


# What's New in Finale 2003

- **Enhanced Graphic Interface.** Finale now sports a **new look** with improved, **customizable** palette and background graphics. Select from a variety of styles or even **choose your own custom background**. For more information, see [PROGRAM OPTIONS-PALETTES AND BACKGROUNDS](#).
- **Improved Document and Program Options.** Finale is now optimized for efficient handling of Document and Program Options. Make several changes to document or program specific settings at once **without leaving the dialog box**. See [DOCUMENT OPTIONS DIALOG BOX](#) and [PROGRAM OPTIONS DIALOG BOX](#).
- **The Mass Mover Tool** has been renamed the **Mass Edit Tool**. Look for the **new Mass Edit icon**  in the Main Tool Palette. Also, look under the **MassEdit Menu** for all features that previously existed under the MassMover Menu, and more. See [MASS EDIT TOOL](#).
- **Tablature Improvements.** Copy music **directly into a TAB staff** with the Mass Edit Tool or **enter into a TAB staff with the Simple Entry Tool**. Creating and editing tablature is now easier than ever! See [GUITAR NOTATION](#).
- **Guitar Bend Smart Shape.** Use this new Smart Shape to enter bend curves. Finale will even calculate the pitch variation for you. See [GUITAR BENDS](#) and [GUITAR BEND OPTIONS DIALOG BOX](#).
- **Lowest Fret Utility.** Easily specify the lowest fret for any region of a tablature staff. See [CHANGE LOWEST FRET DIALOG BOX](#).
- Use a **MIDI Guitar** for entry into a notation or tablature staff. Finale can even **record the string** you play for every note. See [GUITAR NOTATION](#).
- **Improved Setup Wizard.** A new category, "**Fretted Instruments**" has been added to the Setup Wizard. Choose from a variety of fretted instruments and corresponding tablature. See [SETUP WIZARD](#).
- **New Tablature Libraries and Templates.** See [FINALE SCORE TEMPLATES](#) and [FINALE LIBRARIES](#) for details.
- **Number of Systems per Page.** Now, you can specify the **precise number of systems** for any page, or for all pages in a document. See [TO PLACE A NUMBER OF SYSTEMS ON EACH PAGE](#).
- **Smarter Engraver Slurs.** You now have **more control** over the shape of Engraver Slurs. See [SMART SLUR OPTIONS DIALOG BOX](#) for details.
- **Group Optimization.** Set parts with more than one staff (like piano or harp) to **optimize as a group**. See [GROUP OPTIMIZATION](#).
- **MiBAC Jazz Rhythm Section Generator.** Create piano, bass and drum set accompaniment parts for any melody with chord symbols automatically. See [MiBAC JAZZ RHYTHM SECTION GENERATOR](#).
- **SmartScore Lite.** Finale now supports improved scanning recognition. See [SCANNING](#).

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- **Score Conversion.** You can now import files created in the Score notation program. Even choose several Score files to convert to a single Finale document. See [TO IMPORT SCORE FILES](#).
- **Import and export XML files. Import MusicXML files or export files to MusicXML format.** See [MUSICXML IMPORT PLUG-IN](#) and [MUSICXML EXPORT PLUG-IN](#).
- **WriteExpress Rhyming Dictionary.** Generate a list of rhymes from a library of over **90,000 words**. See [WRITEEXPRESS RHYMER DIALOG BOX](#).
- **Improved SmartMusic Accompaniment creation.** Now, configure and save Finale files for **customizable part playback** in Smart Music Studio. Choose each accompaniment and solo staff independently in SmartMusic, even during playback. See [TO CREATE A SMARTMUSIC ACCOMPANIMENT WITH CUSTOMIZABLE PART PLAYBACK](#).
- **Fit lessons you create with the Exercise Wizard on a single page.** See [EXERCISE WIZARD](#) for details.
- **Change Crescendo Smart Shapes to Decrescendos (or vise versa) by dragging.** See [TO MOVE, RESHAPE, OR DELETE A SMART SHAPE CRESCENDO](#) for details.
- **Right-click a ruler to show or hide guides.** See [SHOW \(HIDE\) GUIDES](#).
- **New Component Files folder.** The Finale folder has been reorganized. Most files that previously appeared loose in Finale's root folder are now located in the Component Files folder. See [PROGRAM OPTIONS-FOLDERS](#).

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