

## SmartMusic Software in the Instrumental Music Classroom

If we can do it so can you

(but it's really nice to have someone around to tell you they have made the same stupid mistakes)

### Technical Requirements

Smartmusic software – it's FREE and you can use the practice tools without a...

Smartmusic Subscription - \$30 for a full calendar year access to the music. You can spend more for a teacher subscription but if you aren't going to enter your own assignments or use the gradebook then it's not worth the extra cost.

### External Speakers

Even in the smallest of beginning instrumental classes, you will most likely need some external speakers. If you are using Smartmusic with a Smartboard, chances are there are already external speakers.

### Microphone

We have found the built-in mics on both the Macs and Dells that we use to be sufficient for our needs.

Headphones for assessment (getting the red and green) accurately

### SmartMusic from the Top Down

Smartmusic icon – top left – does nothing but be pretty

### Find Music

This is what you will have selected most of the time

### Assignments and Gradebook

We don't use these (this would be a "Steve Martin" clinic)

The purpose is to enter your own assignments (created with Finale)

### Settings

We use this to make changes to our subscription/move to another comp

Practice Tools (upper right) THESE ARE THE **FREE** THINGS

### Tuner

2 different views

advantage: gives students a visual on which to focus during tuning

### Metronome

Can display metronome and tuner at same time

Great for demonstrating how to practice with a metronome

### Vocal Warm up

### Record

Same as metronome/tuner combo

Saves recording as mp3

I do not use this. If I want to record a student or group I use

GarageBand. Perhaps if I only had a Dell I would use this.

With a projector (SmartBoard not needed) and speakers, you can easily display these practice tools for the whole class.

Below the top Strip – Stuff that Costs Money – but only \$30/year

Smartmusic Catalog

Home

(this is a good place to be and after you click a bunch of times on “find music” you may remember that you really wanted to click on the “Home” button under Smartmusic Catalog on the left side of the page

New Releases

You must be connected to the internet for this

On this Computer

My Music – we will come back to this in a minute as it will take most of the time

The first time you access a piece of music, you must be connected to the internet and download it.

My Accompaniments

Make a file in Finale that can be assessed in SmartMusic. See your performance feedback displayed with red and green notes.

Perform with SmartMusic’s Intelligent Accompaniment feature.

SmartMusic listens to what you play and follows along.

MP3 Audio Files (I can’t wait to use this for choir!)

Import any MP3 and use it as an accompaniment

Play an audio file at any tempo and in any key

Students can record themselves playing or singing along with the audio file and even submit the recording for an assignment.

Samples, Recently Played, Downloads and Playlists

Pretty self-explanatory. I don’t really use these.

My Music (If you don’t find something here, it’s probably because you haven’t used it yet. Go to “home” and find the song/exercises that you are looking for.)

Students individually assess themselves

Press Play, not record. Only press record if you want an mp3 recording of the student performance

Individual or small group of students play along, using SmartMusic as accompaniment

In addition to common songs and method books that we all use, SmartMusic Provides it’s own Exercises that include; Scales, Variety of Scale Patterns, Arpeggios with triads and 7<sup>th</sup> chords. Scale patterns for state auditions, Jazz Progressions, Play By Ear, Intervlas from 2nds to 9ths, Technique-building patters, Rhythms, and Jazz ear training.

How Do We Use This in a Large Setting?

Students assess in practice room, save grade to desktop.

Use Practice Tools and Exercises with projector and speakers