

PadMaker Manual

Overview

PadMaker is a tool for creating a Multipad based upon the patterns from one or more styles.

With it you can:

- ♦ Create a pad by selecting an area of a style using the mouse and on-screen options. Only valid style parts are displayed. No typing is required.
- ♦ Audition the pattern selected on the PC or PSR
- ♦ Edit the Voice, Volume, Pan, Reverb, Chorus, Tempo and Brightness, Chord Follow and Repeat parameters for each pad. Editing tools are provided for transposing each pad based upon the Chord Follow setting.
- ♦ Access instrument voice support for PSR 450, 550, 740, 1000, 1100, 1500, 2000, 2100, 3000, 9000, S900, S910, S950, S970, S700, S710, S750, S770, S670, Tyros 1, Tyros 2, Tyros 3 and Tyros 4, Tyros 5.
- ♦ Include user-editable text into the pad's copyright field for acknowledging authorship, providing web links, etc.

The basic steps to making a pad:

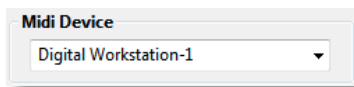
- 1) Open a style, and then select a pattern (e.g. Main C/ Chord 1).
- 2) Audition your selection.
- 3) Edit the voice and pad settings, if desired.
- 4) Copy the selection to a pad location.
- 5) Repeat for other three pads. If desired, select a different style to use.
- 6) Save the pad.

First Time Setup

(This color text denotes program controls)

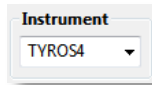
• Select your midi driver.

If you have your instrument connected via Midi or USB to the PC, you can play your pattern selection from the program. Turn on your instrument, and select your midi connection in the **MidiDevice** box.



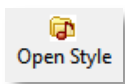
• Select your instrument.

PadMaker supports PSR 450, 550, 740, 1000, 1100, 1500, 2000, 2100, 3000, 9000, S900, S910, S950, S970, S700, S710, S750, S770, S670, Tyros 1, Tyros 2, Tyros 3 and Tyros 4, Tyros 5.



For other instruments: Select a model that is close to yours (e.g. Tyros 2 for CVP-309). See Appendix for instructions on making a file for your instrument.

- **Edit authorship text (optional).** Click on the **Properties** menu item.



Creating a Pad

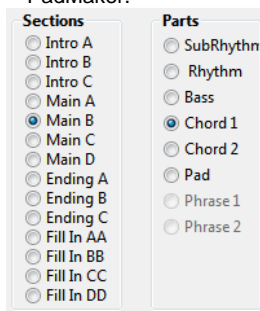
• Open a stylefile.

Open a style by clicking the **Open Style** toolbar button and selecting a file. Any style

may be used.

Remember that Tyros and later instrument styles often employ megavoices that do not sound properly in prior products.

Where necessary, use the program MidiPlayer to convert such styles to standard voices before using them with PadMaker.



• Select a Section and a Part.

When a style is opened, the pad compatible sections and parts are automatically displayed.

A pad requires that the style patterns used have notes in the key of C and are designed to play major chords.

PadMaker automatically scans the style, and only presents selections that are appropriate.



• Auditioning

Click the **Play** button to play the pattern on the selected midi device. To terminate play at any time, depress the **Stop** button.

Note: Rhythm and SubRhythm parts always audition using drum voices, but will reproduce as the selected instrument when the pad is loaded.

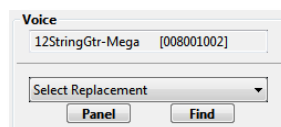
• Edit the pattern settings

Voice: The top box displays the voice currently specified in the pattern. If the Voice is supported in your instrument, the name is shown along with the Bank Select and Program Change numbers. If the Voice assigned to the preset pad is not supported by your instrument, only the MSB, LSB & Program Change will be displayed.

Click the arrow in the bottom box to select a replacement.

The choices that are presented depend upon the voice type specified by the button below the replacement voice display and include Panel, XG (includes GM), SART, Mega, GM2, and All Types. If your instrument does not include such a type, then it will not be displayed.

The voices displayed are ordered by their midi program change number. This groups all the guitars together, etc.



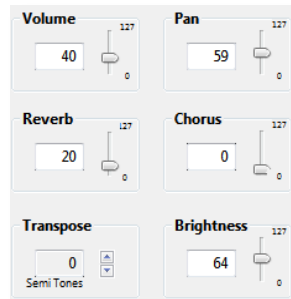
To locate a voice by name, click the Find button. The results of the search are automatically placed in the replacement box.

Volume, DSP, Pan and Transpose: The current pattern's volume, DSP, pan and transpose settings are displayed in the edit controls and may be adjusted to suit.

