

the TefView Primer

Visualinear tablature guitar ensemble e-scores (.tef files) are viewed and played with the TefView Score Reader. The TefView Primer is a guide to working with these e-scores that is designed to allow users to take advantage of a number of useful and interesting TefView features. **You can click on the page numbers below to advance to a particular topic.** Alternately, you can print the entire TefView Primer in a more condensed form by printing pages 15-23 of this document. The printed TefView Primer can be referred to more conveniently while an e-score is displayed on your computer monitor.

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opening e-scores

To open an e-score, first open the TefView Score Reader. In the TefView program, click on the folder icon in the top menu bar to bring up the Open dialogue box. At the top of the Open dialogue box, use the “Look in” window to locate the file you want to open. When you download e-scores, you are given the option of storing them wherever you like on your computer. The three most obvious options are to download them directly to your desktop, or to create an e-score folder on your desktop and download them to that folder, or to download them directly to your “My Documents” folder. If your desktop is crowded, the “My Documents” folder is the best option, since it does not require the addition of any icons to your desktop. If you use this option, when you search the “My Documents” folder in the “Look in” window, all the sub-folders are displayed, but individual files that are not in .tef format are omitted from the display. This greatly simplifies the matter of locating individual .tef files (e-scores) in your “My Documents” folder.

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setting up the screen display

Exercise 16, the last of the Melody Guitar Exercises, is a four-part arrangement of “Take Me Out To The Ballgame”. When you open the .tef file for this Exercise, you should see four lines of visualinear tablature labeled M, A1, A2, and B. If you do not, you will need to make adjustments in the TefView settings. These are one-time adjustments that will not need to be made again for working with visualinear tablature e-scores.

First, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the General tab. In Screen Mode, select Tablature and Multitrack, and de-select Notation. Click on OK.

Then, if you see six-line TAB notation, you can convert the TAB to visualinear tablature by clicking anywhere on the TAB grid, and then typing %. You will need to repeat this procedure for each of the parts of an ensemble arrangement.

Then, if the display still does not look like visualinear tablature, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Display tab. De-select Note Stems. Click on OK.

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the TefView ruler

The TefView ruler, which identifies each measure of the score by number, is included by default in the TefView screen display. You can move the ruler to either the top or the bottom of the window, where it will not interfere with reading lines of score, by clicking on it and dragging it to the desired location. Alternately, you can remove the ruler from the screen display entirely by pressing the F2 key. If you remove the ruler, pressing the F2 key again will restore the ruler to the screen display.

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adjusting the spacing between lines of tablature

To adjust the spacing between the lines of tablature in the display of an e-score, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the General tab. The spacing between lines can be changed by using the arrow buttons to adjust the value of the Vertical Spacing : Between Tablature Lines. Any changes made to this setting will be carried over to any other e-score you open. Since most ensemble e-scores are in four parts, you should set the screen display for a four-part score. You will probably need to reduce the spacing between lines for arrangements that contain more than four parts (especially for the 24 Noel arrangements, which all contain five parts). For ease of reading, you may want to increase the spacing between lines for arrangements that are in two or three parts.

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playing e-scores

To play an e-score, click on the blue arrow icon in the top menu bar in TefView. This will play the score through in its entirety with repeats. At the conclusion of the piece, the display should return to the beginning of the score. If it does not, you can set it up to do so automatically, which will save you a lot of horizontal scrolling in working with e-scores. To return the display to the beginning of the score automatically at the conclusion of the piece, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Advanced tab. Select “Rewind when playback completed”. Click on OK.

You can stop the playback at any time by clicking on the red button in the top menu bar in TefView. If you resume the playback by clicking on the blue arrow icon, the score will play from the beginning of the measure in which it was stopped, through to the end, without repeats. If you have stopped the playback, and want to play the score from the beginning again, click on Play in the top menu bar in TefView, then click on Play in the drop down menu, then click on All in the sub-menu.

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the playback Repeat function

Repetition is an important component of musical practice and an essential technique in the development of musical skill. Only the most accomplished and experienced musicians can perfect the ability to play a piece of music without playing it a great many times. The TefView program allows for the continuous replay (looping) of an e-score. This is an important feature, since repeating the score continuously makes it easier to learn to play one of the parts of an ensemble arrangement, or to read and play all the parts in succession. To repeat a score in a continuous loop, set the cursor anywhere in the first measure of the score. Then click on Play in the top menu bar in TefView, click on Repeat in the drop down menu, and click on the blue arrow icon to begin continuous loop playback.

