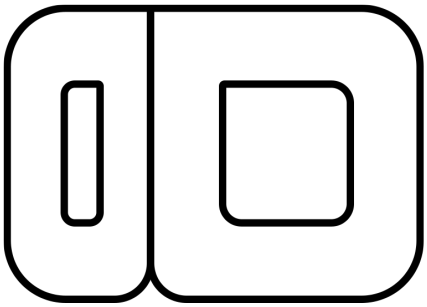


CO-COMPOSER

User Guide 2.4

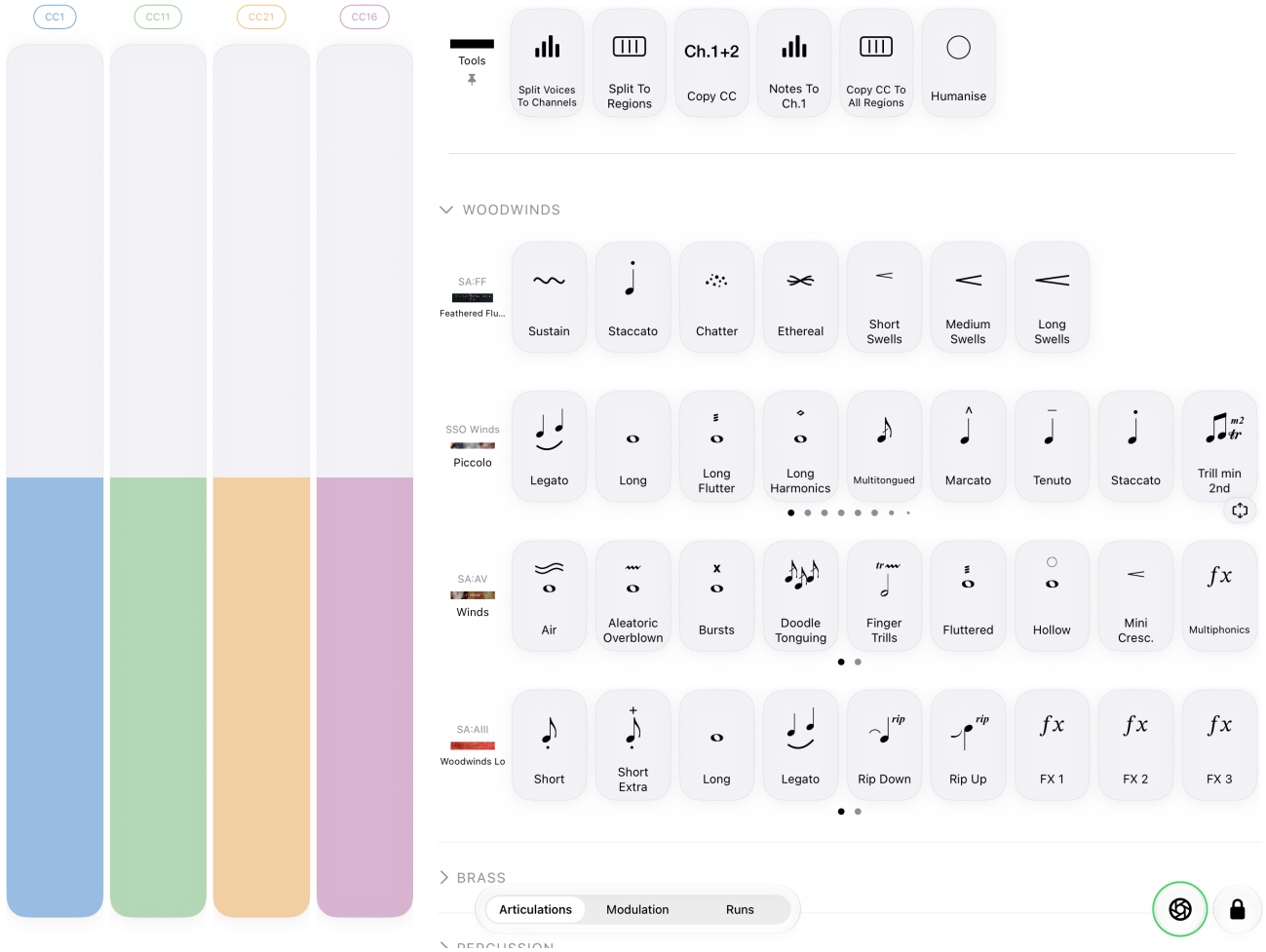
Co-Composer for iPad
Co-Composer Focus for Mac

Welcome

Co-Composer puts articulation switching, expressive MIDI control, chord exploration and melodic runs within reach of your hands. Co-Composer Focus connects that workspace to Logic Pro or Cubase on Mac, keeping banks and tracks together as you compose.

This guide takes you from connecting your DAW to building banks, performing and recalling project mappings.

