Band2Play

Playback Creation Software

Quick Guide
Band2Play 2

Last update: September 2011, v. 2.000

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1. System Requirements

PC with at least 1 Ghz
512 MB RAM
20 MB free hard disk space
Sound card for audio playback
Printer to use the print function
Windows XP, Vista, 7 or 8

2. Installation and uninstallation

Decompress the downloaded zip archive to any place and then start the setup.exe file, which is located at the location where you unzipped the zip file.

Follow the setup wizard and complete the installation. Now you can use Band2Play. When you start Band2Play the first time you will be asked for the serial number, which you have receive along Band2Play. It may be that you are offered an update of Band2Play. In order to keep Band2Play up to date, you should install this update. More information on this topic can be found later in this guide.
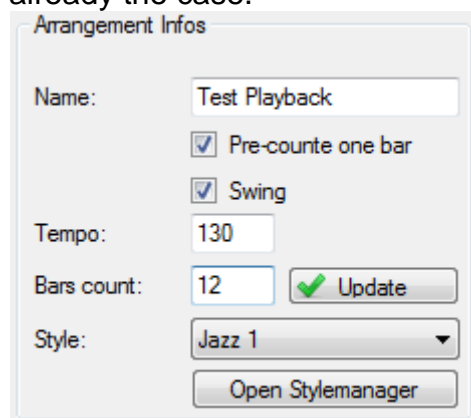
To uninstall Band2Play 2, go to Control Panel and select Uninstall program.

3. The first playback

Start Band2Play. Now the default user interface opens.
At **Arrangement Infos**, you can set or change important settings of the arrangement, such as the number of bars or the tempo. First of all set the name of our first playback. At **Name**, enter the following: *test playback*.
If you want to a bar to be pre-counted, just put a *tick* at **pre-count one bar**, if this is not already the case.

If your arrangement is to be played as a swing, then put a *hook* at **Swing**, otherwise remove the hook. Please note that some styles do not work (correctly) with the swing mode and are not intended for it. That's why you only should use the swing mode exclusively for suitable styles (Like Jazz).

For our example, please set the *hook* at **Swing**, because we want to create a little blues.
Please now set the tempo to 130. The specification is always in quarter per minute.

Now you must determine the number of bars that you need in your total arrangement. For our blues, we need 12 bars, so enter the number *12* at **bars count** and click **Update** to apply the new number of bars.
At **Style**, you choose which will be the playback style based on the arrangement. Here you can choose from styles of different genres. Select the style *Jazz 1*.

Now it's time to enter the chords. So enter the chords of the blues in F in the bar fields on the right side as in the following figure:

1 4/4 F7	2 Bb7	3 F7	4 F7
5 Bb7	6 Bb7	7 F7	8 D7
9 Gm7	10 C7	11 F7	12 C7

For each arrangement the time at the beginning (1st bar) is automatically set to 4/4. You can change it if necessary by clicking on the small rectangle at the top right in the appropriate box and by selecting a different time signature at *Set Time*.

You can also change the time signature within the arrangement at will. Some styles do not support all types of time signatures. If you select an unsupported time signature, you will be automatically informed at playback.
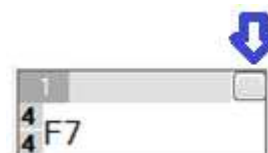
For our blues scheme, we need the 4/4-time – so we don't need to change anything.

Substyles:

A Substyle is a certain kind of playback style which is subordinated to the selected style and that can be set individually for each bar.
Each style has several Substyles, which can be used for special occasions. The standard Substyles mean following:

Style A	Standard accompaniment (usually for melody)
Style B	Other accompaniment (e.g. for improvisation)
Break A	A break matching to *Style A* (set at the end of a lengthy section)
Break B	A break matching to *Style B*
Ending	Make use of the Substyle *Ending* at the end of your arrangement (last bar)
Voicings	The style *Jazz 1* includes Piano *Voicings* that can be used for improvisation.

