AutoHotkey Kit for MuseScore 4

Increase Measure Duration

MuseScore: https://musescore.org/en/download Current version 4.1.1 (July 2023)
AutoHotkey: https://github.com/AutoHotkey/AutoHotkey/releases
Click 'Assets'. Download version 1.1.37.01, July 8, 2023   NB: **not** v2.0.x.

Change the extension .txt of the script to .ahk so it becomes
Increase_Measure_Duration.ahk
Right-click the .ahk file, choose 'Edit' and check if it is in the 'UTF-8 with BOM' format.
If not do *Save as* and choose this format.

At the top of the script:
Check the path C:\Program Files\MuseScore 4\bin\MuseScore4.exe.
If it is different replace it with your location of MuseScore4.exe

The chosen hotkey combination is **Z + M**. Z is the prefix key.
'Liberate' the Z-key if you have assigned it to a MuseScore shortcut.
Redefine this shortcut e.g. in Shift+Z.
Or choose another hotkey combination. Consult the Help file of AutoHotkey for this.

The macro increases the number of beats in a measure.
For instance in a change from 3/4 to 4/4 you choose to add one beat to X measures.
First you enter X, the amount of measures.
Then you enter the amount of beats to add, in this case 1.
So those X measures will get one extra beat for a total of 4 per measure.
When the macro is finished a measure will be selected. Create here the original Time Signature, in this case 3/4.
Finally create in the first 'increased duration measure' the new Time Signature, 4/4.
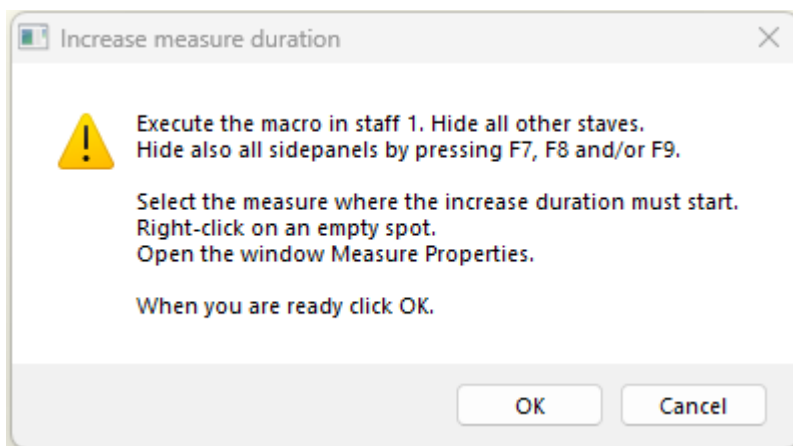
You can add up to 4 beats to a measure.
Notice that only the nominator of the Time Signature can be replaced!

AutoHotkey comes with the inbuilt utility *Window Spy*. It shows the coordinates of the mousecursor relative to the active window. You can use it to change the position of the tooltips appearing in the window *Measure properties*.
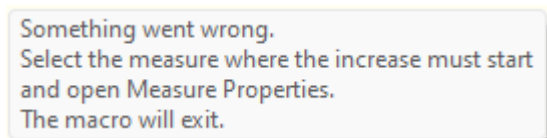Use the searchterm (*change*?) to find the 2 tooltip lines in the script.