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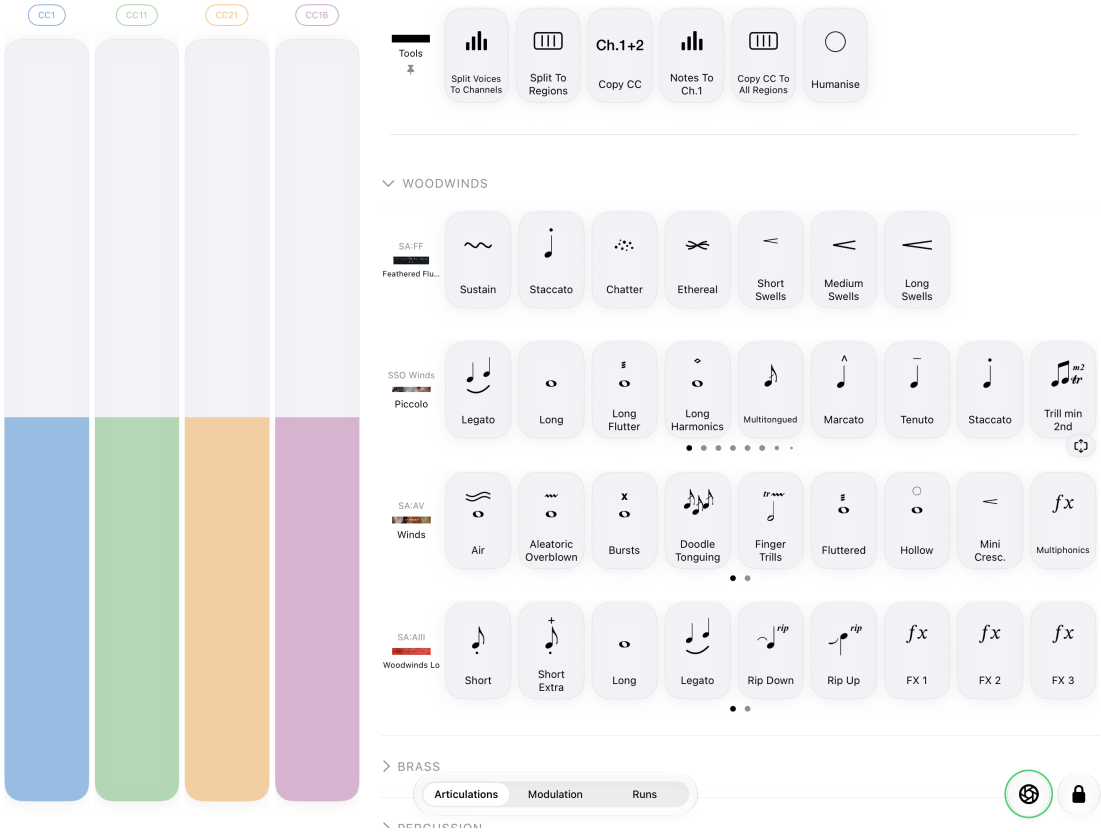
A workspace of articulation banks, with expression faders and pinned controls.

Contents

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Faders stay beside the articulation workspace. The panel switcher and lock sit along the bottom.

Two connections to choose from

Co-Composer Focus provides MIDI, automatic bank focus and track navigation for Logic Pro and Cubase on Mac. Network MIDI is the alternative for direct MIDI control with other compatible DAW setups, including Windows.

Terminology A bank holds articulation buttons. A section organises banks. A group combines several banks. A mapping links a DAW track to an iPad bank or group.

Connect to your DAW

For Logic Pro or Cubase on Mac, open Co-Composer Focus and Co-Composer on the same local network. Follow the Focus setup steps on pages 11–12. Focus supplies the Co-Composer MIDI connection; a separate Network MIDI session is not required.

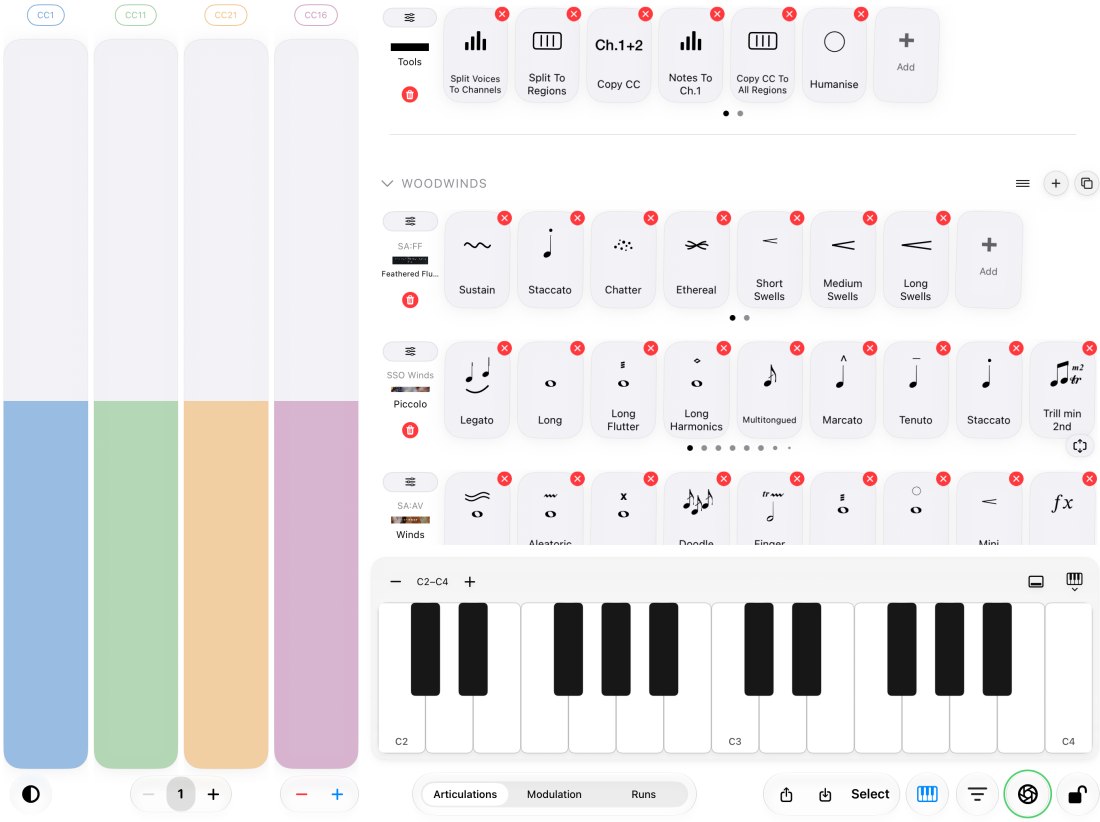
For Network MIDI on Mac, open Audio MIDI Setup, show MIDI Studio, then open the network configuration. Create and enable a session, select your iPad and connect. Enable that session as a MIDI input in your DAW. On Windows, use a compatible RTP MIDI utility.