These are the main Substyles. May be the styles also contain other Substyles - try this out yourself.

When you begin a new arrangement, as in our case, then no Substyle is selected for the bars.
Click in the box in the right-top of the first bar on the small rectangle, now the menu with the available Substyles appears. Now select the Substyle *Style A*. Now the new Substyle automatically is set for this and all following bars until the next bar, for which another Substyle is set.
Now we want to insert a break into the last bar. To do this click again in the box in the right-top of the first bar on the small rectangle and select as Substyle *Break A*.
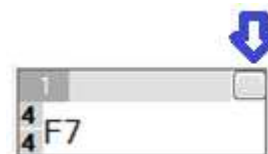
Before we're done now, you must also specify the order in which the bars should be played. Enter into the field at the bottom left at **From** the number *1* and into the field **To** the number *12* and into the field **Times** the number 2.

This means that the bars are played from 1 to 12, totally two times. Now click on Add to add the repeat information to the list.

Done. Click in the top menu on play, to start the playback.

Now we add to our playback a part of improvisation, accompanied by the Substyle *voicings* and three times repeated. Then again shall resound to the normal part twice and at the end an ending bar.

To insert the voicings, we must enter the blues scheme once again and set it the Substyle voicings.

First we need to change the number of bars to 25 (two times blues scheme of 12 cycles and final cycle)

So please type into the field at **bars count**, the number *25*, and then click **Update**. Now enter again the Blues scheme into the bars 13 to 24. After that, select the Substyle **Voicings** at bar 13 and the Substyle **Break Voicings** at bar 24. In bar 25 (final bar) please enter the final chord *F7* and select the Substyle **Ending A**. The bar fields should now look like this:

1 Style A	2	3	4
$\frac{4}{4}$ F7	Bb7	F7	F7

5	6	7	8
Bb7	Bb7	F7	D7

9	10	11	12 Break A
Gm7	C7	F7	C7

13 Voicings	14	15	16
F7	Bb7	F7	F7

17	18	19	20
Bb7	Bb7	F7	D7

21	22	23	24 Break Voicings
Gm7	C7	F7	C7

25 Ending A
F7

Now you must complete the repeat / progression entries. So enter the values as shown in the image at the right side:

Repeat / Progressions

1 - 12 / Times: 2
13 - 24 / Times: 3
1 - 12 / Times: 2
25 - 25 / Times: 1

Add   Remove   Clear

From _____ to _____ Times: _____

Now you can play back the arrangement. It is played in the following order:
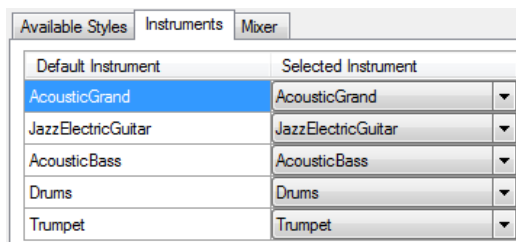
Bars 1 to 12, times: 2
Bars 13 to 24, times: 3
Bars 1 to 12, times: 2
Bar 25, times: 1

4. Further information and features

Change instruments:

In the Style Manager menu, you can change instruments. You can, for example, set that the voice that is played in the original by the piano is played by a harpsichord.
Simply select in the appropriate line the desired instrument.