Note that settings are recorded with each pad. While they can be different, that may not always be the effect desired.

Volume: Pad volumes range from 30 to 85, with 40-60 being typical. It depends upon the instrument, the velocity used in recording and the complexity of the pattern.

If several pads are to be used in the same performance, then in some cases (e.g. a pattern using the same instrument), it may be desirable to set the volume value to achieve a similar audio volume (best determined by auditioning).



Reverb/Chorus/Brightness: The initial settings are those used in the style for the instrument selected. If the instrument is changed to a different type, these may no longer be appropriate.

If there is no Brightness setting in the file, then PadMaker assumes a value =64. You may want to verify that this is a reasonable value for this instrument

Pan: The pan setting determines the position of the voice in the stereo field with 0= hard left, 64= center and 127 = hard right.

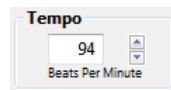
Transpose: If Chord Follow = Yes, then only octave (12 semi tone) changes are permitted in order not to force notes to violate chord rules.

Rhythm patterns use note pitches to determine the drum instrument used. PadMaker will not transpose the Rhythm and SubRhythm parts in order to preserve the intended voices.

• Edit the pad settings

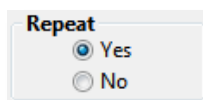
Tempo

The value displayed, before your editing, is first tempo obtained from in the last opened style. Consider using it as an aid in choosing an appropriate pattern. Regardless of this setting (recorded as text events for each pad), it appears that the pattern will only reproduce at the tempo setting of the instrument.

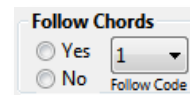


Repeat

This setting determines if the patterns plays once and stops (No), or continues until the accompaniment is stopped (Yes).



Chord Follow



This setting determines if the pattern's notes change depending upon the root key of the chord played on the PSR.

For pads made from earlier (SFF1) styles, the follow code is always 1.

For pads made from later (SFF2) styles, i.e. in the Tyros 3, PSR-S900 and later instruments, most follow codes are 2. Some older pads patterns and rhythm patterns may use 1.

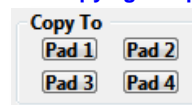
The exceptions are guitar parts. In some guitar patterns, the notes events represent the guitar fingering and not the notes themselves. The settings are encoded in the style's Casm and the complete definition is not available.

When these parts are played in a pad they will sound strange. The solution is to try other chord follow settings, e.g 6-7-8 (acoustic arpeggio, electric and strum, combo) to see which sounds best. See the Appendix for additional information.

The follow chord settings in a finished pad can also be edited by the programs:

- 1) MixMaster: Load the pad, depress ListView and change the values in the text event starting with CM (e.g. CM1111).
- 2) PadMaker- Midi Load the pad, and then select a new value using the Follow Codes, Yes Codes selector.

• Copying to a pad location



A pad can be assigned to any one of the four pad locations. These correspond to the numbered pad buttons on your PSR.

• Saving a pad



To save a completed pad with 1 to 4 patterns, click the **Save Pad** toolbar button, select a filename and click Save.

Note: It has been reported on systems using non ascii fonts that accent characters in a file path will result in a saved file not being visible after saving. If you encounter this, please try saving to a folder with no accents in the path, e.g. C:\.

Appendix

● Troubleshooting

When I play a song, I do not hear any sound.

A) Check that your instrument is turned on, you are connected via midi/USB, and that the driver is identified in Setup.

I receive an error message when I load a file.

PadMaker only can locate files on disks that support long files. If your disk requires short (<8 character) names, either change the name of the files or move the files to another disk.

I cannot save files using Windows 7.

Using Windows Explorer, navigate to the C:\Program Files (x86)\PadMaker folder and mark PadMaker.exe file to run as an administrator:

1. Right click the program and select Properties.
2. Under the compatibility tab, select Run this program as an administrator.
3. Click Apply and OK.

● Using PadMaker with Other Instruments

PadMaker can be used with other modern PSRs and CVPs, with some limitations:

Select a Model that is close to yours (e.g. Tyros 2 for CVP-309). Be aware that the voice listing will not correspond exactly to your instrument.

If desired, you can customize one of the voices lists supplied with PadMaker so it matches your instrument or your needs (e.g., you could remove the XG voices if you never use them).

The files are in the install directory with the file name Instrument.dat (e.g. PSR-1000.dat). Small changes can be made in Word, Word Pad or Notepad. You do not have to change the extension to open the files in these programs. When you save the file, make sure that it is saved as file type txt, with the name unchanged, to the install directory.

