

## Sibelius Guidesheet 1: Create an Arrangement of a Simple Tune using Sibelius Plug-ins

June 8, 2009 (Updated for Sibelius 6)

**Task:** Find a simple tune in the Sibelius Worksheet resources and quickly create an arrangement using the auto-arrange plug-in features of Sibelius.

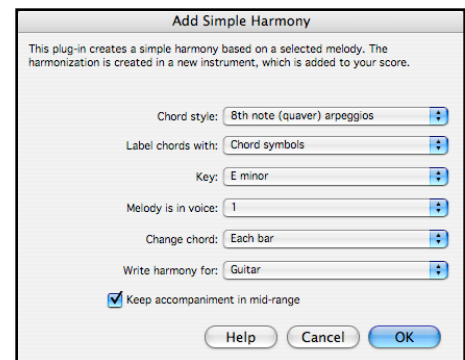
**Resources:** “All the Pretty Little Horses” song file in the Worksheet resources and Sibelius software. Completed file is provided: prettyHorses.sib.

1. Select some music. Go to Worksheet Creator in Sibelius, File > Worksheet Creator. Find the song resources as follows:

Teaching and Learning Materials > (uncheck all the check boxes) NEXT >  
NEXT > (finding materials prompt appears) >  
03 Selected Repertoire > NEXT >  
Songs for Teaching > NEXT > 01 Melodies & Lyrics > NEXT >  
All the Pretty Little Horses > NEXT and FINISH

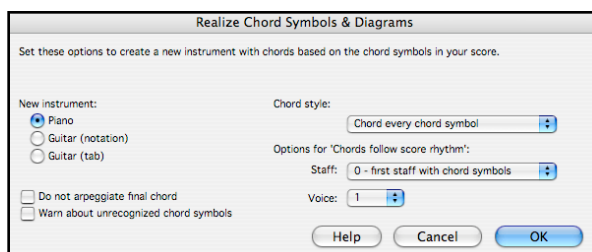
Save your file as “prettyHorses”. *Always save your Sibelius file before running a plug-in just in case!*

2. Simple Harmony Plug-in. Now let's have Sibelius analyze some simple harmony for us and create an arpeggiated guitar accompaniment. Choose Plug-ins > Composing Tools > Add Simple Harmony. It will warn you that you haven't selected anything, just ignore and click “Yes”. Set your options to match those on the right. You should end up with something like this. Use the Play button to audition your arrangement thus far. Note that I had to nudge my layout so the lyrics didn't cover up my chord symbols. This is easy to do in Sibelius. Select all of the guitar staff (see hint to the right) and just pull it down slowly with the mouse until things look good.



Hint: Triple click in any measure to select all of the notes in a staff. You may need to work on the rhythm to get the 3-click pattern just right.

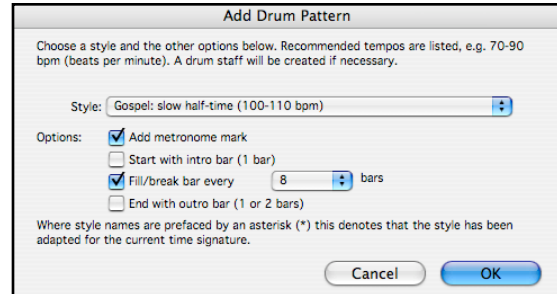
3. Realize Chord Plug-in. Let's add another track with block chords using the piano. Select Plug-ins > Chord Symbols > Realize Chord Symbols. Choose your options as shown below. Your score should resemble something like shown. Play the arrangement and save the file again.



4. Add a Bass Line. Add a bass instrument. Create > Instruments. Then under Jazz Instruments select Upright Bass. Click Add To Score; move the new bass stave to the bottom of the score if needed.

Your score should now have a new Bass stave. Select all of the left-hand bass line of the piano; copy and paste the notes into the bass staff. Save your file.

5. Add Rhythm. Use the "Add Drum Pattern" (under Composing Tools) plug-in to generate a drum pattern. See the settings I used on the right. With 3/4 time you don't have very many choices of styles. You can always go through and rework this by hand to improve it.



6. A few extra tweaks needed. Go to Create > Instruments and move the drum stave to the bottom of the score. Then House Style > Engraving Rules > Instruments and select the options: Start: Full; Subsequently: Short). After a few other small adjustments you should have a score that looks something like this.

7. Change top stave to Voice. To change "Piano" in the top stave, triple click to select the entire stave. Then Create > Other > Instrument Change. Find Singers category, then pick Voice, Choir, or you pick.

8. Play and mix. You can adjust the balance of instruments, panning, and the like with the Mixer (look under Window menu).

9. Save and Export. Now you can print this out, and/or generate parts. You can also save this as a MIDI file to play with a MIDI hand-held sequencer (like a Yamaha QY-100) or export as an Audio file (wav or aiff) and play with an iPod or other music player (or burn to a CD with iTunes), or generate a Scorch file to post on the Web. Lots of options all from Sibelius!

PROJECT COMPLETED!