After selecting the Repeat function, if you stop and then resume the playback by using the blue arrow icon, a new loop will be created between the beginning of the measure in which the playback was stopped and the end of the piece. To resume a looping of the entire score, click on Play in the top menu bar, then click on Play in the drop down menu, then click on All in the sub-menu. The selection of the Repeat function carries over to any other e-scores you open, which will repeat continuously in their entirety until the playback is stopped. The Repeat function can be de-selected, in the same manner in which it was selected, at any time.

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adjusting the tempo of the playback

One of the most useful features of the TefView program is the fact that the tempo (speed) of the score playback can be user adjusted. As any musician knows, slowing the tempo is an invaluable technique for learning and practicing music that you have not yet perfected the ability to play. To adjust the tempo of the playback of an e-score, click on the speaker icon in the top menu bar in TefView to open the MIDI Options dialogue box. The Tempo can be changed either by adjusting the numeric value (the metronome setting) with the up and down arrows, or by clicking on and dragging the fader bar.

Apart from slowing a piece for learning purposes, after learning a piece, you may find that it sounds better at a faster tempo than the original setting. Many of the tempos for the e-scores were purposely slowed for the benefit of beginners, and for the benefit of those who are learning the piece by playing along with the MIDI soundtrack on the Twelvemonth Music website. Any changes you make to the tempo of an e-score are undone when you close the file. When you re-open the file, the original tempo setting will be restored.

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selecting and de-selecting parts for audio playback

When you open a guitar ensemble e-score and play it, all of the parts of the arrangement are sounded. The TefView program allows you to select which parts are sounded and which are not. This can be a very useful feature if you are learning one of the parts, and you want to listen to only that part. In addition, a great deal of insight into how the music is constructed can often be gained by listening to the parts, in various combinations, two or three at a time. To select and de-select parts for audio playback, click on the speaker icon in the top menu bar in TefView to open the MIDI Options dialogue box. The parts can be de-selected and re-selected for audio playback by clicking on the check box to the left of the name of each part.

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adjusting the sound of the playback

The soundtracks of the e-scores are in MIDI format (Musical Instrument Digital Interface). MIDI is music in digital form. The sound of MIDI depends on a number of factors, and varies greatly from computer to computer. Many computers have more than one source available for playing MIDI files, and the sound can sometimes be improved by using a different source. To experiment with this setting, click on Play in the top menu bar in TefView, then click on MIDI Setup in the drop down menu. Use the arrow to the right of the Midi Driver window to try out the sound of any other drivers listed, and select the one that sounds best (some may produce no sound at all).

The MIDI format also allows for the fascinating option of changing the instrument voicing for the various parts of an e-score. To change the instrument voicings, click on the speaker icon in the top menu bar to open the MIDI Options dialogue box. The default setting for each part, Acoustic Guitar (steel), can be changed by clicking on the arrow and selecting from the wide range of choices available. Although many of the instrument voices are not very authentic sounding, a wide array of interesting sounds can nevertheless be imparted to an e-score arrangement in this manner. The instrument voicing for a part can be changed either when the score is stopped or while it is playing. Any changes made to the instrument voicings are undone when the file is closed.

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adjusting the movement of the cursor

The movement of the cursor as the e-score is playing greatly simplifies the task of reading the score. In the default TefView setting for the movement of the cursor, the cursor moves with every beat, and also with every note between beats in the highlighted part. The preferred setting for working with visualinear tablature e-scores is to have the cursor act as a visual metronome. To make this setting, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Advanced tab. Select “Playback cursor as Metronome” at the bottom of the left column of choices, then click on OK. After you have made this selection, the cursor will move only with each beat in simple meter, or with each main beat in compound meter. The movement of the cursor will therefore be a visual representation of the beat you are keeping while you are playing the music, and it will be equally applicable to whatever part you are playing.