Play and edit

Use the bottom switcher for Articulations, Modulation or Runs. Tap the lock to reveal editing controls; lock again to perform. Choose System, Light or Dark from the appearance control while unlocked. Shake the iPad to replay the tutorial.

Sound Co-Composer sends MIDI to your DAW. Select an instrument and route the incoming MIDI to it to hear notes, chords and runs. The iPhone interface provides a compact fader remote.

Faders and keyboard



The keyboard can dock below the right panel, span the workspace or float above it.

Shape expression

Tap a fader's CC pill to choose Control Change or Aftertouch and its MIDI channel. Slide with one finger to perform; use two fingers for Pitch Bend, which returns to centre on release. Double-tap a locked fader to reset CC or Aftertouch to 64. Tap a fader while unlocked to show or hide numeric values.

While unlocked, use the fader + and – to keep two to six faders on each page. The separate + and – beside the page numbers add or remove pages, up to five. You can switch pages while locked; each keeps its assignments and current session values.

Play the keyboard

Unlock and tap the keyboard button. Use its placement control to cycle through right-panel docked, full-width docked and floating layouts; use – and + to change octave. Drag the floating handle to reposition it or park it beyond either side. Tap the edge tab to bring it back.

The keyboard opens automatically for chord entry in Modulation Assistant. Docked keyboards step aside in Runs; a floating keyboard remains available.

Build and edit banks

1 Unlock, then tap + on a section header to begin a custom bank.

2 Search for an articulation, select its symbol and edit its name in the preview. Choose a Note or CC trigger and MIDI channel.

3 Use Add within the bank for more buttons. Each page holds nine slots; swipe across to reach further pages. Tap an existing button while editing to change it.

