

Installation and Usage Instructions For MuseFlow

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GitHub Repository at: <https://github.com/troublecat/museflow>

MuseFlow is an organisation protocol for music production projects incorporating version control and basic project management. The current version has only been tested with Windows, although I would expect it to work on other operating systems with minimal modification (e.g. using an OS appropriate Git client).

1 Installation/Setup

1. Download and install Git using the following link: <https://git-scm.com/downloads> . Follow the installation instructions provided.
2. (Optional) Install GitHub Desktop. This is not necessary, but you may find the user interface preferable for certain tasks. Link: <https://desktop.github.com/>
3. Create a new local Git repository to store all your music production projects. This can be done in a number of ways including with the Git GUI or GitHub Desktop. Check the official documentation if in doubt.
4. Configure .gitignore to ignore audio files in the format used by your DAW (e.g., a line in .gitignore that reads "*.wav" without quotes would ignore all .wav files). Again, this can be done in a number of ways. Reference the documentation for Git if unsure. Avoid saving projects in formats that include audio with the project files - you'll eat up a lot more drive space.
5. Extract or copy the "Scripts" folder (and all its contents) included in this archive into a folder in the top level of the repository. I.e, directory path should be Repository Directory>Scripts Folder. The included scripts will not work correctly from other file locations.
6. Set up your project templates in the folder .../Scripts/Templates. The included templates feature project files for the DAW Cakewalk, MuseScore and TuxGuitar files for documenting scores, and a text file for notes or other project documentation. You can replace these with files appropriate for your DAW/Musical transcription software/Text editor of choice, or

add/remove additional files. Do not change the directory structure/names. There is no support for multiple templates right now, maybe in a future version.

2 Usage

- Use the provided scripts to create projects and albums, and to archive or reactivate projects. The scripts will create needed folder structure when used for the first time.
- Use folder shortcuts to track which projects belong to an album.
- Don't save multiple versions of your projects with different names - use Git to version/branch your work as needed. Make sure to use good names for branches and write good commit messages.
- Feel free to create additional folders inside the music production repo if you need them - I've also got a folder for lyrics, for example.
- Please, please, use some kind of sane backup solution. Your work on music production is valuable. I would recommend local copies on at least two different physical drives as well as a network copy. Because everything is contained inside the top level repository folder, this should be easy to do regardless of your choice of backup strategy.