

Finale Family Detailed Product Comparison Chart

Finale PrintMusic Songwriter NotePad

Compatibility/System Requirements

2012	2011	2012	2012
XP/Vista/Windows 7 (64-bit compatible)	XP/Vista/Windows 7 (64-bit compatible)	XP/Vista/windows 7 (64-bit compatible)	XP/Vista/Windows 7 (64-bit compatible)
10.5 - 10.7	10.5 - 10.7	10.5 - 10.7	10.5 - 10.7
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
2	1	1	1
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■

Version

Windows

Macintosh OS X

Universal Binary (runs natively on Intel-based Macintosh computers)

Share files between Macintosh and Windows platforms

Number of Authorized installations

Backwards compatibility using MusicXML Import and Export

Use Free Finale Reader to view, play, and print Finale family notation files

Getting Started

■	■	Limited	Limited
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
Unlimited	24	8	8
0-100	1, 5	5	5
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	All but Finale AlphaNotes, Numerics, & Copyist	Maestro Only	Maestro Only
■		■	■
■		■	■
■		■	■

Instrument "Set-up Wizard" provides very easy score set-up with full page layout and instrument transposition

Comprehensive, printable on-line documentation with "Hot Links"

On screen Message Bar identifies tools and their uses

FREE technical support online

Open same or previous version Finale, Allegro, PrintMusic, and NotePad files, retaining all data and settings

Number of Staves available

Number of Staff Lines available (all with TAB staves available)

On-line video tutorials that show and tell how to do almost everything

Easy start-up instructions

Installation and Tutorial manual for easy start-up

Quick Reference Guide provides easy access to most common keystrokes/tasks

Pre-designed templates

Included music fonts: Maestro, Maestro Wide, Engraver, Petrucci, Broadway Copyist, Jazz, Finale Percussion, Finale Mallets, Finale AlphaNotes, Finale Numerics, and Finale Copyist

Unicode font support, providing access to any font character (and in any language)

Tutorial Guide and User Manual with integrated video

Auto-Detect MIDI Device makes setup easy

Entering Notes

■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	Whole to 32nd	Step only Whole to 32nd
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■

