

*Jixis*TM **Graphical Music Systems**

Making Your Own Jixis Label Set Sheets

Instructions

If you do not see your particular instrument name displayed on the Jixis fingerboard web site, you may easily generate your own Label Set sheets for any 4, 5 or 6 stringed fretted or unfretted string instrument fingerboard using the procedures explained below. These instructions are only for making a color/symbol label set sheet. If you also wish to make a note letter name chart sheet, please download the PDF titled, *The Note Letter Name Strip*.

Once you generate your instrument's Label Set color/symbol sheet, you need only follow the instructions in the fretted or unfretted Instruction Manuals or Quick Start Guides to use the Jixis fingerboard system with your stringed instrument. If you have not already done so, please download the appropriate 4, 5 or 6 string PDF *Do It Yourself* Label Set sheets from the *DIY Format* link series on the Jixis site.

Further below you will find a page having a vertical series of 16 color/symbol coding square columns. The first two columns cover a range of note tones from a low B three octaves below middle-C to a high tone of A three octaves above middle-C. A staff guide for this note range is also provided directly below. The remaining six sets of double columns cover a range of note tones from a low C two octaves below middle-C to a high tone of G three octaves above middle-C. These coding strips represent the range of notes between the lowest and highest tones likely to be played out on a stringed instrument.

The final column on the sheet is called a *Note Letter Name Strip* and may be used along with your label set to assist you in quickly naming any note in the label set by aligning the black triangular sharp/flat signs in the note letter name strip with the linear order of any vertical row of the color/symbol codings.

You will need to print out the color/symbol coding square strips when you are ready to prepare your own label sheet. To use the color/symbol note square strips to construct string columns for use on your 4, 5, or 6 string Label Set sheets provided below, the first thing you must know is the number of fret spaces or pitch lines that are actually available to play out on your fingerboard. This number will range from 12 to over 22, and will be the number of color/symbol note squares that you will be cutting free from the strip columns to apply to the string columns of your label sheet.

To determine which coding will be at the top of your coding strip, you need to know the both the open note tones of your instrument strings and the written range of the music that is used for that instrument. In other words, you need to determine the note names for the 4, 5, or 6 strings and also where these open

tone note names fall on the lines or spaces of the music staff system *in the conventional written music for your instrument*. Your actual tuning of the strings may be lower (or higher) than the written music. This information can be easily determined online by searching out your instrument's tuning instructions vs. the note range in which music for your instrument is actually written.

When you know where the open string tones are conventionally written in the staff system, then compare those note positions to the staff guide on your label sheet grid to determine the top color/symbol note squares for your respective string strips. Next, cut the respective color/symbol note square strips free from the main color/symbol note square strips according to the number of your fret spaces or pitch lines. You may have to link two strips to acquire your full range.

The top color/symbol coding square of the strip will then go onto the top square box on your label set grid marked 0 for Open, and the remaining codings in the strip column will then fit into the string column up to the number of note square boxes that equal the number of fret spaces or pitch lines on your fingerboard. The string column coding strips may then be applied to the column sheet using adhesives, or a clear tape strip over each, or by using double-sided tape. When your label strip attachment is completed, your sheet will resemble the other provided Label Set sheets and be used as they are either with the Instruction Manual or the Quick Start Guide.

