The Circle TAB Half and Whole Notes plugin

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Circle TAB for Half & Whole Notes will find half and whole notes in a guitar (guitar only) TAB staff, and add circle or ellipse symbols to cover these notes or chords, so as to indicate their duration. This is not as good as having Sibelius support this as a feature, but it really beats doing the same thing by hand.

The symbols will be in a drawing layer on top of the notes, so to access the notes you will have to pull the symbols out of the way. However, the plugin has an option to delete all the added symbols, and another to delete existing symbols and add new ones, which works well if you are still editing the score.

The zip file includes House Style libraries that must be installed in the user House Style folder. In Sibelius 7 or later the plugin installer will put them in the right place. The plugin will load symbols from this House Style.

The symbols and their placement are customizable, (if tediously) using the Options... button. You can choose different symbols and specify their X and Y offsets in the dialog, and these values are preserved over Sibelius sessions.

In the Sibelius 7 timeframe, the plugin Circle TAB Half and Whole Notes imports special circle and oval shaped symbols, built using SVG graphics, from the custom House Style TabHalfWholeSib7PlusOpaque that is installed with the plugin.

Due to the way Sibelius imports House Styles, when symbols are imported, Text styles are automatically imported as well, and these may cause the appearance of the score to change.

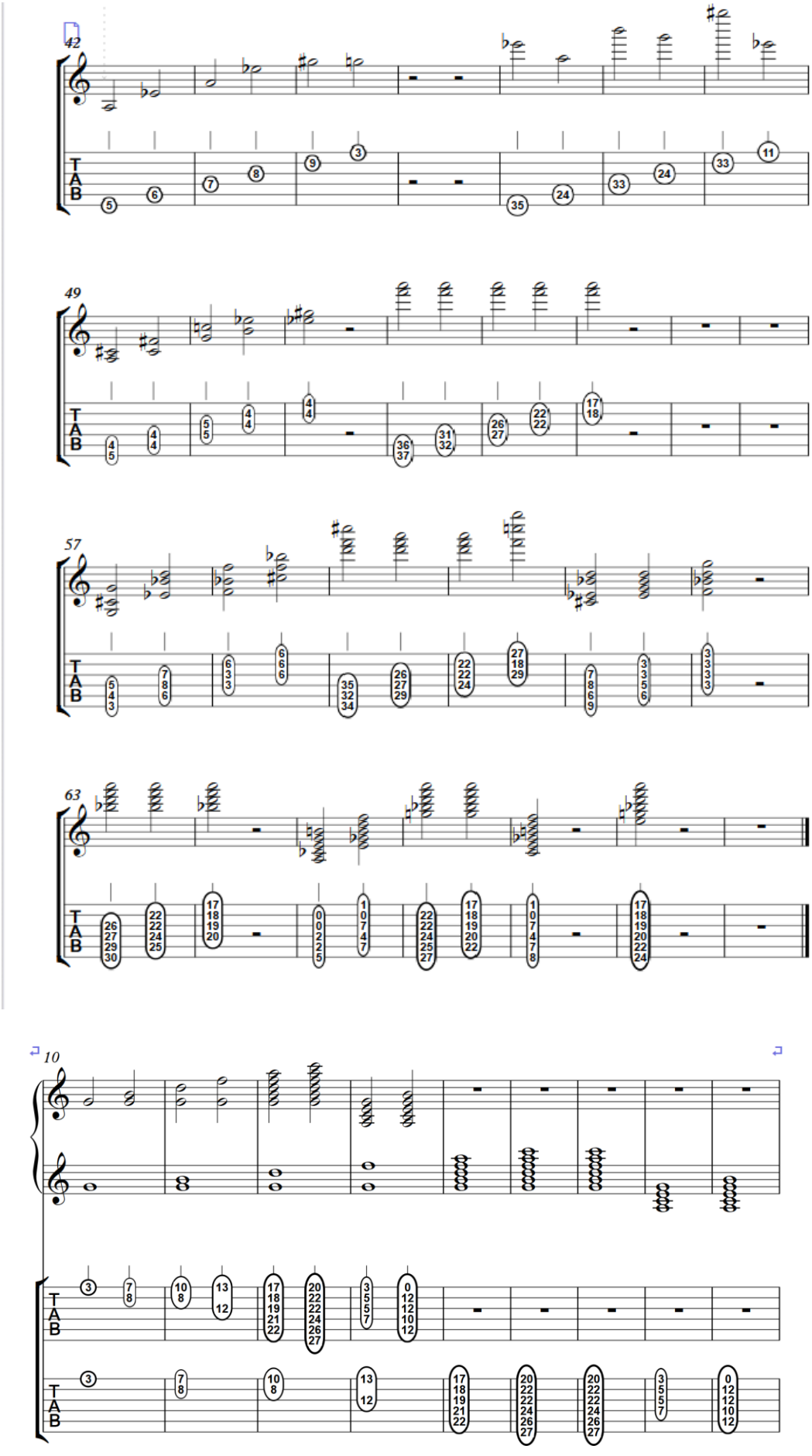
In Sibelius 7.5 or later, this plugin will warn you if the main fonts in the house style differ from those in your score. If that happens, it is recommended that you **stop the plugin and export a house style (Appearance>Export House Style) from your score before running the plugin**. This will save away the fonts that are in your score.

After running the plugin (and saying it is OK to continue), you may notice that the fonts in the score are different. Import the house style you exported, and uncheck everything except 'Text". Importing Text should restore the fonts to your score.

You can use any name for the temporary house style you export (I like "Temp"), and can use the same name again later, overwriting the house style the next time you use the plugin, or you can delete the temporary house style file from the file system, or by using the downloadable plugin Delete User-Editable Files (category Batch Processing).

This process is described under the Help button.

Here are some examples of the plugin in use:


42
49
57
63
10
TAB