

FinalFontSolutions ...

... more than just fonts for musicians

FinalFiguredBass

v4.1 for Macintosh®

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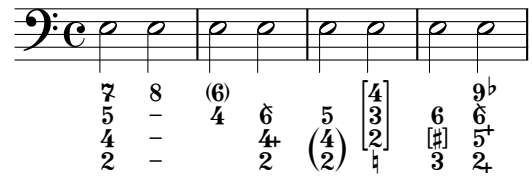
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Introduction

The font FinalFiguredBass allows you to write figured bass symbols of baroque music. It can be used with nearly any kind of software. Its special power is to give you direct entry of numbers, accidentals and brackets below each other at up to four different distances from the baseline without having to go into different entry layers (verses etc.). It also contains struck-through numbers and the most common ornamentation symbols of the baroque era.



Why a new Font?

Usually you enter figured bass symbols as articulations, chords or as lyrics. In eachy case the vertical alignment of stacked symbols is time-consuming, because you have to do such things manually, when you are following one of the first two methods. In case you use lyrics, you have to be very careful to have the same distance between the verses in the different staff systems. If you have to correct many stacked symbols, this may drive you mad. In addition, most fonts don't give you the struck-through symbols usually required in this kind of literature. The font is part of a package that is meant to improve your possibilities in music notation software like Finale. The single fonts share the same font family name so that you can easily find them in each font menu. Some of them are available in a similar version for the German keyboard layout, because the character entry is oriented very closely to the keyboard layout. **FinalFiguredBass** therefore is available as **FinalGeneralbass** for the German keyboard.

Special Features

1. Direct entry as lyrics in Finale® of numbers, special symbols and accidentals without changing font /size within the same verse and within one "syllable".
2. Enter the numbers 2,4,5,6,7,9 with accidental or as struck-through characters. Choose among different styles for the design of the struck-through numbers.
3. Easy-to-remember keyboard layout. As a result: **extremely quick keyboard entry**.
4. **Great flexibility** because of many available characters and several different entry methods.
5. **Professional design**

Available characters in the full version

1. Numbers from 2-9; 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 as struck-through characters in several designs
2. Accidentals; sharp, flat and b also as superscript characters
3. Ornamentation characters and other special symbols
4. Round and square brackets of different horizontal and vertical extensions
5. Several fixed "empty" characters for individual control of horizontal distances

Available characters in the Demoversion

The DemoVersion has only some characters for the concept of the full version to be tested. 2,8,9,2+, sharp, brackets (option-2 and below); each in four different distances from the baseline.

System requirements

Mac or PowerMac with System 7 or higher.

How to order

If you want to order the full version, you have to pay 30\$.

Choose your preferred method to pay. You may directly pass the money (probably in exchanged form) from bank to bank or simply send a check or even cash (preferred, because I don't have to pay the bank 10\$ for exchanging checks from foreign countries).

The banking address is:

Bank 24, Bonn (Germany)

Account 178 696 110

BLZ 380 707 24

Prof. Ansgar Krause

Erftweg 29

47807 Krefeld, Germany

eMail: ansgarkrause@arcor.de

INTERNET: <http://home.arcor.de/ansgarkrause/finalfonts.htm>

As the font is available for Mac and Windows, we need the following information before shipping the font: (a) Version for Windows or Mac (b) by eMail or disk (\$ 5 extra)

If you order the version for Windows, you will get a TrueType-version. If you order for Mac, you will get both (Postscript and TrueType), but you should only install one of them. For installing fonts, please refer to your manuals of the system software.

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Keyboard Layout

General notes

Each character (with the exception of the ornaments) can directly be entered at four different distances to the baseline.

The basic concept is to remember key assignment by the optical access. If you have got familiar with it, you will see that you can enter everything very quickly. To understand this, please think of your keyboard as only having numbers displayed on the keys, which will only change the vertical appearance of the characters. If you press a key in the upper line of letters ("q" ... "p"), you will get the same character which you would get in the number-line above, only a line deeper etc. ...

If you press "w" e.g. , you get "2" in the second line, if you press "4" and "w" directly after another, "4" and "2" will appear below each other and not side by side. After entering a stack of characters you will press "space" as usual to go to the next syllable. (If your application uses a different way to move to the next entry, please refer to your manuals.)

If you need some characters (e.g. number with accidental) beside each other, you will simply press "`" (the "grave" to the left of "z" on your keyboard) instead of "option-spacebar" to enter a character to the right of the preceding characters without moving to the next note/chord.

