

PianoScript Diagram

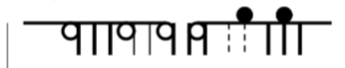
PianoScript is a visual music notation designed for the piano keyboard. In my study period, I had big problems with reading traditional-notation. Therefore I started thinking and searching for a solution because I wanted to be able to learn a piece of music from a graphical notation.

Then I found 'Klavarskribo', a music notation which the current PianoScript is based on. Klavarskribo is a beautiful piece of work by Cornelis Pot. He created probably the first midi recorder, must be around 1920 (couldn't find the detailed info) for a piano. It consisted of a mechanic system that stamped the notes on a paper-roll while playing so you could record an improvisation and read it back. Later on he created his version of a piano-keyboard-notation called 'Klavarskribo'.

I used klavarskribo for several years but it didn't fully solve my problem. Because techniques of printing were different from now, certain elements have a solution which is visually unclear or 'just clear enough'. For example when a pianopiece has cross-hands in it or how the noteheads are clashing with the rhythmic notation. In his time Cornelis was only able to use black ink. But today we can use grey too and print way more detailed, the ink won't 'spread' over the paper. I decided in 2018 to start redesigning this system and gave it the name PianoScript because it is a script/one-way notation for piano. The target audience are piano players.

At a good day, while drawing and puzzling, I drew my first piano-keyboard-diagram. It is the piano version of the guitar-fretboard-diagram. In fact a piano-diagram is an isolated element of klavarskribo. The Diagram shows you exactly which keys to press on the keyboard.

F7#9



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Diagram

So let's explain the diagram. The diagram consists of vertical lines which are the black keys. The lines are grouped in groups of three and two, like the black keys. Around the vertical lines is a border. The border clarifies the point that it is a piano-keyboard and also separates if you are drawing two diagrams next to each other like so:



One of the groups of two lines is dashed. This is the 'clef'. You can refer to it as the 'central-c lines'. It is where octave four starts. The clef is always printed otherwise you didn't know which octave the notes are played.

The program/project

The program goal is to have a tool to create leadsheets, print and export them as pdf. Currently the program is far from finished but you can create leadsheets. We know that the code needs to be more clear and rewritten in order to make a satisfying working program. Together with the PianoScript notation project it will grow over the years. Our goal is to create tools which are helping for people who just want to make music in the piano without having to learn every aspect of traditional music notation aswell creating a more simple way to write microtonal music(this is a future goal).