Use a note or rests palette to click notes, accidentals and rests onto the staff

Enter pitches and rhythmic values using a mouse or MIDI Instrument

Enter rhythmic values with the numeric keypad

Notates from Imported MIDI data

Option to as a standard MIDI file

Input notes and rhythms in real time

Enter rhythmic values from a double-whole note to a 128th note

Enter pitches with the arrow keys or letter keys

Notate with a MIDI instrument using a computer-supplied beat/metronome

Re-position notes with the arrow keys

Notate as you play a single melody acoustic instrument

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Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad	
■	■			Scan existing sheet music with FREE SmartScore Lite software by Musitek (included)
■	■			Directly convert SmartScore™ and MidiScan™ scanned music files into Finale notation files
■	■			Open SharpEye scanning files via MusicXML (SharpEye is currently Windows only)
■				Enter notation in real time with the HyperScribe tool. Speed up or slow down tempo during notation.
■				Specify instrumentation while scanning for properly transposed playback
■				Select rhythmic values from a MIDI keyboard
Adding Markings, Lyrics, and more				
■	■	■	■	Individual score elements display in different colors for easy distinction
■	■	■	■	Dockable palettes for a "cleaner" look (windows only)
■	■	■	■	Use a Smart Shape palette to place a predefined expression onto the score
■	■	■	■	Create and position titles, credits, copyright notices and other text
■	■	■	■	Control font, size, style and alignment
■	■	■	■	Automatically align lyrics with notes
■	■	■	■	Respace notes to automatically avoid collisions of lyrics
■	■	■	■	Enter notes directly in TAB staves
■	■	■	■	Copy/paste between normal notation and TAB staves
■	■	■	■	Type lyrics directly onto the score
■	■	■	■	Automatic Guitar Tablature
■	■	■	■	Automatically notate percussion staves that playback without extra configuration
■	■	■	■	Enter dynamics and tempo markings
■	■	■	■	Enter chord symbols by typing in their names or by playing them with a MIDI keyboard
■	■	■	■	Add repeats that automatically playback
■	■	■	■	Create Coda System
■	■	■	■	Center or left align chord symbols
■	■	■	■	Create and edit your own chord symbols, including alternate bass indication
■	■	■	■	Add rehearsal marks and measure numbers, then emphasize them with ovals or rectangles
■	■	■	■	Move lyrics, chords, expressions, titles, text blocks and other elements
■	■	■	■	Place large blocks of text with a built-in text editor
■	■	■	■	Automatic word extensions and hyphens that automatically wrap to the next staff-system
■	■	■	■	Play chords on a MIDI instrument for automatic analysis and labeling
■	■	■	■	Positioning guides built in for accurate placement of chord symbols
■	■	■	■	Notate TAB as you play a MIDI guitar
■	■	■	■	Automatically add guitar fretboards
■	■	■	■	Automatically transpose chord symbols with changes in key
■	■	■	■	Adjust ties, slurs, crescendos and diminuendos
■	■	■	■	Mix fonts, font sizes and styles (English, Nashville, Roman, German, etc) within chord symbols
■	■	■	■	Change or delete notes without changing your chords
■	■	■	■	Show only the tools you need, or display all the tools
■	■	■	■	Independently specify the alignment, position and font for any staff name
■	■	■	■	Create word extensions
■	■	■	■	Shift lyrics right or left by syllables
■	■	■	■	Hide signatures and accidentals on individual staves (e.g. , percussion staves)

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Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad	
■				Create lyrics all at once and click onto the score one syllable or verse at a time
■				Mix fonts, sizes and styles
■				Analyze chords from notation across one or two staves
■				Customize Fretboard diagrams and save in transposable groups
■				Notate bends, stair steps, double bends, pull-offs, hammer-ons and releases
■				Control the exact placement of each part of a beat
■				Hide key and time signatures if desired
■				Create chord-only charts
■				Create and edit text blocks on any view
■				Create your own TAB styles
■				Create "cue measures" using the Ossia tool
■				Specify tempo changes using the Tempo Tool
■				Support for: mezzo-soprano, baritone C, treble 8va, Bass 8va, french violin, alternative percussion, blank clef
■				Define your own clefs
■				Place multiple clefs within measures
■				Flow text into and around irregularly-shaped graphics
■				Align and Justify Lyrics either globally or syllable by syllable
■				Create custom staves
■				Create your own articulations
■				Flat Beams (Add/Remove)
■				Ledger Lines (Hide/Show)
■				Add Again metatool

Editing Tools

■	■	Full measures	Full measures	Select any group of notes for editing, including partial measures
■	■	Limited	Limited	View each window in any fashion desired (page or scroll view, magnification, and measure location)
■	■	Limited	Limited	Reduce a view down to 5%, or enlarge it up to 1000%
■	■	■	■	Size and position the tool palettes to fit the way you work
■	■	■	■	Cut, copy and paste text
■	■	■	■	Cut, copy and paste between windows
■	■	■	■	Reposition any symbol, character, graphic or text anywhere on the page simply by dragging it
■	■	■	■	Multiple Undo even past the last "Save"
■	■	■	■	Apply "smart articulations" with automatic positioning and stem direction sensitivity
■	■	■	■	Drag & Drop dynamics and tempo markings
■	■	■	■	Respace notes to automatically avoid collisions of lyrics
■	■	■	■	Quickly select items using the Selection tool
■				Multiple-page editing
■		■	■	ScoreManager simplifies staff appearance control
■				Easy Instrument Doubling

Hearing Your Music

■	■	■	■	Play your score through a MIDI instrument, sound module, sound card or internal computer speaker
■	■	■	■	SmartMusic SoundFont - 128 sounds included free
■	■	■	■	Playback the music as notated