4 Drag buttons left or right while editing. To reorder banks, lock the workspace and drag from a bank's name.

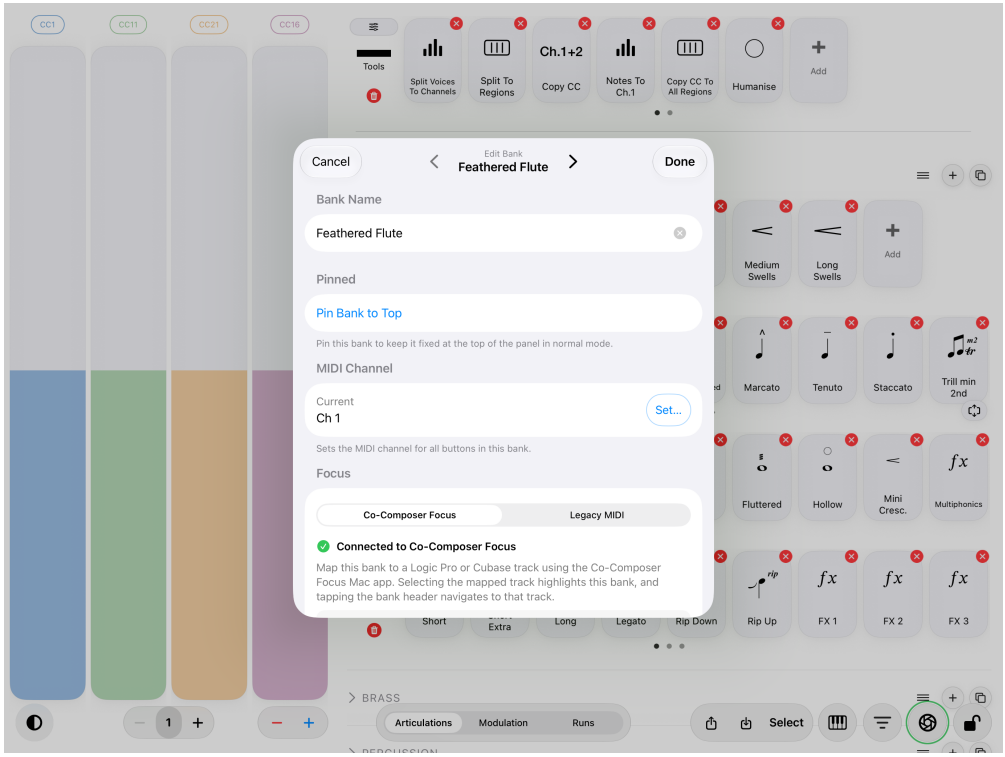
Custom symbols and multiple events

Choose Create Custom Articulation to combine text and musical glyphs. Tap a component to edit it and drag symbol boxes vertically to fine-tune their position. Saved designs appear under Custom Articulations.

A button can send up to five MIDI events together. Use the event + and – controls, select an event number, then set its note or CC, value and channel. Check any conflict message before finishing.

Bank settings

Open the slider-style Edit Bank control to rename or recolour a custom bank, set all button channels, duplicate it, save it as a template, pin it, configure Focus or delete it. Library-template banks offer Convert to Custom Bank for full editing.



Bank settings show the Focus connection and reported track mapping. Available actions depend on the bank type.

Templates and groups

Start from a template

1 Unlock and tap the templates button on the destination section.

2 Browse library manufacturers or User Templates, or search for the bank you need.

3 Preview and audition the buttons, choose the import channel, then tap the import +. Use the library's bulk-import control when you want all its templates.

Save a custom bank from Edit Bank to reuse it later. User Templates has JSON import and export controls for transferring or backing up your saved templates.

Import existing DAW maps

The template browser accepts Logic Pro articulation-set .plist files and Cubase .expressionmap files. You can also drop files or folders onto the iPad Workspace in Focus on Mac, select a destination section and optionally save the new banks to User Templates.

Cubase imports Conversion uses note-based remote triggers to create keyswitch buttons. It does not recreate the expression map's instrument output-event programming. Keep the expression map configured in Cubase.

Organise your workspace

Tap section headers to expand or collapse them. While unlocked, drag a section's reorder handle to move it. Pin a bank or group to keep frequently used controls at the top, including while using Focus Mode.

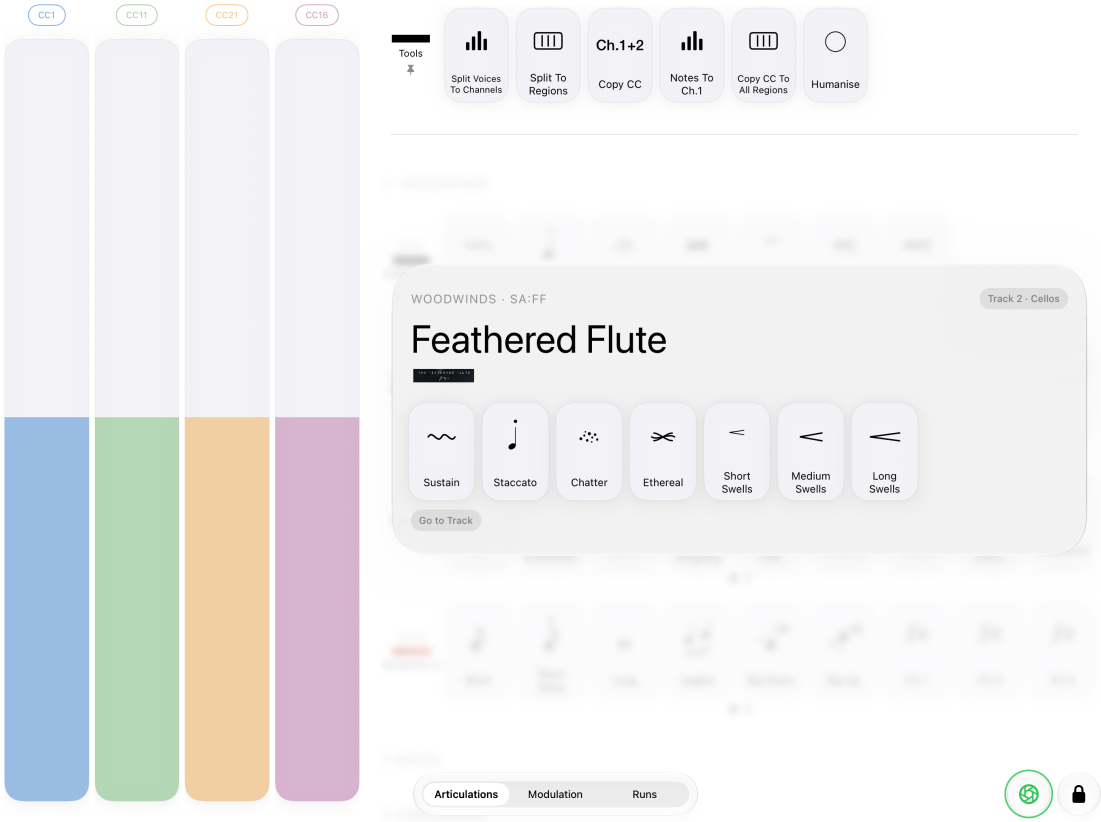
1 To group banks, unlock and tap Select. Tick banks within one section, then tap Group.