Position	Pressed keys										
1st line (top)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	=
2nd line	q	w	e**	r	t	y	u**	i**	o	p]
3rd line	a	s	d	f	g	h	j	k	l	;	\
4th line (bottom)	z	x	c	v	b	n	m	,	.	/	'
Modifier keys	Printed characters										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	
Struck-through numbers, accidentals, plus											
Shift	#	2+	b	4+	5+	6	7	♯	9	×	+
Brackets* and alternate struck-through numbers											
Option	()	()	[]	[]	+5		+7	()			
Lines and superscript accidentals, alternate design for struck-through 6 and 9***											
Shift-Option	#	—	b	—	˘	6	˘	♯	9		
* Double-brackets only necessary in lines 2-4, therefore in the 1st line as Triplebracket for three characters.											
** For system-related reasons, with "option" these keys must be pressed a second time, e. g. "option-e", then "e". *** 9 is only available in line 1 and 2											

Numbers

1. line (top): keys as normal, therefore 1-0
2. line: the keys directly on the right side under those of the top row, "q" ... "p"
3. line: the keys directly on the right side under those of the 2nd row "a" ... ";"
4. line: the keys directly on the right side under those of the 3rd row "z" ... "/"

Numbers struck-through to the right

keys as above, but with **shift**, available for 2+, 4+, 5+, 6+, 7+, 9+

Numbers struck-through to the left

keys as above, but with **shift-option**, only available for +5 and +7

Numbers struck-through at an angle of about 30 degrees

As an alternative it is possible to struck through all characters with a character from the font. For this purpose we have built into the font "m", "j", "u" and "7", each with "shift-option". So if you should want to have such a struck-through 5 in the first line, please type "5" and "shift-option-7" or vice versa.

Accidentals (on the free shift-combinations: 1, 3, 8, 0)

Superscript accidentals and lines with shift-option: see table

Brackets

The brackets with asterix (*) are the only characters in the table above that are not available in all four lines. As double-bracket for two characters below each other they are only needed in the three bottom lines. They will include the next line above. If you press "option-1" or "option-4" , you will get a triple-bracket including the next two lines below instead. All those brackets are **not** intended for bracketing struck-through numbers or numbers with an accidental on one side. For this purpose you have "option-8" and "option-9" (in all 4 lines) and a single doublebracket (**not shown in the picture**) for left and right which is only available for bracketing lines 2-3. Use "option-p" for the opening and "option-shift-p" for the closing bracket.

Fixed invisible characters

Please use "`" (the "grave" to the left of "z" on your keyboard) instead of "option-spacebar" to place a character to the right of others without moving to the next syllable. To give you more control over the horizontal distance between characters, depending on your taste, you can use the quotesingle instead. If you press it two times instead of one time the grave, the next character will be closer. This can be useful, if you want a strong tracking between numbers greater than 9 or with accidental. You may also use the asciitilde-key to proceed only the half of a character width in order to center a character under two others (see examples)

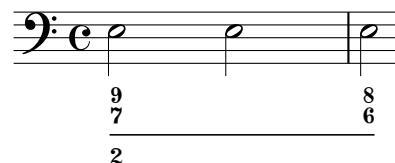
` (grave)	full character width (to proceed within a syllable)
~ (asciitilde)	half character width (to center over/under two other characters)
' (quotesingle)	a little less than half character width (to enable pseudo-kerning [tracking] of numbers greater than 9 or with accidental)

Alignement	right		left		centered	centered
Display	11 7_b		11 7_b		11 7_b	11 7_b
Entry	1`1u`E		1u`1E		1~u~1~E	1'u'1'E
Distance	full		full		half	pseudo-tracking
Invisible character	`		`		~	'

Extendable lines

Usually in Finale® you may use the line tool within the SMART SHAPES TOOL to create a long horizontal line. You could also use the word extension, but these lines only would be available in the same distance from the baseline within one file. In most cases these ways are quite fast, but not very accurate concerning the position relative to other characters. Therefore, we have added the possibility to create a long line within the font which seems to be preferred by some users, although this takes more time to create such lines. The lines (key layout see table above) can be connected to each other and will result in one long line.

The long-lines characters (key layout see above) can be connected to each other and will result in one long line (picture to the right). The solution within a font, however, can't take into account the different spacing of music resulting in endless possibilities of note values and distances. The line element should be typed only once below the first and last entry that it is attached to.



In between, you may need to type it several times until it is long enough to overlap with the other elements. In order to completely understand the entry method, please have a look to the example:

- (1) Enter the characters below the first note as usual (see entry).
- (2) Below the second note, however, it is necessary to type several line elements ≈ ↗ -s, each time followed by "\" in order to advance the cursor, until the line is long enough to overlap with the other syllables.
- (3) Below the last note, you have to type the line element first, again followed by "\" in order to place the next characters aligned to the right of the line. At the very end of the syllable, you should type "\" again! – but why that?