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Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad	
Customization & regional selection also available	Standard style only	Standard style only	Standard style only	Human Playback plays feeling, phrasing and nuance in a variety of styles
■	Limited	Limited		Play back repeats, dynamics, tempo changes and chord symbols
■	■	■		Play a note, chord, phrase, selected staves or an entire score
■	■	■		Define playback sounds of each staff, layer of music and/or chord symbols
■	■	■		Assign a MIDI channel or patch, and play/solo/mute setting for each staff
■	■	■		Map multiple staves to the same instrument sound
■	■	■		Row-Loff Marching Percussion Sounds included free
■	■	■		Play back as you played it - retaining your original MIDI performance including key velocity, pitch bend, rubato, and more
■	■	■		Program the percent of "swing feel" for playback
■	■	■	■	Percussion staves automatically plays back without extra configuration
■	■	■		Integrated Garritan™ Aria Player with Ambience Reverb
■	■	■		More than 400 world-class sounds from the makers of Garritan Personal Orchestra
■	■	■		More than 100 concert and marching percussion sounds from Tapspace Virtual Drumline
■	■	■		External Sound Library Support (VST/AU Instruments and Effects)
■	■	■		Boomwhackers® tuned percussion tube sounds
■	■	■		Define/control playback of interpretive marks, text and shapes
■	■	■		Define your own scales and micro tonality
■	■	■		Assign a playback meaning to any graphic
■	■	■	■	ScoreManager makes additional sound control easy
				Sharing your Music
■	■	■	■	Use Free Finale Reader to view, play, and print Finale family notation files
■	■	■	■	Post files to MakeMusic's Finale Showcase website to be viewed using the Finale Reader
■	■	■	■	Print professional quality sheet-music
■	■	■	■	Open files created by same or earlier product version
■	■	■	■	Export MIDI and MusicXML files
■	■	■	■	Save as Audio File to create CDs (MP3, WAV, AIF)
Full page or section. PDF, JPEG, PNG, TIFF, EPS, PICT (Mac only)	Full page or section. JPEG Only			Export your score or a section of your score as a graphic files
				Educator Tools
Full page or section. PDF, JPEG, PNG, TIFF, EPS, PICT (Mac only)	Full page or section. JPEG Only			Create your own worksheets or quizzes by exporting music into a word processing program
■				Exercise Wizard (custom exercises or lessons for your whole ensemble)
■				Orff Instruments in Set-up Wizard
■				Create SmartMusic Accompaniments (SmartMusic subscription required to practice with these files in SmartMusic)
More than 1,000	More than 40	More than 40		Ready-made, customizable music education worksheets included
■				Includes solfege, instant Tonic Sol-fa conversion plus most Band, Orchestra, Choral and Church music set-ups
■				Colored Noteheads
■				Finale AlphaNotes font puts note names inside noteheads, benefiting beginning readers
■				Finale Numerics font makes it easy to type in Roman numeral or harmonic analysis

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Finale PrintMusic Songwriter NotePad