2 Use the group's expand control to show its members, or collapse it to browse them as pages.

3 Open the group's Edit Bank controls to rename, colour, pin or ungroup it.

A group mapping targets the collapsed group. Individual member mappings can focus the appropriate bank; when the group is expanded, its banks remain individually accessible.

Focus and navigation



Focus Mode brings the selected bank forward while keeping pinned controls accessible.

Follow your DAW

In Edit Bank, choose Co-Composer Focus, then link the bank to a track in the Mac app's Mappings window. Selecting that DAW track highlights the bank on iPad. Tap the bank header to navigate back to its mapped track.

Tap the aperture-shaped Focus button to show the last focused bank on its own. Tap again to return to the workspace. Touch and hold the button for computer, DAW, project, readiness, track and bank totals, and the last focused bank; use refresh to request current details.

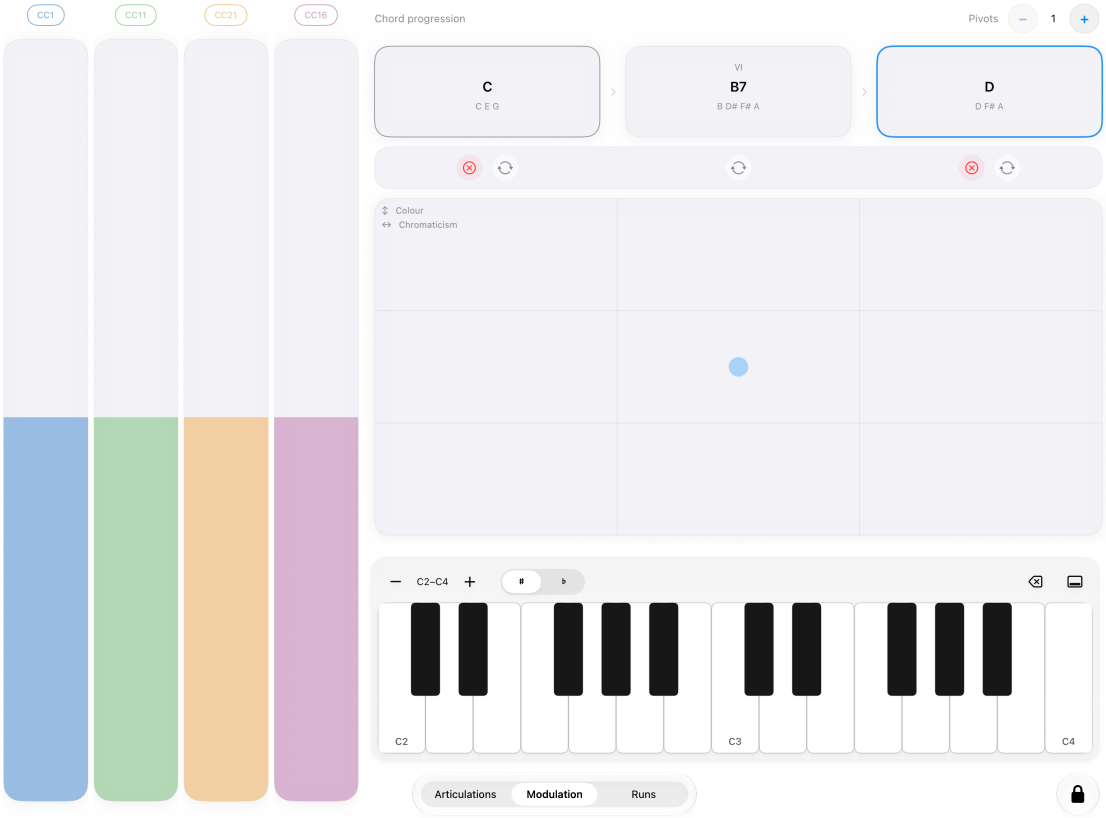
Filter a large workspace

While unlocked, enable the project filter to show only banks assigned to the current Focus project when you lock again. Your full library remains available while editing and in Focus Mode. If the filtered view is empty, check mappings or turn the filter off.

Legacy MIDI

Choose Legacy MIDI in Edit Bank to set separate outgoing Navigation and incoming Focus Note or Program Change events. Use Learn for incoming Focus, or enter values manually. Configure your DAW to respond or send those messages, and resolve event conflicts. Logic users can export navigation assignments from the workspace Export menu for import into Controller Assignments.

Modulation Assistant



An example transition from C to D, with a generated pivot chord and the shared keyboard.

Explore harmonic paths between a starting chord and a destination. The assistant generates pivot chords using common tones and semitonal movement.

1 Choose Modulation in the panel switcher. Tap Start and enter notes in ascending order on the keyboard. Set octave and sharp or flat spelling as needed.

