

Overview:

Transcribe is a tool that helps a musician figure out how to play various songs. It takes an 8-bit mono Windows WAVE file, and calculates what notes are being played, with respect to time. The program also has the ability to play a section of the WAVE file. This gives the user the ability to analyze the calculated notes.

Who uses this program:

Musicians who don't have perfect pitch and spend too much money buying music sheets or tab books for guitar.

File Menu:

Pick File: This option will allow you to choose your WAVE file. After making your selection, you must press Begin!, in order for the calculations to start.

Begin!: You may press this at any time. Warning: This is a lengthy operation involving disk access, so you should work with small WAVE files, if you are an impatient person.

Info Box:

File: Name of file currently working on.

Sample Size: Number of samples(discrete points) in the wave file.

Sample Freq: The sampling frequency(Hz) at the time of recording.

#Samples/Note:

Transcribe can calculate a note every **4096, 2048, 1024, or 512** samples. For accuracy, you would want to pick a high number like 4096. However, for fast notes (i.e. Joe Satriani guitar solos), you will have to use a smaller samples/note choice. You will have to experiment, in order to decide which choice is best for your wave file.

Also, for low notes (i.e. bass notes), use a high samples/note number. But for higher pitched notes, you can use a smaller samples/note value.

A good strategy would be to start with samples/note equal to 4096 and work your way down until you find a choice that gives you an accurate output.

Play All:

Plays the entire WAVE file.

Stop:

Stop the audio output.

Play Loop:

Continuously play your selected wave file.

Section Play:

This option allows you to play a small section of your wave file, in order to check for accuracy. You must specify a start and stop time, in seconds. You can do this by either entering the numbers in the boxes next to the start and stop buttons, or click to a selection in the Time:Note box and then press the **start** or **stop** button to copy the time number into the respective box.

Time:Note box:

This box displays the calculations made by Transcribe. The first column is the starting time (in seconds) of the calculated note, and the second column is the calculated note (based on the standard pitch of A above middle C equal to 440Hz).