



# LilyPond - Music Typesetting

## Basic usage - LilyPond Version 2.14 and above

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### Command-line usage

```
lilypond [-l LOGLEVEL] [-dSCMOPTIONS] [-o OUTPUT] [-V] FILE.ly [FILE2.ly]
```

#### Common options:

--pdf, --png, --ps	Output file format	-dpreview	Cropped "preview" image
-dbackend=eps	Use different backend	-dlog-file=FILE	Create .log file
-l LOGLEVEL	ERR/WARN/PROG/DEBUG	-dno-point-and-click	No Point & Click info
-o OUTDIR	Name of output dir/file	-djob-count=NR	Process files in parallel
-V	Verbose output	-dpixmap-format=pngalpha	Transparent PNG
-dhelp	Help on options	-dno-delete-intermediate-files	Keep .ps files

### General Syntax

<code>\xxxx</code>	function or variable
<code>{ ... }</code>	Code grouping
<code>var = {...}</code>	Variable assignment
<code>\version "2.14.0"</code>	LilyPond version
<code>% dots</code>	Comment
<code>{ ... }</code>	Block comment
<code>c\...</code>	Postfix-notation (notes)
<code>#'(...), ##t, #'sym</code>	Scheme list, true, symb.
<code>x-..., x^..., x_...</code>	Directions

### Basic Notation

	c d e f g a b	Note names (Dutch)
	<code>\relative c' {c f d' c,}</code>	Relative mode (change less than a fifth), raise/lower one octave
	g1 g2 g4 g8 g16 g4. g4..	durations (1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ...); append "." for dotted note
	g8 g8 g8[ g g] g8[ g16 g16]	Automatic and manual beaming
	r2 r4 r4.. r16 s4 r4	rests: r (like a note name) s for invisible rests
	<code>\clef \"treble\" \clef \"bass\" \clef \"tenor\" \clef \"treble_3\"</code>	Clefs
	<code>\time 4/4 \time 2/2 \time 3/4 \time 3/8</code>	Time signature
	<code>\key c \minor \key b \dorian \key c \major</code>	Key
	<code>&lt;c e g&gt;4 &lt;f c'&gt; q2</code>	Chords, repeated chord
	<code>c4~ c c2~ c4 &lt;c a f&gt;~ c</code>	Tie
	<code>c( a) c\ ( b( a) g f\ )</code>	Slur / Phrasing slur
	<code>g\p&lt; a b c\f\cresc d e\!</code>	Dynamics, hairpins, text crescendo
	<code>c4-&gt; c-. c~  c^-_+ c\trill c\marcato c~\"Text\"</code>	Articulations and text markup
	<code>\partial 8 c8   c1   c \bar\"  \" c \bar\" .\"</code>	Partial measure, bar line check, bar lines
	<code>R1   R1*3   \time 3/4 R2.*4</code>	Full-/Multimeasure rests: R (with exact duration)
	<code>c1 \repeat volta 2 { d } \alternative { {e} {f} } g</code>	Repeats (with alternative endings; can be left out)
	<code>\tempo \"Adagio\" 4=60 c1 c c \mark \default c \mark \"X\"</code>	Tempo indications, text marks
	<code>\grace d8 c4\appoggiatura d8 c4\acciaccatura d8 c4</code>	Grace notes
	<code>\times 2/3 {c8 d e} \times 4/5 {c d e d c}</code>	Triplet, tuplets
	<code>&lt;&lt;{a2 c4 a}&gt;\{f4 g4 f2&gt;&gt;</code>	Parallel music

### Creating Staves, Voices and Groups

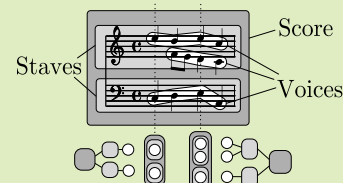
```
\version "2.15.0"
SMusic = \relative c' { c1\p }
SLyrics = \lyricmode { Oh! }
AMusic = \relative c' { e1 }

\score {
  \new ChoirStaff <<
    \new Staff {
      \new Voice = "Sop" {
        \dynamicUp \SMusic
      }
    }
  \new Lyrics = "SLyrics"
  \lyricsto "Sop" \SLyrics
  \new Staff {
    \new Voice = "Alto" {
      \dynamicUp \AMusic
    }
  }
} >>
```

### Useful Contexts

<code>Score</code>	The whole score
<code>&lt;&lt; ... &gt;&gt;</code>	Staves in parallel
<code>StaffGroup</code>	Staffgroup with bracket
<code>GrandStaff</code>	Staffgroup with brace
<code>ChoirStaff</code>	Staffgroup with bracket
<code>PianoStaff</code>	Staffgroup with brace
<code>Staff</code>	One single staff
<code>Voice</code>	A voice inside a staff
<code>CueVoice</code>	Smaller voice for cues
<code>Lyrics</code>	Lyrics inside staff/voice
<code>ChordNames</code>	Chords (lead sheet)
<code>Devnull</code>	No output

Also: Dynamics, FiguredBass, Tab(Staff|Voice), Drum(Staff|Voice), RhythmicStaff, FretBoards, ...



### Adding Lyrics

```
<<
  \new Voice = "m" {
    c4 c8[( b)] a8[( b)] | c4 c4~ c4 |
  }
  \new Lyrics \lyricsto "m" {
    Sim -- ple e -- xam -- ple --
  }
>>
```

### Writing text and markup

```
\markup {
  \justify {
    A \underline justified \bold paragraph,
    \fontsize #-2 automatically line-broken.
    Some symbols: \dynamic ff \eyeglasses
    \rounded-box text, \with-color #red Text
  }
}
```

A justified paragraph, automatically line-broken. Some symbols: **ff** text Text

### Links

#### LilyPond Homepage:

<http://www.lilypond.org/>

#### LilyPond Snippet Repository (LSR):

<http://lsr.dsi.unimi.it/>

#### User Mailing list:

[lilypond-user@gnu.org](mailto:lilypond-user@gnu.org)

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