Mixer:

In the Style Manager menu, you can set or change the volume levels of each instrument. Simply push the appropriate volume slider left (down) or right (louder).
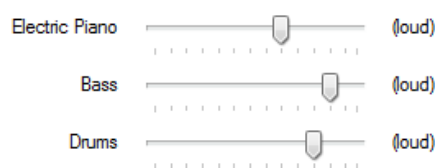
Transpose:

Band2Play has a feature that can both transpose the chords as well as only the audio playback. For example if you only have a lead sheet (chords) in Eb, then you can just

enter these chords directly and then transpose the playback, so you can easily play directly with your instrument to the playback.
Just fill out the form as in the image.
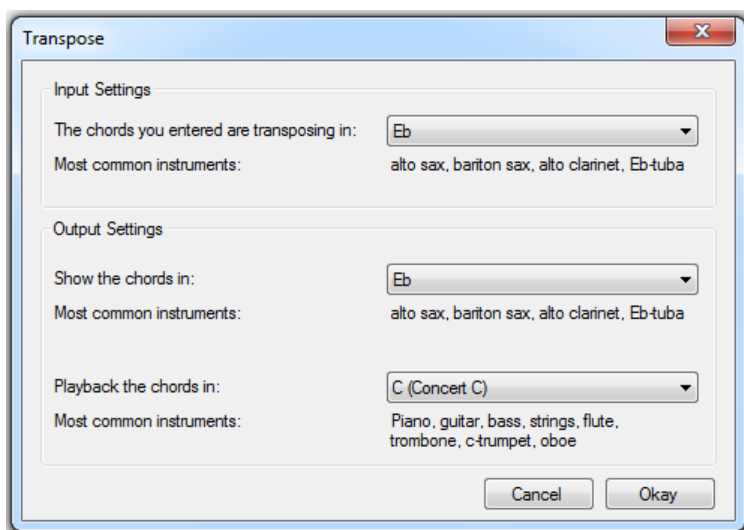
The same works also with other instruments, for example, tempered in B, respectively.

Make sure that at **The chords you entered are transposing in** and at **Show the chords in** the same key is selected. If this not the case, Band2Play would transpose the chords for you accordingly.

Here's an example:
You have chords in C, but want to know how the chords would be for your instrument (B-flat trumpet). Simply select at **The chords you entered are transposing in** the key *C* and at Show the chords in the key *Bb*. As you click on OK, the chords are transposed accordingly.
You can transpose as you like - but no chords with double signs are supported in the root (e.g. F##7 or Ebbm6), you would be advised in a case like this.

Chord changes in one bar:

If you need a chord change within the same bar, just enter the corresponding number of chords, separated by a space, into the bar field.

Using the 4/4-time or 2/2-time you can enter either one (full bar), two (half bar) or four (quarter bar) chords. (Separated by spaces)

Using the 3/4-time you can enter either one (full time), two (three eighths) or three chords (three quarters).

Using the 6/8-time you can enter either one (full time), two (three eighths) or three chords (three quarters).

Using the 2/4-time or 1/2-time you can enter either one (full time) or two (half cycle) chords.

Using the 4/5-time you can enter either one (full time), two (three quarters + half note) or five (five quarters) chords. The 4/5 time is only supported by the Style Jazz 1, Substyle Take Five.

Breaks and placeholders

You can use in your arrangement two different types of breaks:

- Pause for all instruments (Use symbol: dot)
- Pause for all instruments except the drums (Use symbol: colon)

Just insert the pause like you would insert a chord. For example:
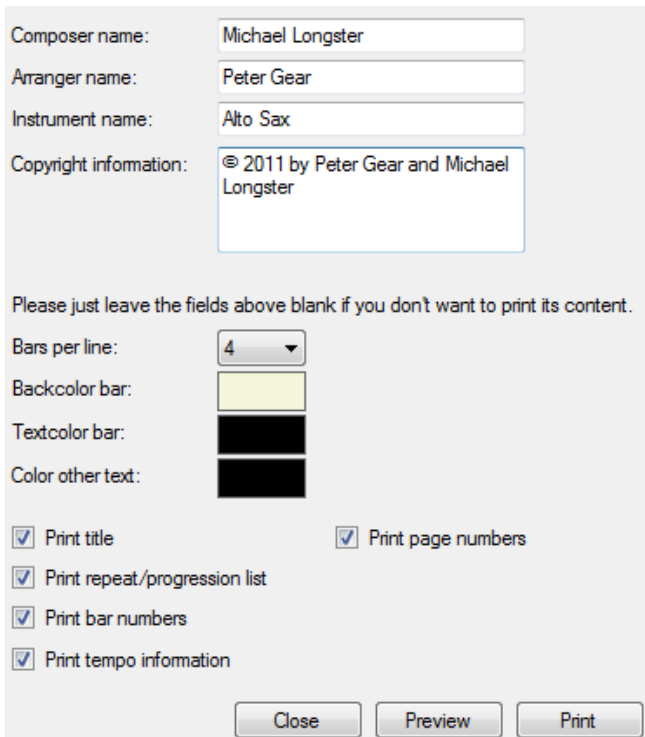
You can use a place holder if you want the last chord to be played again. As place holder please use the percent sign. Place holders can only be used within one bar. Before each place holder must be a chord name in the same bar. Example:

Lead Sheet Printing

Using Band2Play you can print your arrangement as a Chord Sheet. The transpose function lets you transpose your arrangement for different instruments, and then you can print the chords, for example for practicing with a band.

To print out the chords, click in the menu on **Print**, and fill out the appropriate fields. You can simply leave a field blank if you do not want it to be printed.

Automatic updates

Band2Play searches automatically at each startup for new updates, which you can download and install with just one click. New updates do not only include changes in the program itself, but also as new playback styles that you can use after the update.

If you don't want Band2Play automatically to check for updates, you can disable this feature at any time in the settings when you remove the tick at **AutoUpdate**.

Your help

If you like to suggest an idea or a wish (for example a certain playback style), then we would appreciate hearing from you by e-mail to: band2play@schroech.de
Maybe we can bring in your proposal as part of our regular updates.

Overview of the subdivisions at chord changes:

Subdivision using the 4/4-time and the 2/2-time:

Input	Is played back as
C	(♩♩♩♩ C)
C F	(♩♩ C) + (♩♩ F)
C F G C	(♩ C) + (♩ F) + (♩ G) + (♩ C)

Subdivision using the 3/4-time:

Input	Is played back as
C	(♩♩♩ C)
C F	(♪♪♪ C) + (♪♪♪ F)
C F G	(♩ C) + (♩ F) + (♩ G)

Subdivision using the 6/8-time:

Input	Is played back as
C	(♪♪♪♪♪♪ C)
C F	(♪♪♪ C) + (♪♪♪ F)
C F G	(♩ C) + (♩ F) + (♩ G)

Subdivision using the 5/4-time:

Input	Is played back as
C	(♩♩♩♩♩ C)
C F	(♩♩♩ C) + (♩♩ F)
C F G F C	(♩ C) + (♩ F) + (♩ G) + (♩ F) + (♩ C)

Subdivision using the 2/4-time and the 1/2 time:

Input	Is played back as
C	(♩♩ C)
C F	(♩ C) + (♩ F)

Overview of the supported chords (for example, all with C as root):

Cm, Cm2, Cm27, Cm6, Cm6b9, Cm69, Cm6#9, Cm7, Cm7b5, Cm7b9, Cm79, Cm7#9, Cm9, Cm9b11, Cm911, Cm9#11, Cmmaj7, Cmmaj79, C, C2, C2sus4, C2sus47, C247, C24, Csus4, C47, Csus47, Cb5, C6, C69, C7, C7sus4, C79, C7b9, C7#9, C7#9b13, C7#11, C713, C7b13, C9, C11, C13, Cmaj7, Cmaj7b5, Cmaj7#5, Cmaj7#59, Cmaj79, Cmaj7b9, Cmaj7#9, Cmaj7b11, Cmaj7#11, Cmaj713, Cmaj7b13, Cmaj7#13, Cmadd2, Cm7add2, Cadd2, Cadd9, Cdim, Cdim7, C°, C⌀7, Caug, Caug7, C+7