Composing and Arranging Time Savers

Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad	
■	4 layers only	4 layers only	4 layers only	Define up to four layers of music per staff with two independent voices per layer
■	1 or 5 lines (plus tablature)	5 lines (plus tablature)	5 lines (plus tablature)	Number of staff lines per staff from 0 to 100
■	24 stave limit	8 stave limit	8 stave limit	Create any multiple of staves and measures up to 32,768
■	Standard only	Standard only	Standard only	Use standard or non-standard key signatures
■	Layers, 2nds, and unisons	Layers, 2nds, and unisons	Layers, 2nds, and unisons	Automatically avoid collisions of mid-score and mid-measure clefs, 2nds, and unisons when using layers
■	■	■	■	Extra Palettes for File, Edit, and Help menus (Windows only)
■	■	■	■	Use easy on-screen Playback Controls to play any range of measures at a specified tempo
■	■	■	■	Set-up Wizard automatically assigns General MIDI patches and channels
■	■	■	■	Easily set up Key and Time Signatures using the Set-up Wizard
■	■	■	■	Automatic final barline
■	■	Page View only	Page View only	View a score in either scroll view (continuous staff) or page view (staves arranged on page)
■	■	Page view only	Page view only	Scroll music on-screen during playback in Page view or Scroll view
■	2-3 voice harmonies	2-3 voice harmonies		Band-in-a-Box Auto Harmonizing - add two to six-part harmonies of selected styles with or without chord symbols
■	■	■		Drum Groove - create custom drum parts instantly
■	■	Limited		Set the distance between a staff system and the staff system above
■	■	■		Enter an unlimited number of notes per measure
■	■	■		Control stem direction individually
■	■	■		Fit selected measures into staff systems
■	■	■		Transpose using chromatic, diatonic, enharmonic or modal methods
■	■	Transpose		Single commands to transpose, rebar, or rebeam your music
■	■			Shift easily between a score window and individual extracted parts
■	■			Use on-screen rulers to position score elements
■	■			Add graphic repeat signs and text repeat markings
■	■			Reduce a score, page, staff system, note group or single note down to 5%, or enlarge it up to 999%
■	■			Extract individual parts, with separate page layout control for each part, create automatic multi-measure rests
■	■			Adjust measure widths
■	■			Choose from over 50 pre-designed score templates to help you quickly prepare professional scores
■				"Optimize" the conductor's score by hiding empty staves
■				Save multiple MIDI/instrument setups
■				Re-quantize any notes in any region entered from any note entry method
■				Protect scores with automatic backup
■				Capture music as you play, then convert to notation later Record one "track" while playing back others
■				Define your own noteheads; change the shape of any notehead
■				Specify separate time signatures for display and beaming control
■				Use different time and key signatures in each staff
■				Latin Percussion rhythms included
■				"Explode" scores to create instant orchestrations
■				"Implode" scores to create instant piano reductions
■				Add Cue Notes - easily place cue notes on any staves in any layer at any percentage
■				Align/Move Dynamics - vertically align all selected dynamics, expressions and hairpins
■				Automatic Barlines - Place double-barlines automatically before all key changes and a final barline at the end of the score

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Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad
■			Automatic Dynamics Placement - automatically places dynamics on the score based on the notes key velocity
■			Canonic Utilities - transforms the selected region using inversion, retrograde, transposition or any combination of these
■			Cautionary Accidentals - allows various forms of cautionary accidentals added to your score including display on all notes
■			Change Fonts - Change fonts globally for text blocks, staff names, group names and lyrics
■			Change Noteheads - allows you to change the noteheads of all the notes in the selected region
■			Change Stem Direction changes the stem direction of notes on the middle staff line to follow the direction of the melodic line
■			Change to Default Whole Rests - allows you to change all the whole measure rests in the selected region to default rests
■			Change to Real Whole Rests - allows you to change all the default measure rests in the selected region to real whole rests
■			Check Range - verifies the selected instruments range with setting for beginner, intermediate and advanced players
■			Check Region for Durations - checks the selected region for any measures that have too few or too many beats
■			Chord Morphing - generates a variety of smooth between-chord transitions
■			Chord Realization- generates four-part realizations of a triad based on major key & scale degree specified
■			Chord Reordering - finds new placement options for chords
■			Chord Splitting - creates subsets of the original chord
■			Classic Eighth Beams - Beam Eighth notes together when using common time over the selected region
■			Clear Lyric Positioning - will reset any changes you've made to your lyric baselines in the selected region
■			Clear Measure # Positioning - clears all measure number positioning in the selected region and sets it to the default position
■			Command Line - allows for quick note entry by typing in specific text commands
■			Common Tone Transposition - creates a series of transpositions where one note is equal to one note of the original chord
■			Easy Harmonics - string harmonics fast and easy
■			Easy Tremolos - create tremolos for display and playback
■			Find Range - Run this plug-in to find the highest and lowest notes in the selected region
■			Frequency Modulation Chord Generator - generates a series of chords with increasing complexity and texture
■			Global Staff/Group Attributes - Apply the same staff or group attributes to any staves or groups
■			Handbells Used Chart
■			Latin Percussion
■			Melodic Morphing - creates a melodic transition from one melody to another
■			Menu Shortcuts - write your own script to automate common tasks
■			Midline Stem Direction - changes the stem direction of notes on the middle staff line to follow the direction of melodic line
■			Mid-Measure Repeats
■			Move Rests - lets you move rests in the selected region to a different vertical position
■			Number Repeated Measures - Place numbers over measures that are repeated again and again
■			Piano Reduction - creates a piano reduction of the selected staves
■			Rhythmic Subdivisions - Change the selected region to eighth notes, or divide all your notes in half
■			Single Pitch - changes all the notes in your selected region to the specified pitch
■			Smart Playback - adds a playback effect to glissandi, hairpins and trills
■			Space Systems - automatically positions your staff systems evenly on each page
■			Split Point - lets you reset the split point between two staves in the selected region
■			Tie Common Notes - inserts a tie between any two successive notes if the notes have the same pitch
■			Update Brackets & Groups
■			Vertical Collision Remover
■			Virtual Fundamental Generator - automatically gives the appropriate "root" for any selected group of staves
■			Voice 2 to Layer - moves Voice 2 entries to the selected layer
■			Word Extensions - add or remove word extensions to and from your lyrics

