238

M. III. Salicional und Gedackt 8'.
pp
Subbass 16.

240

M. II. hervortretend
Oboe oder Geigenprinzipal
p

M. III. pp

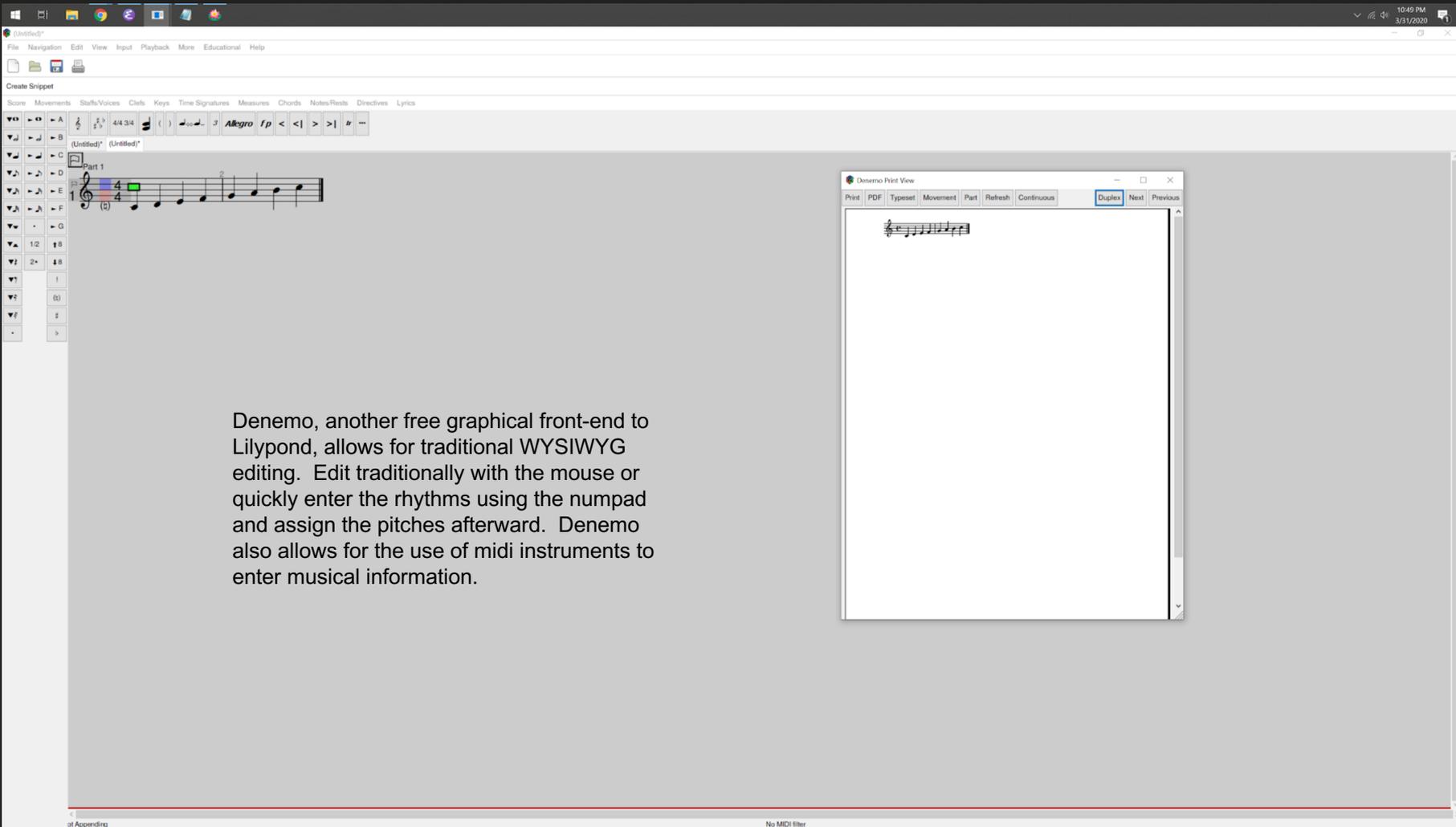
246

M. III.
ppp
molto cresc.

16

Oboe oder Geigenprinzipal (Aeoline 16').
M. II.

252



Denemo, another free graphical front-end to Lilypond, allows for traditional WYSIWYG editing. Edit traditionally with the mouse or quickly enter the rhythms using the numpad and assign the pitches afterward. Denemo also allows for the use of midi instruments to enter musical information.

Have fun learning!

Lilypond is a fast and easy way to get the music onto the page. I have found it to be an extremely satisfying way to assist in learning from these jazz solos. Forget about the software and focus on the music. Have fun!

[Lilypond](#) Extensive and easy to follow documentation can be found here with everything you need to know to get started and more!

[Frescobaldi \(Graphical front-end for Lilypond text entry\)](#)

[Denemo \(Traditional graphical point and click front-end for Lilypond\)](#)