How to start with Songscribe

Introduction

A big welcome to the Songs Project Team!
I am really very happy that you would like to participate in making our beloved Teachers songs available to humanity. It is a good idea to meditate for a short while before you start.

Then if you have not yet done so, download the software from http://songscribe.org and install it on your computer.
Since you have registered to work on the Songs Project you will in a short while receive Songs which should be typed. Since it is not so easy at the beginning, I hope the following tips will support you. As you will find out yourself, there are many ways to achieve the same result in Songscribe. I am trying here to show you the fastest way.

Anyway, if you have any problems, do not give up, please inform me so that we can solve the problem. I wish you all the best and a fulfilling experience in typesetting these immortal Songs.
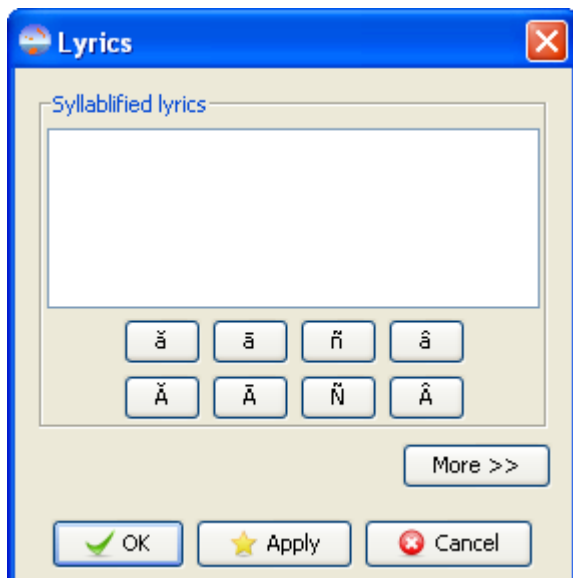
Have a good start,
Pramodan (MMS: pramodan@purity.ws or Email: info@pramodan-dinesh.de)

1. Start with the Lyrics

Once you have entered the lyrics correctly everything else will work out quite fast.

Press **<Strg>** or **<Ctrl>** and the **<L>** key or choose the menu: **Composition->Lyrics**.
This will open the following dialog box:

Click on **[More >>]** and you will see the complete box:

Type in the lyrics in the first box. If you need a special Bengali letter a click on the button will insert them. If you place your mouse over a certain button, it will show you how to get this letter with keyboard strokes for faster typing.

Now comes the important thing:

For this song you would type in:

> **Shun-ya-ta na-he byar_tha_ta Shun-ya-ta ma_ha**
> **Pur_na-ta____**

So here is the rule:
> **If a word spans over notes use as many underscores** [_] **as there are notes, if the syllables change with the notes use a hyphen** [-]**!**
> (If you need a hypen between words like in Compassion-Eye use two hyphen **[-][-]**).
>
> For example: the last word in the song:
> **pur** spans over one note (so we make 1x underscore after **pur**)
> **na** does not span over notes (so we make 1x hyphen after **na**)
> **ta** spans over 4 notes (so we make 4x underscores after **ta**)
> = pur_na-ta____

That is the most complicated part. The rest is quite easy.
Separate the words like usual with a space and on the end of the line press Enter.

Then on the end press the button **[Take from syllabified lyrics]** and rearrange if necessary

For example: The first box might have the words:
> **Nil nil nil nil nil nil nil nil nil nil**
> **Nil a-ka_she u-ri a-mi hi-yai sa-the___**
> **Pu-ji se-thai_ a-mi a-mar_ vi_shwa na__the**

But in the Lyrics under the song box you want only:
> **Nil akashe uri ami hiyai sathe**
> **Puji sethai ami amar vishwa nathe**
> (so you delete unnecessary repetitions)

(Also sometimes you want to rearrange the lines, so that it looks like the original poem whereas the first box has to follow the notes)

2. Make the Settings

Press **<Strg>** or **<Ctrl>** and the **<G>** key or choose the menu: **Composition->Composition Settings**.
This will open the following dialog box:

Fill in the number of the songs (even if there is no number on the score, start with 1)

Click the [Take] button to have the Title of the song inserted.

If the title consists of a different number of words change the number before you click [Take]

If you have a date or place info fill it in an click one of the [Append] buttons

Fill in the Tempo and Key Signature and Click [OK]

3. Start typing the notes

First change to Keyboard mode via menu: Edit->Control->Keyboard

You will see a **blue note** which is a pre selection. Once you hit **[Enter]** the note gets permanent and changes to black colour and the next blue note turns up.
If you have entered the lyrics correctly it will be placed automatically under the correct note.
If there is a mistake: change it once you have typed in all the notes.

