

Quick Start Guide to *Modacity*

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“Just Tell Me What to Do First” Instructions

>>To practice a piece of music:

1. Launch Modacity.
2. As directed, create an account and Log In.
3. Your Home screen will appear.
4. At the bottom of the Home screen, click on the two note-icon (third from the left).
5. This brings up an alphabetized list of your Practice Items. To practice anything, you must have it listed here.
6. In the top pale purple search bar, type the name of what you want to practice. This could be the name of a song, or something else, like “scales”, “warm-up exercises.”
7. The same words will appear in a gray bar below the entry bar. Click on the “+” symbol in that gray bar.
8. This will take you back to the practice item list, where your new entry now appears.
9. Click on the entry.
10. This brings up the practice screen. Start practicing! Notice that the timer is running, showing how long this screen is open — presumably how long you are practicing.
11. When you finish practicing, click on the “Done” word in the upper left.
12. This will bring up a screen asking, “How did it go?” If you type in a star, it will be registered in the Practice Items list under the name of the item. If you don’t want to rate your practice, just click on the back arrow at the upper left.
13. This takes you back to the Practice Items list.

From here, you can practice something else. Or, if you want to go back to the Home Screen, either click on the Home icon at the bottom of the screen on the left — or click on the three-line icon at the upper left, which will pull up a toolbar on the right, with Home at the top

>>To customize your music practice

1. Get into a practice screen.
2. Notice the icons....

> **Microphone.** This is physically in the center of the screen because it should be at the center of your practice: Nothing is more valuable for improving your musical skill than you yourself listening to you yourself play. Click on the microphone to start recording, click on the square to stop. It will immediately, automatically play back.

Notice the little downward-pointing arrow to the right of the Back/Stop/Forward buttons. That will save this recording in your “Notes” folder. Click there, name it, and it is saved. Otherwise the recording is immediately erased either when you use the microphone again or when you close Modacity.

> **Timer.** To the right of the counter (which is running continuously), there are two up and down arrows. Use these arrows to change the clock from a counter (counting how much time you have been practicing) to a timer that can be used to set the amount of time you want to practice. For example, if you want to spend 10 minutes on this particular piece, click on the arrows, which brings up the timer, enter “10 minutes”, click on the check mark at the bottom of the screen, and it will start countdown—and “ding” when it reaches zero.

You can also access the timer by clicking on the clock icon at the bottom of the screen (3rd from the left).

> **Metrodrone.** Bottom tool bar, 2nd icon from the left. This is both a metronome and a drone, which can serve for tuning. For the metronome, to enter a timing, either tap or use the +/- buttons to enter a specific number. To make the metrodrone disappear, click the down arrow at the top.

> **Deliberate Practice.** Bottom tool bar, 1st icon on the left. With Deliberate Practice listen to yourself play, you (deliberately) determine a single aspect that you want to improve; you (deliberately) choose a specific way that you are going to improve it; you (deliberately) apply the technique in playing, then listen and evaluate how well you did. Clicking on the DP icon will guide you through this process.

> **Notes.** Bottom tool bar, middle icon/3rd from the left. Click on this to open a new screen with several functions. Text notes you enter here will appear at the bottom of your practice screen. Use this to record whatever you want to be reminded of when you practice next. This is also where you access your saved recordings.

> **Help!** Bottom tool bar, last icon on the right. Use this icon to reach Modacity managers to ask any question you have about using Modacity or about your own practice. The community of Modacity developers and users are here to help each other.

>>**To create a practice session playlist**

A practice session playlist is a schedule. You choose and order the elements of your practice, then Modacity takes you through them. Make as many session lists as you like. Here's how to set one up:

1. First, you must have the elements that will be part of your session listed among the Practice Items. The elements could be song titles, or such things as "Exercises", "Scales", "Tuning", "Take a Break" — whatever you want to spend time doing.
2. Go to the Home Screen.
4. In the lower toolbar, click on the square icon (2nd from the left).
5. This takes you to the Practice Sessions screen. At the bottom right click on "add".
6. This will take you to the Practice Item list. Put a check mark beside all the items that you want to add, then click on "add" in the lower right.
7. This will take you to a new screen where all the items are listed below and above there is a grayed area, where it says "tap to Save Practice Session". Do it. That is, tap — and then enter the name of your practice session. After you click on "Done" in the letter entry typing window, the practice session screen will appear, with the name of the practice session at the top, and a list of the practice items below. You can rearrange the elements by clicking and dragging — or by shaking the screen, for random arrangement.
8. At the bottom right of that session screen, click Start. The first item in your list will appear in a practice screen (look familiar?). Practice. When you finish, click Done in the upper left; after a rating (or not, by clicking on the back arrow at the top), the second item will appear.... Etc.
9. After all items have been practiced, "Finish" will appear in the bottom right; click on that for a little encouragement — and then back to the list of your session playlists.

Let the music begin!