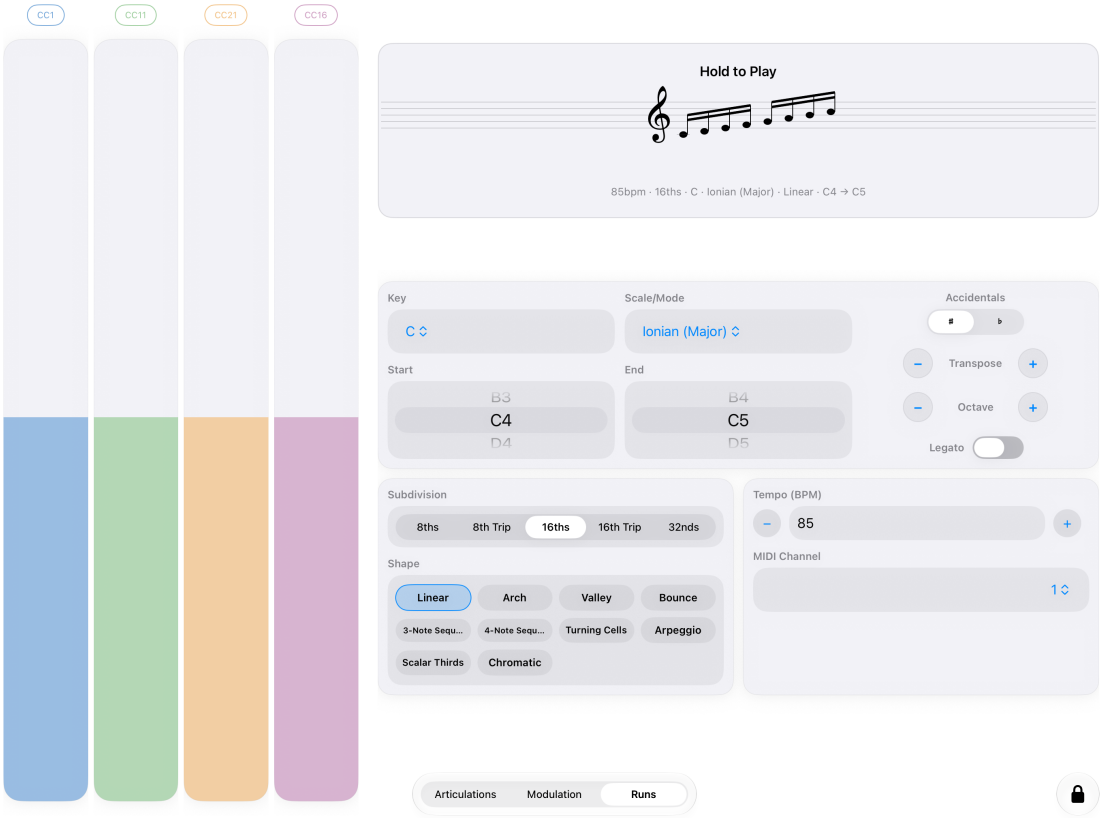
2 Tap End and enter the destination chord in the same way.

3 Use Pivots + and – to choose one to four intermediary chords. Move around the pad: vertically changes harmonic colour; horizontally changes chromaticism.

4 Use the circular arrows beneath a chord to explore other voicings. Press and hold a chord card to audition through your DAW, shaping expression with the faders.

Use × beneath Start or End to clear that chord, or the keyboard's delete control to remove the last entered note. Chord numerals show the intermediary chords' relationship to the destination. Use the suggestions as starting points for your own progression.

Runs Composer



Choose pitch, rhythm and contour, then hold the play area to perform the run.

Create a melodic run between two notes and play it through your DAW with a single hold.

1 Select Runs. Choose Key and Scale/Mode, then set Start and End notes.

2 Choose accidental spelling; use Transpose and Octave to shift the range.

3 Set Subdivision and Shape. Explore linear movement, arches, valleys, bounces, sequences, turning cells, arpeggios, scalar thirds or chromatic movement.

4 Set Tempo and MIDI Channel. Enable Legato for a slight overlap between successive notes.

5 Press and hold the play area to audition. Release to stop the scheduled playback.

When Focus supplies project tempo from Logic Pro or Cubase, Runs follows it and the manual tempo controls are disabled. Without a supplied tempo, set BPM manually. Keep the faders under your other hand to shape the phrase.

Save your workspace

Workspace backups

Co-Composer maintains local and available iCloud workspace backups. For a portable copy, unlock, open Export and choose Export workspace. Save the JSON file in Files or share it to another device or account.

A workspace includes its banks, section order, groups, pinning, routing and fader-page configuration. Fader positions are live performance values and are not saved. Importing an older workspace without fader settings keeps your current fader configuration.

1 Export a copy of your current workspace before replacing it.

2 Tap Import workspace and select the saved JSON file.

3 Confirm the replacement only when you are ready to replace the current banks and layout.

What to save

Workspace The complete iPad bank layout and fader configuration. Use workspace Export and Import.

User Templates Reusable banks. Use the template browser's JSON export and import controls.

Focus mappings The Mac's track-to-bank links for a DAW project. Use Save Mappings or Save Mappings As in Focus.