It is recommended that you start with a file that is similar to that of your instrument. Once edited, just use the name of the instrument to access your file (e.g. if you edit the PSR-740 for the PSR-730, leave the name as PSR-740.dat and select the 740 in the Instrument box).

The elements in the file have the format: voice name, a semicolon (;) followed by the "Msb Lsb Program#" as a 9-digit text string and a carriage return/line feed. Note that numbers such as 16 always have leading "0s" (e.g. 000016002 is Msb=0, Lsb=16, PC=2). Be sure that there are not any extra line feeds or carriage returns (no blank lines) and that there are no duplicate entries. These errors will prevent the file from loading properly.

The file can be in any order, but most users prefer to group all the pianos together, etc. The easiest way to do this is to organize the list by ascending program number.

● Configuring Windows for Style Files

Periodically users report problems trying to access, view, rename or save style/midi/voice files. To eliminate these

problems, please go to Windows Explorer/Tools/Folder Options/View Tab and confirm the following settings:

'Hide extensions for known file types' is unchecked.
'Display the content of system folders' is checked.
'Show hidden files and folders' is checked.

● Out of Scale Patterns

If Chord Follow is On then the notes must be in C major seventh scale and limited to (C, D, E, G, A and B). This is because the instrument uses conversion tables to shift the pattern based upon the chord you key. These tables assume that only these notes are there. (Note: The easiest way of avoiding scale problems is to use Pads as a source.)

There are three reasons that the notes are not C, D, E, G, A and B:

1. The midi pattern is in the key of C but has extra notes such as F.

Try changing the offending note to one in the pattern or deleting altogether. Then play the pattern. If it sounds like something you might use as a Pad, then it is ok.

2. The midi pattern is in a different key (e.g. D= D E F# G A B). You can usually tell because the collection of notes making a chord indicate chords in this key (D chord= DF#A sounding at the same time) or the key given in the file and displayed in PadMaker-Midi (although is not reliable).

Perhaps your best detective is to play the sequence. Does it sound like something in C? The general fix for other keys is to transpose the pattern so most of the notes are C, D, E, G, A and B. Then delete or replace the out of scale notes. Note that the important notes are usually C E G B. (You can use PadMaker-Midi to open some existing pads and view their contents).

3. The midi pattern is a guitar fingering track, not a note pattern. From the T2 on, some styles and pads use a new method of reproducing a guitar part. Instead of the notes, the pattern represents the guitar strings and special processing converts these to a strum or arpeggio. You can easily tell these tracks by playing them. They do not sound like a musical pattern at all! The solution is to use special chord follow codes that tell the post T2 PSRs how to play the pattern.

● Guitar Pattern Encoding/Chord Follow Codes

Tyros 2 and later arrangers can employ guitar in which the notes in the pattern represent the strings of the guitar. For example:

B -> 1st string (high E)

A -> 2nd string (B)

G -> 3rd string (G)

F -> 4th string (D)

E -> 5th string (A)

D -> 6th string (low E)

C# -> a quint above/below (five notes above or below. Up = B E A D F# B and down = A D G C E A)

C -> root note

It appears that the following Chord Follow codes are used for:

Code 1 = bypass (no pattern encoding)

Code 2 = Melody

Code 6 = Guitar All Purpose, i.e. A mixture of types.

Code 7 = Guitar Stroke, i.e. strum where some guitar notes are muted.

Code 8 = Guitar arpeggio and finger picking

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Communication & Support

Any questions, comments, suggestions for modifications or improvements, or problem reports would be most welcome. Please forward these to the author at mpb@vermontel.net or via the [Help/Email the Author](#) menu item.

Acknowledgements

PadMaker is one of several programs in the StyleManager Series that is intended to give users the ability to work around common annoyances, overcome operating discrepancies between instruments, or facilitate the management of PSR files.

The development of this program was triggered by repeated requests made in PSR groups and forums.

The author gratefully acknowledges utilization of HP Midifile, a Dynamic Link Library (dll) that provides functions to read, write, edit and play type 1 & 0 midi files. This powerful XP-friendly library has been freely made available for non commercial use by its developer Heiko Plate at <http://www.heikoplate.de/hpm/>.

I am particularly grateful for the encouragement and patient testing provided by Graham Crosby, one of the pioneers in making multipads from styles, and to Frank J. Blecha, who discovered several issues in the course of his reviews.

Joe Hlifka was the first person to report that some pads made from styles parts with guitar voices sounded strange. As a result, versions after 207 enable the use of the chord follow settings needed used for the special guitar voicing in some SFF2 styles and pad files.

Michael P. Bedesem
Version 3.0.4
8-20-2015