Now as long as the note is blue you can:
- adjust its height with the **[↑]** and **[↓]** arrow keys
- change its time value with the number keys **[1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6]**
- press **[F]** to add a ♭ (flat), **[N]** for ♮ (natural), **[S]** for ♯ (sharp)
- change it to a **grace note** press **[G]**
- press a dot **[.]** for adding a dot after the note
- change it to a rest by pressing **[Ctrl] + [1]** or **[2]** or **[3]** or **[4]** or **[5]** or **[6]**
- change it to a repeat left **[L]** or repeat right sign **[R]**
- anything else you can do with **menu: Insert**

Once the note is on its proper vertical place and has all its attributes hit **[Enter]**
Now you can adjust a few other things:
- glissando to the next note: **[↑]** or **[↓]** adjust the height first, then **[Shift] + [G]**
- beam or unbeam: press **[B]**
- tie or untie: press **[Ctrl] + [T]**
- triplets: press **[T]**

Now go ahead and see if you can right away make all the adjustments. If there is a special thing like a vertical line or anything else look in the menu and insert it.
Important: While typing the notes you can not change the horizontal alignment. We will take care of it later.

To insert a **new line:** press **[Ctrl] + [Enter]**
To drive the **blue note** to the **next** or **previous line:** press **[PAGE UP], [PAGE DOWN]**

4. Making corrections

- **to delete the last note:** press **[BACK SPACE]**
- **to insert a note:** drive the blue note with **[←]**, **[→]**, **[PAGE UP]** or **[PAGE DOWN]** until it is exactly on the same horizontal position as the wrong black note. Then make all the necessary adjustments like adjusting the height, flats, etc. Then press **[Enter]** and the new note will be inserted
- **to change a wrong note:** drive the blue note with **[←]**, **[→]**, **[PAGE UP]** or **[PAGE DOWN]** until it is exactly on the same horizontal position as the wrong black note. Then make all the necessary adjustments like adjusting the height, flats, etc. Then press **[Enter]** and the black note will be change to the new note

5. Adjustments

This is an important step to arrange the spacing between the notes and words the way that it is good readable and looks nice.
Menu: **Mode -> Note adjustment**

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by Sri Chinmoy

- drag the **blue squares** to move the note along with the notes on its right
- drag the **white one** to move only one note
- drag the **green one** to adjust the position of the first note of the lines
- drag the **yellow one** to move the notes of one line proportionally

Sometimes it is also necessary to adjust the vertical spacing. For this you go to
Menu: **Mode -> Vertical adjustment**
It works similar, just drag the squares with the mouse.

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Questions and Answers

Q: *If a song does not have a tempo set, what do I do?*
A: In the composition settings delete the tempo description in the drop down box and
        check the box: Show only the tempo description.
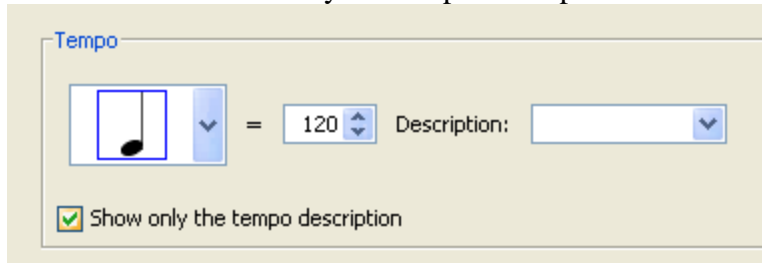
Then it will not show any tempo information.

(if you have a question or a solution for a difficult case please send it to me)

Keymap

This keymap you will find also in the Menu: **Help->Keymap**

Key	Description
Left, right arrows	Moves the editing note left or right
Up, down arrows	Changes the editing note's pitch
Page up, Page down	Moves the editing note between the lines.
6	Select whole note
5	Select half note
4	Select quarter note
3	Select eighth note
2	Select sixteenth note
1	Select thirty-second note
ENTER	If the editing note is on an existing note, it modifies that note, otherwise, if the editing note is at the end or between two notes, then the editing note will be added or inserted.
CTRL+6 (or 5, 4, 3, 2, 1) On Mac Apple+6 (...)	Select whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, thirty-second rest.
CTRL+ENTER On Mac Apple+ENTER	Line break
Backspace	Delete the last note in the editing note's line.
B	Beam or unbeam the last two notes (only eighth, sixteenth or thirysecond notes can be beamed, however unlimited number of these notes can be beamed in any variation).
T	Triplet or untriplet the last three notes. (You can triplet two or three notes. Two notes can be tripleted by selecting the notes with the selection tool on the left and pressing the corresponding button on the left toolbar)
CTRL+T On Mac Apple+T	Tie or untie the last two notes. (Notes can be tied of the same pitch. Unlimited number of notes can be tied with each other.)
G	Select grace quaver.
SHIFT+G	Select glissando.
L	Left repeat.
R	Right repeat
>	Accent
.	Dot
N	Natural
F	Flat
S	Sharp