It has been necessary to make the long-line characters not advance the cursor, because in some situations you may need to have several long lines below each other. Therefore, we needed a **fourth fixed invisible character** in the font, which has been built in only to connect several long-line elements with each other or with following regular figured bass characters that should be right aligned. This third fixed invisible character is "\". If you want to use this character, it is very important to know that:

- Its width requires that music spacing (with lyrics included) should be finished before using the character, otherwise you will get unexpected results.
- Syllables with one "\" will not be centered below a note. Usually you could drag those "syllables" with the mouse to correct this. We recommend, however, that you use the same character to do this for you. Simply type it again at the opposite side of the syllable already containing "\". That's why this should be done at the very end of a long line.

Usage notes

You will gain the full functionality only when entering the figured bass symbols as lyrics. Therefore you will have to select this font (after installing) as default for lyrics first.

The width of most characters is set to zero. So you can directly stack as many symbols as you like to have up to four distances (lines) to the baseline, before advancing with "space" to the next note, or with "\"" (the "grave" to the left of "z" on your keyboard) beneath the entered symbols within the same "syllable". In order to enable efficient editing of entered symbols, you should always follow the same convention. We strongly recommend to enter the characters from bottom to top or vice versa, brackets after numbers or accidentals. You should enter every stack from bottom to top and from left to right.

Frequently asked questions

What to do when there is a change of figure over a held bass note?

The best way in Finale® is to use the ALTERNATE NOTATION ... BLANK NOTATION.

This requires entering (and maybe MOVE ONLY-copying) dummy notes (or rests) in layer one, and the real music in another layer. Be sure to have no options selected for the visible layer under LAYER OPTIONS. You can assign the symbols to the invisible layer one now.

Editing "syllables" that are already in the score

If you want to edit a "syllable" (remember, we are in lyrics mode) that has already been entered into the score, use Type into score (in Finale®). You can select a syllable (= figured bass) by clicking on the note so that it has been assigned to. Then press either the left or right cursor key to go the outmost part of this syllable.

If you have followed the principles explained before, you can move the cursor with the cursor keys to the right place to delete or add symbols. In the current version of Finale® for Windows, you will see the system font while moving the cursor within a syllable. If you press "spacebar" within a syllable, Finale® will go to the next one.

Font-Design

The numbers are similar to popular music fonts like **Petrucci**. But we have designed numbers that should be better readable at small sizes, because the thin parts are a little thicker.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 2, 4, 5⁺ 5 6 6⁺ 7 7⁺ 9 9⁺ + () [] [] () () # b q * - \ / —

Choose among the following possibilities, all available in four lines:

5 5⁺ 5# 5+ 5 5 5

Changes to previous versions

The implementation of the "1" and "0" required to put some characters on other keys now. As a consequence, the round brackets (before on "1" ... "y") now take the place of the smaller square brackets from before, which are no more available. The invisible character to proceed the cursor has changed from "0" to "`" (to the left of "z").

No more ornamentation characters. For using ornaments, please refer to **FinalSmartTools**.

The design of the struck-through 9 was adapted from the struck-through 6, both are now available in two different designs.

Appendix (all keys on one page)

Characters

Position	Pressed keys										
1st line (top)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	=
2nd line	q	w	e**	r	t	y	u**	i**	o	p]
3rd line	a	s	d	f	g	h	j	k	l	;	\
4th line (bottom)	z	x	c	v	b	n	m	,	.	/	'
Modifier keys	Printed characters										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	
Struck-through numbers, accidentals, plus											
Shift	#	2 ₊	b	4 ₊	5 ⁺	6 _˘	7 _˘	8 _˘	9 _˘	×	+
Brackets* and alternate struck-through numbers											
Option	()	()	[]	[]	5 ₊		7 ₊	()			
Lines and superscript accidentals, alternate design for struck-through 6 and 9***											
Shift-Option	#	—	b	—	˘	6 _˘	˘	8 _˘	9 _˘		
* Double-brackets only necessary in lines 2-4, therefore in the 1st line as Triplebracket for three characters.											
** For system-related reasons, with "option" these keys must be pressed a second time, e. g. "option-e", then "e". *** 9 is only available in line 1 and 2											

Fixed invisible characters

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- ` (grave) full character width (to proceed within a syllable)
- ~ (asciitilde) half character width (to center over/under two other characters)
- ' (quotesingle) a little less than half character width (to enable pseudo-kerning [tracking] of numbers greater than 9 or with accidental)
- \ to be used in connection with the extendable lines