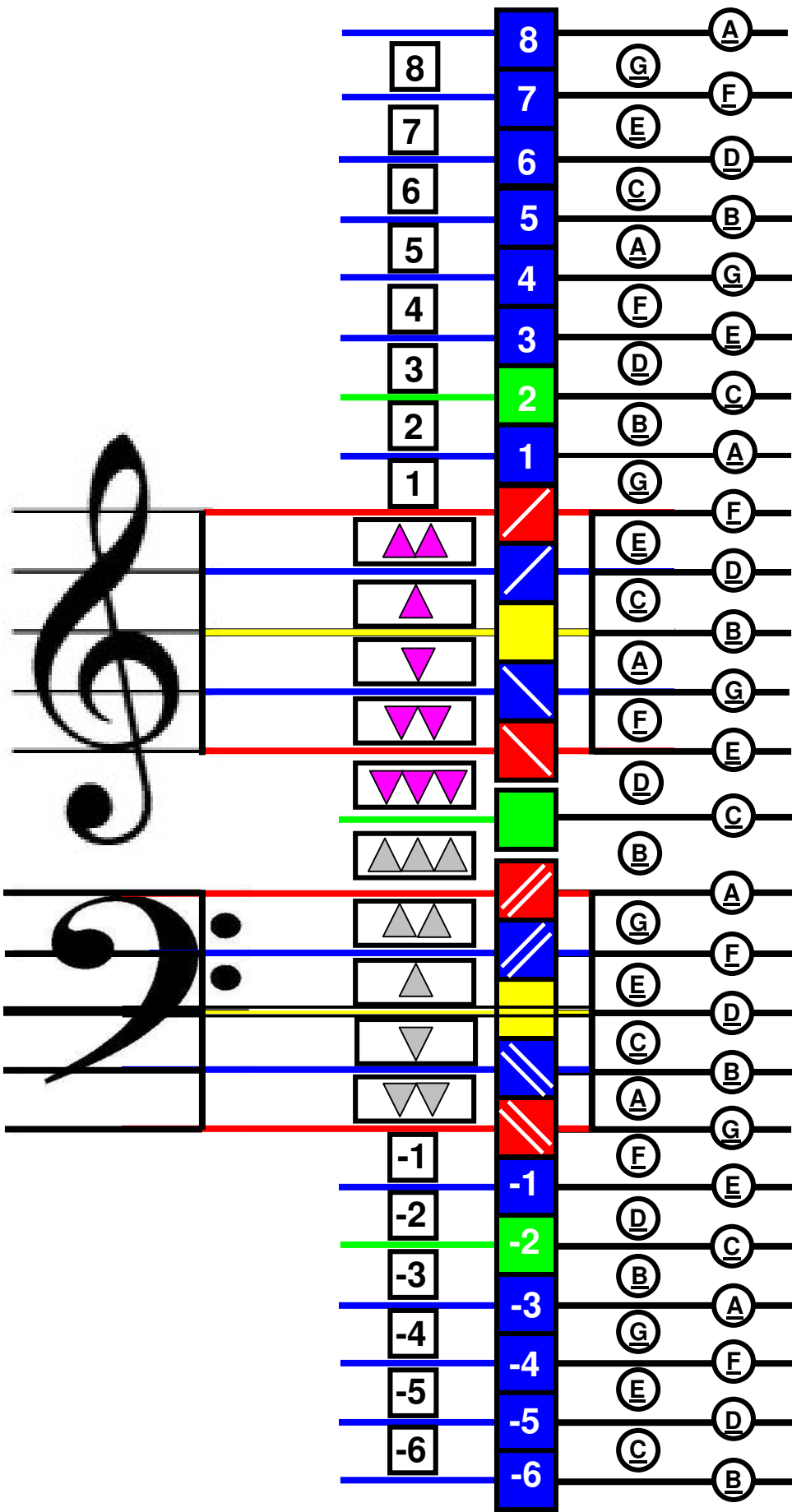
Locating the Fret Spaces or Pitch Lines on Your Label Set

The blank label formats have been marked with circular red dots for the 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 15th, 17th, 19th and 21st rows for fret spaces or pitch lines, and with a circular red ring for the 12th row (because this is the point where the note letter names begin to repeat). You may either disregard these markers or use them as indicators of where to introduce marker pen marks on your label set to assist you in locating your row numbers.

Making a Note Letter Name Chart

As noted above, if you want to make a note letter name chart for your instrument, separate note letter name strips and number columns have been provided in the *Note Letter Name Strip* PDF download for the purpose of generating a *Note Letter Name Chart* (with sharp/flat triangles) for your instrument. You begin the process by determining the open tones of your instrument strings, and then cutting out the individual strips starting with these open tone letter names.

For example, on a bass or bass guitar, you would have the open tones of EADG. So your first string column would begin with G, your second string column with D, and so on. The strips are then laid down in order and taped to a piece of blank paper to form string columns of note letter names with sharp/flat triangles that will correlate to your color/symbol label set and to your fingerboard, or you may use the appropriate DIY blank download to enter the individual strips.



Color/Symbol Coding Square Strips

-6		4	-2		-2		-2		-2		-2		-2		-2		A
-6																	B
-5		5	-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		C
		6	-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		-1		D
-4																	E
-4		6															F
																	G
-3		7			1		1		1		1		1		1		A
																	B
-3		8			1		1		1		1		1		1		C
-2					2		2		2		2		2		2		D
		8			2		2		2		2		2		2		E
-2					2		2		2		2		2		2		F
		X			3		3		3		3		3		3		G
		X			3		3		3		3		3		3		A
-1		X			3		3		3		3		3		3		B
		X			4		4		4		4		4		4		C
-1		X			4		4		4		4		4		4		D
		X			4		4		4		4		4		4		E
		X			4		4		4		4		4		4		F
		X			5		5		5		5		5		5		A
		X			5		5		5		5		5		5		B
		X			5		5		5		5		5		5		C
		X			5		5		5		5		5		5		D
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		E
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		F
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		A
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		B
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		C
		X			6		6		6		6		6		6		D
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		E
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		F
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		A
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		B
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		C
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		D
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		E
		X			7		7		7		7		7		7		F
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		A
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		B
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		C
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		D
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		E
		X			8		8		8		8		8		8		F