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How can you create a brace over 4 systems?

cx1964 • Mar 17, 2024 - 16:35

Because I want to create the score of Rachmaninoff Prelude C sharp minor (Op.3 No. 2), I need to be able to somewhere in the piece a part where instead of using a grand staff (a brace over 2 systems) a brace over 4 systems. Because I know it must be possible (I saw on <https://musescore.com/user/33306646/scores/6177451> at measure 45), I want to know how to do it on my own. And do I need Musescore 3.6.2. or can I create it with MuseScore 4.2? I tried the procedure form the hand book for both version 3 and 4, either did not work. I can change the brace from one system to 2 systems, or from2 systems to 1 system, but not from 2 systems to 4. What is the way to do it?

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Comments

SteveBlower • Mar 17, 2024 - 16:42

- 1. Braces (or brackets as they are called in the Musescore handbook) connect **staves** rather than **systems**.
- 2. You can add them from the Brackets palette.
- 3. You can drag the endpoints to include whatever staves you want to include within a system.

See <https://musescore.org/en/handbook/4/brackets>

- 4. And see <https://musescore.org/en/handbook/4/glossary> for the difference between system and staff

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cx1964 • Mar 17, 2024 - 20:21

For MuseScore 4.2.1-240230938 on Ubuntu 22.04.4 LTS

Neither options:

- 1. Select the bracket, click on the adjustment handle, and drag it to the desired position.
- 2. Select the bracket, click on the adjustment handle, and press Shift+↑/↓ to move it from staff to staff.
- 3. Alter "Span" in the Properties panel.

Does work for me to alter a grand staff, to a situation where 3 or 4 staves have 1 Bracket.

I am doing something wrong, or is it a bug on Ubuntu 22.04.4 LTS?

I only can (with option 3 of above), create a bracket with 2 staves to a bracket with 1 stave, but no bracket with a span >2.

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SteveBlower • Mar 18, 2024 - 10:00

Without seeing your version of the score I have to base my advice on guesswork, but here goes.

I think what you are looking for is something like this.

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Untitled score

Subtitle

Composer / arranger

The image displays a musical score for two piano instruments, Piano 1 and Piano 2, across five systems. The score is written in 4/4 time and features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a repeating quarter-note pattern in the left hand. The first system is labeled 'Piano 1' and the second system is labeled 'Pno. 1'. The third system is labeled 'Pno. 1' and 'Pno. 2'. The fourth system is labeled 'Pno. 1' and the fifth system is labeled 'Pno. 1'. The score ends with a double bar line.

You want 2 piano staves for most of the score and 4 piano staves only for some measures. You also want a brace (curly bracket) to join either 2 staves in systems where there are only 2 or 4 staves where there are 4.

1. You need to have two piano instruments in your score.
2. Before entering any music you should see something like this

Untitled score
Subtitle
Composer / arranger

Piano 1

Piano 2

11

Pno. 1

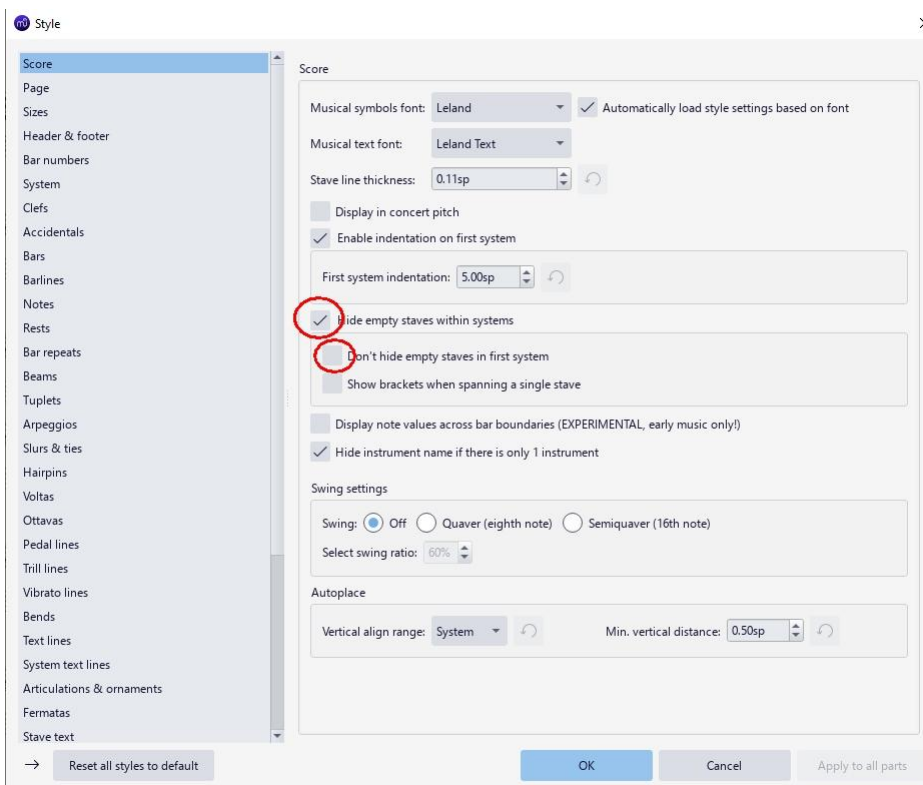
Pno. 2

22

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

3. Click on the brace on piano 2 and delete it
4. Click on the brace on piano 1 and drag the handle at the bottom to reach the bottom of the lower staff in piano 2.
5. Enter the music leaving piano 2 empty when not needed
6. In Format>Style Score, tick Hide empty staves within systems and untick Don't hide empty staves in first system. Like this



If I have guessed incorrectly what you are trying to achieve, please come back and explain in more detail what you are trying to do and attach your score (the .mscz) that you are having difficulty

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