Keep the pieces together

Save both the workspace and its Focus mapping profile when archiving a project. A mapping profile links to banks; loading it does not recreate missing iPad banks. Restore the matching workspace when moving a project to another device.

If you clear all banks, the app offers a save-first route. Finish the export before proceeding with deletion.

Connect your Mac and DAW

Co-Composer Focus lives in the Mac menu bar. It carries MIDI from iPad, follows DAW track selection, navigates back from bank headers and supplies project tempo for Runs.

1 Open Focus and choose Logic Pro or Cubase. Changing DAW restarts the companion in that mode; each DAW has separate mapping storage.

2 Open Setup Guide from the menu bar. Allow Accessibility in macOS settings and local-network access when requested.

3 Open Co-Composer on iPad with both devices on the same local network. Check the connected indicators and the iPad Workspace in Mappings.

4 For Logic Pro, enable Co-Composer MIDI as an input while Focus is running. For Cubase, complete the script and port setup on the next page.

Choose your setup path

Choose Automatic to import DAW maps, create iPad banks and attempt track matching. For Logic, select the articulation-set folder; the usual location is Music/Audio Music Apps/Articulation Settings. Expand Logic Track Stacks before capturing the full project.

For Cubase, export the project's expression maps to a folder and select it. Review the detected banks and section plan before importing. Keep the iPad connected until the import finishes, then review uncertain matches and unmapped rows.

Choose Manual if your iPad banks already exist or you want to assign them yourself. Open Mappings and follow page 13.

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Permissions Logic uses Accessibility for track selection, project and tempo information. Cubase uses Accessibility for project identity and MIDI Remote for track data.

Set up Cubase

1 In Focus's Setup Guide, install or update the bundled Co-Composer Focus MIDI Remote Script. Use the default folder, or choose a MIDI Remote folder already used by Cubase. Show in Finder reveals the installation.

2 If Cubase is already open, choose MIDI Remote → Scripting Tools → Reload Scripts. Otherwise open Cubase after installation.

3 In MIDI Remote Manager, select Co-Composer / Focus. Set Input to Co-Composer Focus Commands and Output to Co-Composer Focus Feedback.

4 Set your instrument tracks to receive Co-Composer MIDI for notes, faders and keyswitches.

5 Open and activate a Cubase project, then wait for a complete track capture before mapping. Saved and unsaved projects are supported; an existing mapping file is not required.

Use the right ports

Co-Composer MIDI Musical MIDI sent to your instruments.

Co-Composer Focus Commands Input to the Cubase MIDI Remote script for control commands.

Co-Composer Focus Feedback Output from the script back to Focus for track and session information.

Capture and project selection

Capture includes up to 1,024 eligible mixer channels, including hidden mixer tracks. Folder-only and other non-channel Arrange tracks are outside this capture.

When several projects are open, activate the project you are viewing. Focus holds output if the visible project is inactive or its capture does not match. Wait for a fresh, validated capture before testing bank focus and navigation.

Updating the script The installer backs up an existing script version during updates. Reload scripts in Cubase after installing the new version.

Map tracks to banks

1 Open Mappings from Focus's menu bar. Confirm that the intended DAW project and iPad Workspace are present.

2 Turn on Add Tracks and select tracks in the DAW to capture them individually, then turn it off. Alternatively, choose Add All Tracks. Expand Logic Track Stacks first to include their tracks.

3 Drag an iPad bank or group onto the appropriate track row. To assign one bank to several rows, select those mappings and double-click the bank.

4 Select a mapped DAW track to check iPad focus. Tap its bank header on iPad to check navigation back to the track.

Automatic matching

Auto Assign attempts to match the captured tracks to iPad banks and groups. Add Tracks and Auto Assign combines capture and matching. Review estimated matches, confirmation prompts and remaining unmapped rows before relying on the result.

Change an assignment

Unlink removes the bank association but keeps the track row. The trash action removes the mapping. Clear Unmapped removes rows without bank or group links; Clear All removes the whole mapping list.