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Features for Production/Sequencing

Feature	Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad
Quantize before or after opening	■	■ Before only	■ Before only	■ Before only
Import MIDI data	■	■	■	■
Read and write standard MIDI files	■	■	■	■
Import and export XML files, such as SharpEye scanning files	■	■	■	■
Notate while playing back other staves - sequencing	■	■	■	■
Record and play with a resolution of 1024 pulses per quarter note	■	■	■	■
"Minimize Rests" give notes full value even if played too short so that unwanted rests never appear	■	■	■	■
Key Sequencer Features/Integrated Mixer	■	■ Mixer only	■ Mixer only	■
MIDI Tool - Full MIDI editing	■	■	■	■
Edit individual MIDI events in a graphic window	■	■	■	■
Define two sets of 16 MIDI channels and up to 64 instruments	■	■	■	■
Record an Audio Track or Import an Audio File	■	■	■	■
TempoTap™ -- lets you create tempo nuances by tapping your finger	■	■	■	■
Movie Window - allows you to import a video and play it in sync with your music as you compose or playback	■	■	■	■
Send SMPTE/MTC time code	■	■	■	■
Insert and display time code	■	■	■	■

Finishing Touches

Feature	Finale	PrintMusic	Songwriter	NotePad
Create pages up to 118 miles by 118 miles (large pages can be "tiled")	■	■	■ 11x17 limit	■ 11x17 limit
Print on virtually all Postscript or non-Postscript printers	■	■	■	■
Page Layout Controls	■	■	■	■
Textured paper on-screen (over a dozen backgrounds)	■	■	■ 1 background	■
Control the layout of individual staff systems and page margins	■	■	■	■
Indent staff systems and adjust systems horizontally or vertically	■	■	■	■
Reduce or enlarge a score	■	■	■	■
Color Printing, if desired, of Layers, Smart Shapes, Score and Staff expressions, Articulations, Text and Lyrics and Chords	■	■	■	■
Convert TIFF files of scanned sheet music into notation	■	■	■	■
Import graphics like logos and pictures	■	■	■	■
Personal Document Styles (variety to choose from and the ability to make your own)	■	■	■	■
Hide staves that contain music for unseen playback effects	■	■	■	■
Use the Shape Designer to draw your own musical graphics	■	■	■	■
Create lines, ovals, rectangles, polygons and curves Control line thickness, fills, object grouping and more	■	■	■	■
Control curve resolution and thickness on non-Postscript printers	■	■	■	■
On-Score Page Layout with Snap to Grid and Guidelines for easy, exact alignment of all score elements	■	■	■	■
Set or Clear Page Breaks at any Staff System	■	■	■	■
Compile Postscript listings for efficient downloading and printing on systems without Finale installed	■	■	■	■
Create Non-standard key signatures	■	■	■	■
3rd Party Music Font Support	■	■	■	■
Cross-staff beaming and detailed deletes with the NoteMover Tool	■	■	■	■
Slash Flagged Grace Notes (Add/Remove)	■	■	■	■

PDF, PNG, BMP, GIF,
TIFF EPS, DICT/MIDI

Embedded JPEG only
Provided styles only