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using the TefView Metronome

The main purpose of a metronome is to serve as an aid in practicing playing music with rhythmic correctness. In addition to the fact that the cursor can be set as a visual metronome, the TefView program also allows you to add the sound of a metronome to the audio for the score playback. To use the TefView Metronome, click on Play in the top menu bar, then click on Metronome. This will open the Metronome dialogue box, in which you can click and drag the fader bar to set the Volume, and select the sound (Patch) of the Metronome. The settings for the Metronome function carry over to any other e-score you open. The Metronome can be de-selected by sliding the fader bar to the far left (0), and then clicking on OK.

Apart from working with e-scores, anytime you are practicing playing music, the use of a metronome will ensure that you keep a steady beat, and therefore make it easier to play rhythms correctly. If you do not have a metronome, the TefView Metronome can be used for this purpose. You can set the sound and the volume for the Metronome as described above. You can set the tempo of the Metronome at the top of the MIDI Options dialogue box, which you open by clicking on the speaker icon in the top menu bar. Then, in the MIDI Options dialogue box, de-select all the parts of the ensemble arrangement, so that only the Metronome will sound. Then click on Play in the top menu bar, and click on Repeat in the drop down menu. The use of the Repeat function will cause the Metronome to sound continuously, for as long as you like, until you stop the playback.

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displaying parts in a melodic format

The tracking of an ensemble e-score while the music plays allows you to read any of the parts without interruption (except that repeat signs necessarily cause the score to skip). The tracking of score and cursor creates a fascinating and highly effective virtual learning environment. When playing from a printed score, however, the use of a full ensemble score is not nearly as convenient. Printed ensemble scores are at least two and sometimes three or more pages long. Page turning is often required if the pages are bound, and if they are not bound, the pages have to be spread out in order to read the score.

It is far more convenient to play from a part score, which only contains the music for one of the parts of an arrangement. A part score is therefore identical to a melodic score, and can usually be contained on a single page. You can create a part score by transcribing (re-writing) the music for one of the parts onto a blank page of visualinear tablature. Blank visualinear tablature can be obtained on the Downloads page of the Twelvemonth Music website. If you are transcribing from an e-score, do not play the score, but rather scroll it along as you go. Remember to include measure numbers, since it is important to be able to refer to them for practice and rehearsal purposes.

The TefView program allows you to display any of the parts of an ensemble arrangement in melodic (part score) format. To make this selection, first click on Display in the top menu bar. Then select the part you want to view in melodic format by clicking on it in the drop down menu. Then click on the X in the top menu bar to open the Options dialogue box. Select the General tab. In Screen Mode, de-select Multitrack, then click on OK. You can then view any of the parts in melodic format by selecting them from the drop down Display menu. To convert back to the full ensemble display, re-select Multitrack, and click on OK.

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using the TefView Fingerboard

In the TefView program, attention can be focused on one of the parts of an ensemble arrangement by using a fascinating tool called the Fingerboard. The Fingerboard is a diagram of the fretboard of the guitar on which the location of the notes in the highlighted part are shown, in real time, as the score plays. The Fingerboard thus provides a pictorial representation of the highlighted part that can be a useful learning tool, especially in the matter of deciding on fingerings. To highlight a part, click on Display in the top menu bar, then select it at the bottom of the drop down Display menu.

To activate the Fingerboard, select Fingerboard in the drop down Display menu. To change the default vertical configuration of the Fingerboard to a horizontal configuration, which is recommended, click on the X in the top menu bar to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Screen tab. Select horizontal at the top of the Screen tab, and click on OK. The Fingerboard can be moved to anywhere in the TefView display by clicking on it and dragging it to the desired location.

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- ❖ **opening e-scores (1)**
- ❖ **setting up the screen display (2)**
- ❖ **the TefView ruler (3)**
- ❖ **adjusting the spacing between lines of tablature (3)**
- ❖ **playing e-scores (3)**
- ❖ **the playback Repeat function (4)**
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- ❖ **adjusting the sound of the playback (6)**
- ❖ **adjusting the movement of the cursor (7)**
- ❖ **using the TefView Metronome (7)**
- ❖ **displaying parts in a melodic format (8)**
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You can stop the playback at any time by clicking on the red button in the top menu bar in TefView. If you resume the playback by clicking on the blue arrow icon, the score will play from the beginning of the measure in which it was stopped, through to the end, without repeats. If you have stopped the playback, and want to play the score from the beginning again, click on Play in the top menu bar in TefView, then click on Play in the drop down menu, then click on All in the sub-menu.