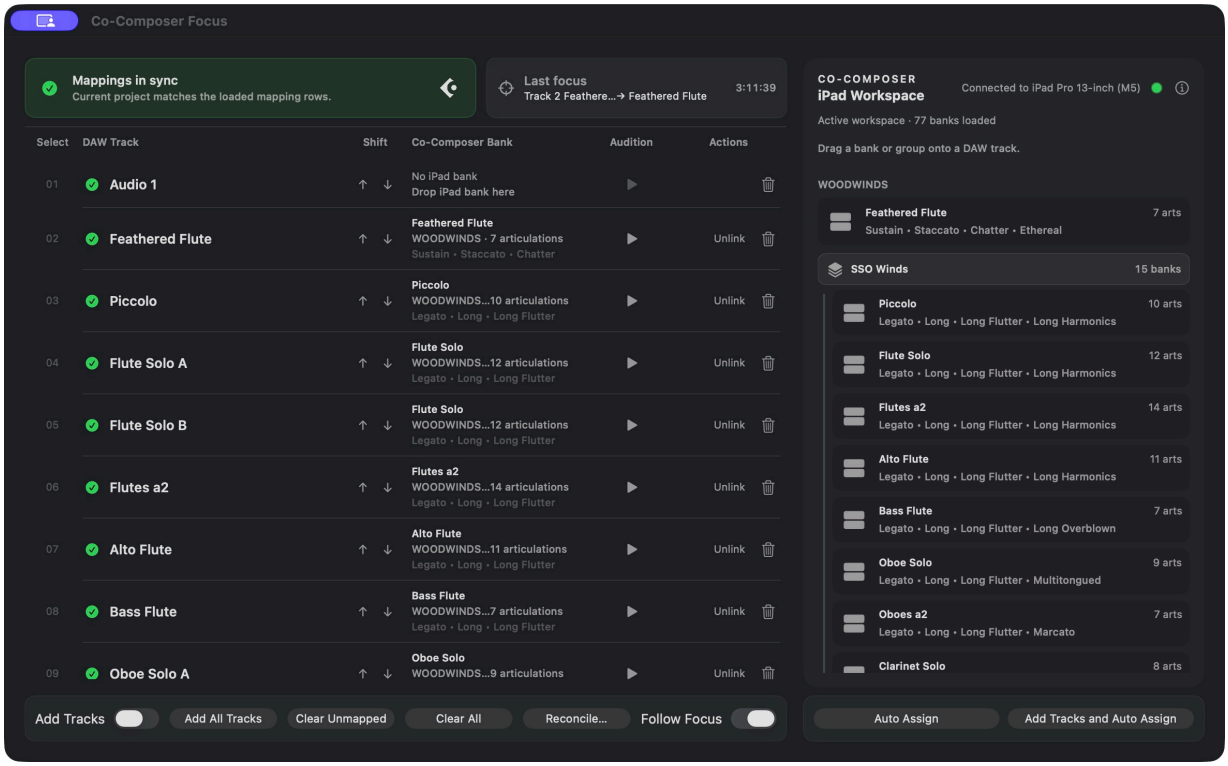
Use row arrows for manual index adjustments. Shift-click an arrow to shift that mapping and subsequent mappings together. Check the track names and status afterwards.

Import more banks

Drop Logic .plist articulation sets, Cubase .expressionmap files or folders onto the iPad Workspace area. Choose the destination section and whether to save User Templates. Newly imported banks still need track links, either manually or through Auto Assign.

Auto Assign and Reconcile Auto Assign matches banks to tracks. Reconcile checks track order and previews safe mapping repairs; it is not the bank-matching command.

Focus on Mac



Mapped tracks on the left, with the connected iPad banks and groups on the right.

Save for each project

Use Save Mappings As to create a profile, normally named after the open project. Use Save Mappings for later updates and Load Mappings for explicit recall. When the DAW project changes, Focus checks for the corresponding saved profile and may ask how to handle your current mappings. Read the save, discard or keep-current choices before continuing.

Saved Cubase projects retain their full path internally; unsaved projects use a temporary window identity. Save the project and its mappings when you want dependable later recall.

After track edits

Focus can keep assignments aligned through simple insertions, deletions and reordering. It waits for settled track information and leaves ambiguous changes for review. Repeated track names can require manual attention.

In Logic, keep a final anchor track outside collapsible Track Stacks for more reliable automatic offsets; it does not need a mapping. If rows drift, expand all Track Stacks, choose Reconcile, inspect the proposal and apply safe repairs. Uncertain rows remain untouched.

In Cubase, wait for the complete capture after an edit and inspect the status. Activate the correct project if output is held. Resolve ambiguous names or mismatched mappings before continuing.

Move a profile between DAWs

Load a mapping profile from the other DAW to retain its bank links. Focus checks destination track names and indices before allowing output. Correct or reconcile the destination rows as needed, then use Save Mappings As to create a separate destination profile.

Recovery If Focus offers Recover Last Good Backup, use it to recover the previous mapping data, then verify it against the current project.

Help and support

If something is not responding

No connection Keep both apps open on the same local network. Check local-network access and Focus's connection status. Touch and hold the iPad Focus button for session details and refresh.

Connected but no sound Check the instrument's MIDI input and channel. Use Co-Composer MIDI with Focus, or the connected Network MIDI session for direct routing. In Cubase, Commands and Feedback are the control ports; musical input comes from Co-Composer MIDI.

Wrong bank or no focus Check the open project, the mapping's bank link and the bank's Focus mode. Restore the matching iPad workspace if a bank is missing. Turn off the project filter if it hides the banks you expect.

Mappings held or out of sync Read the session status. In Logic, check Accessibility and expand Track Stacks before reconciliation. In Cubase, activate the project, check the script ports and wait for a complete capture.

Send a support report

In Focus, open About or Events and choose Support Report. Preview the app and DAW versions, connection checks, project and mapping details, and recent events. Copy the report or save a text file. Cubase reports also include script-version information. Email Support opens a message; review what you share.

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Thank you

I'm primarily a composer and producer, and Co-Composer began as a personal project to make my own workflow easier. Thank you for supporting it; I hope it gives you more time and space for your music.

Support is provided on a best-endeavours basis and is not guaranteed as part of your purchase. I'll do my best to support Co-Composer over the long term with updates, fixes and new features whenever possible.