About the speed of execution: on the test system it takes 65 seconds to increase the measure duration of 100 measures in a score with 10 instruments (staves).
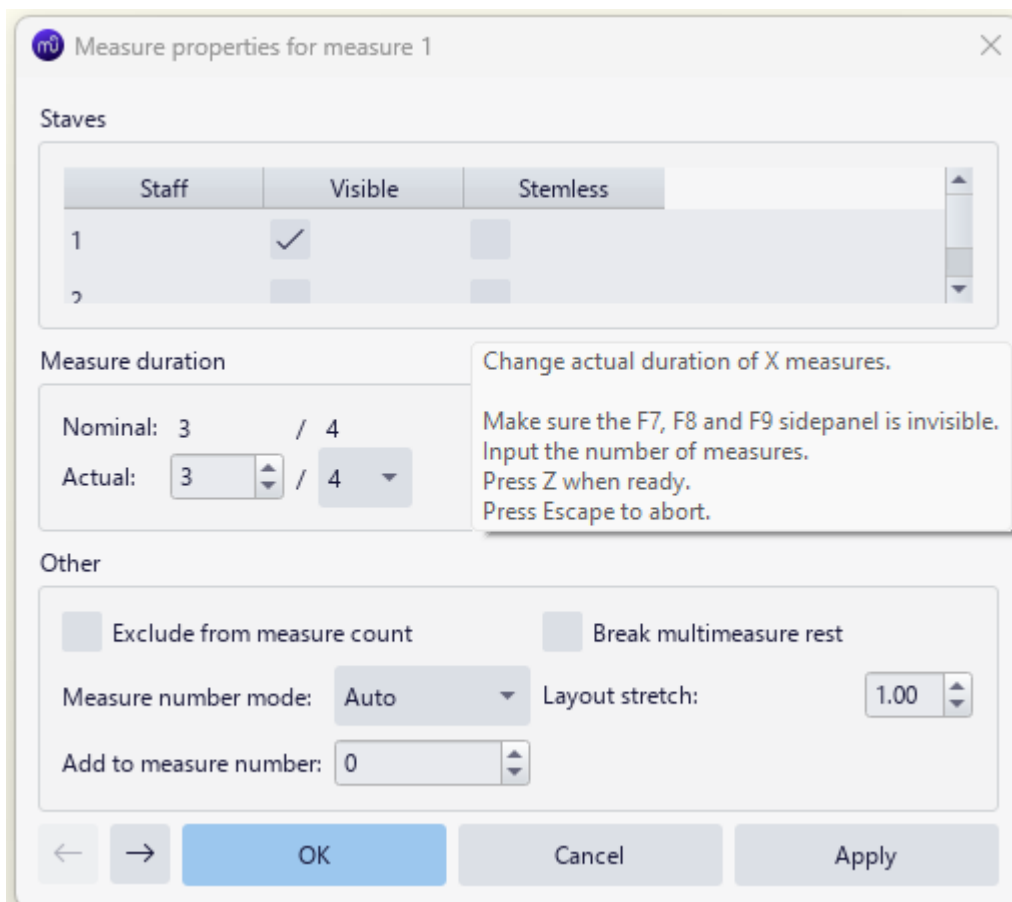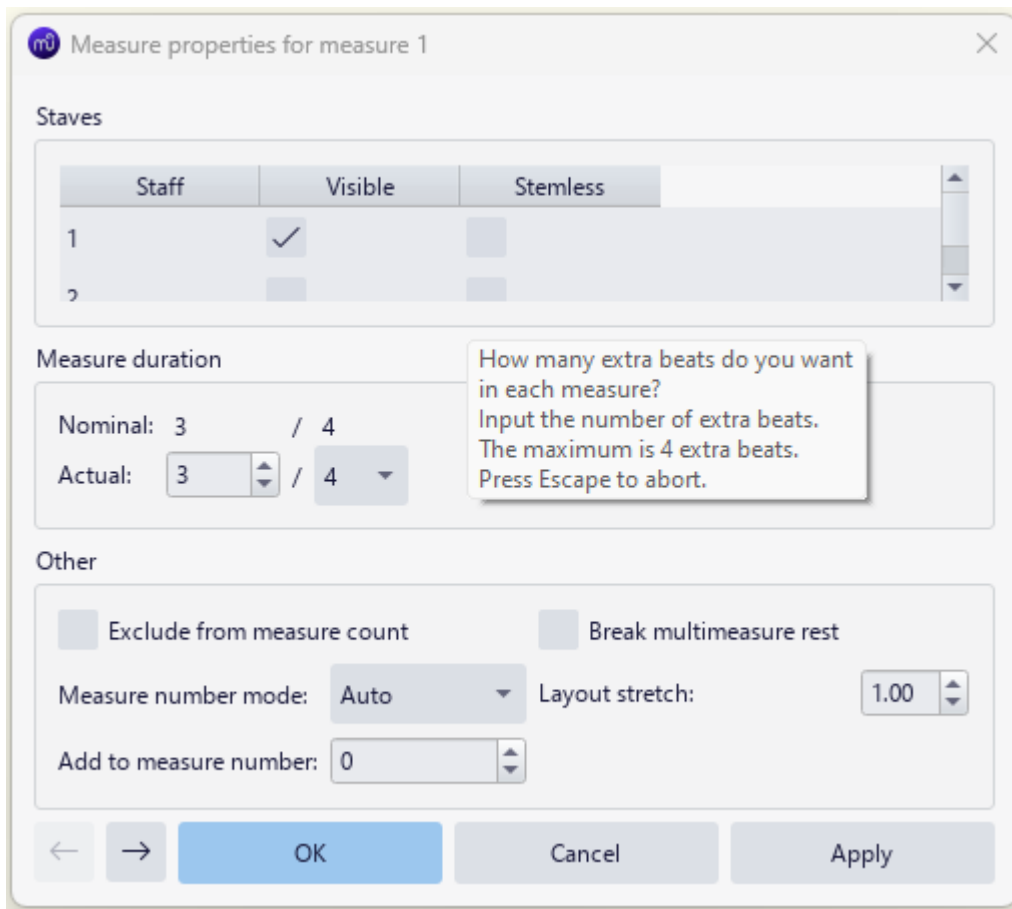
Press **Z + M** , a MessageBox appears.

Increase measure duration ✕

⚠️ Execute the macro in staff 1. Hide all other staves.
Hide also all sidepanels by pressing F7, F8 and/or F9.

Select the measure where the increase duration must start.
Right-click on an empty spot.
Open the window Measure Properties.

When you are ready click OK.

OK   Cancel

Sometimes this tooltip pops up. Start anew. Press **Z + M** again.

Something went wrong.
Select the measure where the increase must start
and open Measure Properties.
The macro will exit.

But usually you will see this:

Measure properties for measure 1 ✕

Staves

Staff	Visible	Stemless	
1	✓		
2			

Measure duration

Change actual duration of X measures.

Nominal: 3   / 4

Make sure the F7, F8 and F9 sidepanel is invisible.
Input the number of measures.

Actual: 3 / 4   ▼
Press Z when ready.
Press Escape to abort.

Other

☐ Exclude from measure count   ☐ Break multimeasure rest

Measure number mode: Auto   ▼ Layout stretch: 1.00 ⬍

Add to measure number: 0 ⬍

← →   OK   Cancel   Apply

After pressing Z you get a new message.
In this example macro execution starts at measure 1, but it can be any measure.

After entering the number of extra beats a summary is displayed.
Obviously in this example we want to add 2 beats.
E.g. to convert 3/4 to 5/4, 3/8 to 5/8, 5/8 to 7/8 etc.