the playback Repeat function

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adjusting the tempo of the playback

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selecting and de-selecting parts for audio playback

When you open a guitar ensemble e-score and play it, all of the parts of the arrangement are sounded. The TefView program allows you to select which parts are sounded and which are not. This can be a very useful feature if you are learning one of the parts, and you want to listen to only that part. In addition, a great deal of insight into how the music is constructed can often be gained by listening to the parts, in various combinations, two or three at a time. To select and de-select parts for audio playback, click on the speaker icon in the top menu bar in TefView

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The MIDI format also allows for the fascinating option of changing the instrument voicing for the various parts of an e-score. To change the instrument voicings, click on the speaker icon in the top menu bar to open the MIDI Options dialogue box. The default setting for each part, Acoustic Guitar (steel), can be changed by clicking on the arrow and selecting from the wide range of choices available. Although many of the instrument voices are not very authentic sounding, a wide array of interesting sounds can nevertheless be imparted to an e-score arrangement in this manner. The instrument voicing for a part can be changed either when the score is stopped or while it is playing. Any changes made to the instrument voicings are undone when the file is closed.

adjusting the movement of the cursor

The movement of the cursor as the e-score is playing greatly simplifies the task of reading the score. In the default TefView setting for the movement of the cursor, the cursor moves with every beat, and also with every note between beats in the highlighted part. The preferred setting for working with visualinear tablature e-scores is to have the cursor act as a visual metronome. To make this setting, click on the X in the top menu bar in TefView to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Advanced tab. Select “Playback cursor as Metronome” at the bottom of the left column of choices, then click on OK. After you have made this selection, the cursor will move only with each beat in simple meter, or with each main beat in compound meter. The movement of the cursor will therefore be a visual representation of the beat you are keeping while you are playing the music, and it will be equally applicable to whatever part you are playing.

using the TefView Metronome

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Apart from working with e-scores, anytime you are practicing playing music, the use of a metronome will ensure that you keep a steady beat, and therefore make it easier to play rhythms correctly. If you do not have

a metronome, the TefView Metronome can be used for this purpose. You can set the sound and the volume for the Metronome as described above. You can set the tempo of the Metronome at the top of the MIDI Options dialogue box, which you open by clicking on the speaker icon in the top menu bar. Then, in the MIDI Options dialogue box, de-select all the parts of the ensemble arrangement, so that only the Metronome will sound. Then click on Play in the top menu bar, and click on Repeat in the drop down menu. The use of the Repeat function will cause the Metronome to sound continuously, for as long as you like, until you stop the playback.

displaying parts in a melodic format

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The TefView program allows you to display any of the parts of an ensemble arrangement in melodic (part score) format. To make this selection, first click on Display in the top menu bar. Then select the part you want to view in melodic format by clicking on it in the drop down menu. Then click on the X in the top menu bar to open the Options dialogue box. Select the General tab. In Screen Mode, de-select Multitrack, then click on OK. You can then view any of the parts in melodic format by selecting them from the drop down Display menu. To convert back to the full ensemble display, re-select Multitrack, and click on OK.

using the TefView Fingerboard

In the TefView program, attention can be focused on one of the parts of an ensemble arrangement by using a fascinating tool called the Fingerboard. The Fingerboard is a diagram of the fretboard of the guitar on which the location of the notes in the highlighted part are shown, in real time, as the score plays. The Fingerboard thus provides a pictorial representation of the highlighted part that can be a useful learning tool, especially in the matter of deciding on fingerings. To highlight a part, click on Display in the top menu bar, then select it at the bottom of the drop down Display menu.

To activate the Fingerboard, select Fingerboard in the drop down Display menu. To change the default vertical configuration of the Fingerboard to a horizontal configuration, which is recommended, click on the X in the top menu bar to open the Options dialogue box. Select the Screen tab. Select horizontal at the top of the Screen tab, and click on OK. The Fingerboard can be moved to anywhere in the TefView display by clicking on it and dragging it to the desired location.