

Can't see? Zoom in with the shortcut *Ctrl* + (Mac: *Cmd* +).

Double-click to edit title, -->
subtitle, and composer.

Getting Started

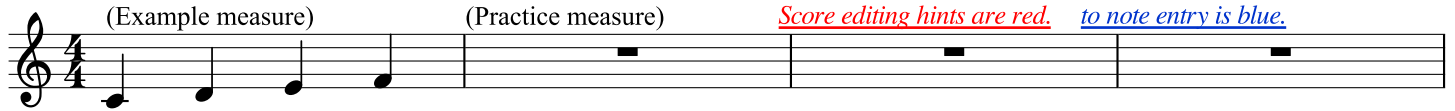
An introduction to note entry in MuseScore.

MuseScore Team

Want to save this score for future reference? Go to the *File* menu and choose *Save a Copy...* right now.

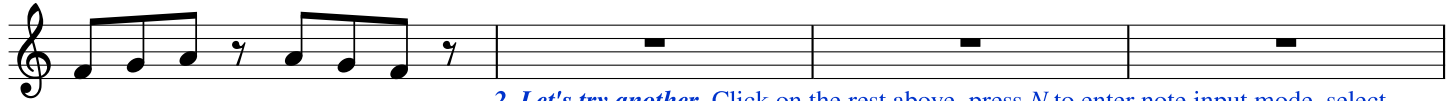
General hints are green. The step-by-step guide to note entry is blue.
Score editing hints are red.

(Example measure) (Practice measure)



Want to get started writing music?
Press *N* or click the *N* at the left of the toolbar to enter note input mode.

1. *Let's learn to enter notes.* Look at the first measure on the left. To produce that result, ^ click on the measure above ^, press *N* to enter note input mode, and type *C, D, E, F*.
Congratulations—you just entered your first melody!
Press the *Escape* key to leave note input mode.



The note values in the toolbar, starting with the 64th note, are assigned to the row of numbers 1 – 9 at the top of your keyboard.

2. *Let's try another.* Click on the rest above, press *N* to enter note input mode, select the 8th note duration in the toolbar OR press 4, and type *F, G, A, 0* (meaning rest), *A, G, F*. **Always remember!** Press *Escape* to leave note input mode.

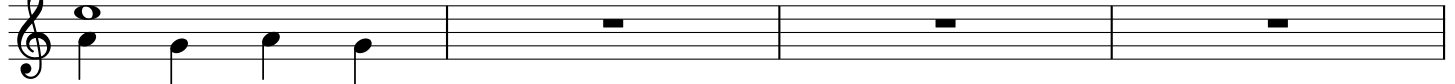
Want to undo what you just did?
Hit *Ctrl* (Mac: *Cmd*) *Z*.



3. Click on the rest, press *N*, and select the whole note duration in the toolbar OR press 7. Type *C*. Then hold down the *Shift* key to add notes to the chord, and type *E, G*. Press *Escape* to leave note input mode.

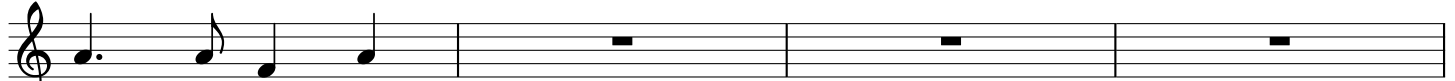
13 Want to play back what you've written? Click where you want to start and press the *Space* bar, or click the triangular *Play* button in the toolbar.

This is a line break. -->



4. Click on the rest, press *N*, and select the whole note duration in the toolbar or press 7. Type *E*. Go back with the left arrow key and select 2 instead of 1 in the voice selector at the right of the toolbar (where the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 are in a row). In voice 2, select the quarter note duration and type *A, G, A, G*. **Don't forget:** Press the *Escape* key.

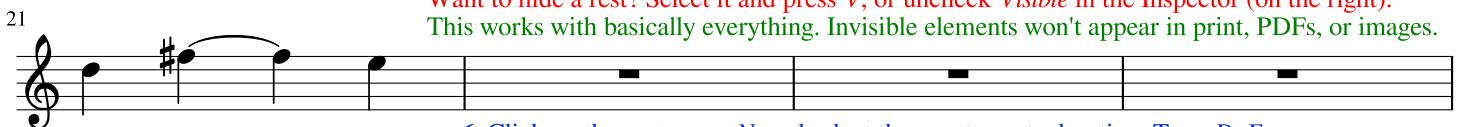
17 Want to delete this text?
Click it and press the *Delete* key.



Want a new perspective? Go to the *View* menu and choose *Full Screen*.

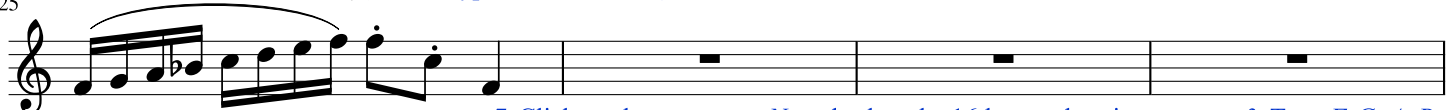
5. Click on the rest, press *N*, and select the quarter note duration or press 5. Type *A, A, F, A*. Press the *Escape* key to leave note input mode. Click once on the first note in the measure and press *.* or select the dot in the toolbar.

Want to hide a rest? Select it and press *V*, or uncheck *Visible* in the *Inspector* (on the right). This works with basically everything. Invisible elements won't appear in print, PDFs, or images.



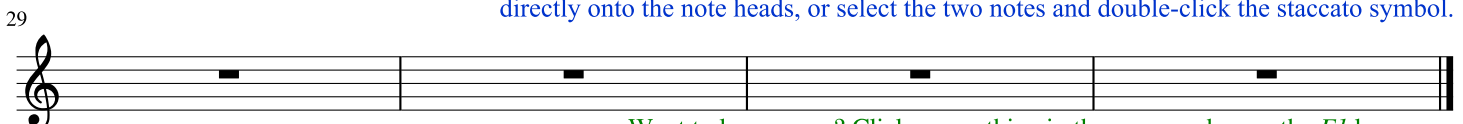
6. Click on the rest, press *N*, and select the quarter note duration. Type *D, F*, and press the up arrow key to raise the pitch to an F-sharp. Continue typing *F, E*. Press the *Escape* key. Click once on the second note in the measure and type *+*, which is *Shift*=, or click on the tie near the middle of the toolbar.

25 v (This is a big one! Follow the v V instructions below carefully.) V



<-- This is a spacer. It adds more room between two lines. Find it in the palettes!

7. Click on the rest, press *N*, and select the 16th note duration or press 3. Type *F, G, A, B*, and press the *Down* arrow key to move a half-step down. Type *C, D, E, F*. Press *Escape*, select all eight notes, and press *S* to slur them. Click the rest. Press *N*, select 8th note duration, type *F, C*. Select the quarter note duration, type *F*, and press *Ctrl*+*Down* (Mac: *Cmd*+*Down*) to move an octave down. Open the *Articulations & Ornaments* palette on the left. Drag the staccatos directly onto the note heads, or select the two notes and double-click the staccato symbol.



Want to edit the footer text below? From the *Style* menu, (Mac: *Fn*+*F1*). Or, go up to the *Help* menu and choose *Online Handbook*. choose *General...* and find *Header, Footer, Numbers* in the sidebar.

These instructions have focused on keyboard entry. If you find it easier, you can also point-and-click while in note input mode.

It is also possible to use a MIDI keyboard, or you can go the *View* menu and choose *Piano Keyboard* or press *P*.