



MidAI – Melody Mage

User Guide & Help Reference

by Anumys

Welcome to MidAI – Melody Mage! This guide explains every control so you can get useful results quickly – skim the Overview below, then jump into the section that matches what you're doing.

Overview

MidAI uses an AI language model – your choice of provider – to compose short MIDI phrases (melodies, basslines, chord progressions, arpeggios, etc.) from your musical settings and/or a free-text description. Every generation writes a real, editable .mid file you can drag straight into your DAW, save to disk, or preview with a bundled instrument sound. Beyond generation, the Transform panel can continuously reshape any melody's mood, brightness and complexity without regenerating it, and an AI Accuracy check can grade how closely a result matches what you asked for.

There is no free AI tier – every user, licensed or not, supplies and uses their own API key for whichever provider they choose. A license instead removes Free mode's rate limits on Generate/Save/Drag and its cap on total sessions; everything else (including preview playback) already works the same in both modes.

Setup (Settings)

- **API Keys tab:** enter your own API key for one or more providers (OpenAI, Groq, OpenRouter, Grok/xAI, DeepSeek, Anthropic, Gemini) and pick which one to generate with. “Refresh AI models” re-downloads that provider's current model list; “Full list” fetches the provider's own native catalogue instead of the curated one (on by default). Two model selectors let you use different models: the main model composes the MIDI, the “Fast model” handles AI Enhance, the accuracy check and self-check – flagship models usually give clearly better MIDI, small/fast ones are ideal for the helper steps. Each has an Effort selector (default/low/medium/high; if a model does not support it, MidAI retries without it) and “Max tokens” sets the answer budget (8000–64000) – raise it if you see “response incomplete”. Requests use a separate system prompt and, where the provider supports it, prompt caching; otherwise MidAI automatically falls back to the plain form.
- **License tab:** enter your license key and buyer email, then press Verify to activate. Until then this tab also shows your current Free-mode usage against its limits.
- **General tab:** interface theme (and whether plain window text follows it too), animated background on/off, GUI refresh rate, where MidAI stores its files (Data folder), AI self-check rounds, Automatic accuracy check, sound generation variety (slider), Show hints (hover tooltips), compact MIDI preview, Auto-load MIDI/default sound on preset switch, Natural-vs-Speed pitch-shift mode and “Sustain long notes” (loops a short sample so long MIDI notes keep sounding in the preview). The About tab shows product, version and build date.

Musical Parameters (left column)

- **Key / Scale:** the root note and scale/mode the generated melody is built in.
- **Octave:** the central octave the melody is centred around.
- **Length:** the phrase length in bars.
- **Bass:** also ask for a simple bassline alongside the main line.
- **Only prompt:** when on, ONLY the free-text “AI instructions” box drives the result – Key/Scale/Octave/Length/Bass and the four style knobs below are ignored. When off, your musical parameters and style knobs steer the request; the text box (if used) adds extra description on top of them. In Only prompt mode the AI request contains just your prompt plus the Creative/Deterministic setting – no key, scale, bars, BPM or knob values.
- **AI instructions:** free-text description of the sound/role/mood you want. The “:-)” button asks the AI to invent a random prompt for you.
- **Deterministic:** on asks the AI for a concrete, constraint-checked specification; off allows more creative interpretation while still respecting anything you stated explicitly. Also shapes AI Enhance's rewrite.
- **Creativity** (“Only prompt” mode): a boldness dial for AI Enhance – mainly a tie-breaker while Deterministic is on.

Style Knobs

- **Spicy (0–5):** extra melodic jumps, passing tones, chord extensions and ornament notes layered onto the basic melody. 0 = plain, 5 = heavily ornamented.
- **Space (0–5):** rests/gaps left between notes. 0 = little or no space, 5 = lots of breathing room between phrases.
- **Complexity (–10..+10):** 0 is the normal baseline. Negative values simplify the result (fewer notes, more regular rhythm, less variation); positive values add variation (more note/rhythm changes, more harmonic colour).
- **Density (–10..+10):** 0 is the normal baseline. Negative values thin out the result (fewer notes per bar, more space); positive values pack in more notes per bar and busier phrasing, up to the densest possible result at +10.

Generating

- **Generate:** sends the current settings/prompt to the AI and writes a new .mid file to the output folder. The result appears in the piano-roll preview.
- **AI self-check rounds** (Settings > General) automatically re-validates/refines a generation for up to that many extra passes; 0 turns it off. Every check is a new AI request (it counts toward provider limits and cost).
- **Accuracy:** asks the AI to grade the current result against your original prompt – a score plus a pass/fail breakdown per constraint, visible via Details. Runs automatically after generation when Automatic accuracy check is on, or any time manually – also a separate AI request. If the provider returns an error (for example “Request too large” for a small model) the real message is shown.
- **AI Enhance** (“Only prompt” mode): rewrites your AI instructions text into a more detailed, music-theory-checked prompt before you generate. It uses the Fast model.
- **Randomize:** fills the free-text “AI instructions” box with a randomly assembled style description as a starting point, and randomizes the musical parameters/style knobs too.

MIDI Actions

- **Save:** writes the current result to a .mid file you choose.
- **Drag** straight from the piano-roll preview onto a track in your DAW to export it the same way, without saving first.
- **Load:** opens an existing .mid file into the preview (replaces the current result and resets the Transform panel).
- **Open Folder:** reveals the folder the generated .mid files are written to.

Transform Panel

Reshapes the currently loaded MIDI continuously, without regenerating it – open it from the MIDI preview's transform icon.

- **Mood / Brightness / Complexity** sliders reshape the feel from sad-to-happy, dark-to-bright, and simple-to-complex.
- **Bass** (Off/Root/Pattern/Walking) and Bass Octave choose how a bass part is added.
- **Key / Scale** re-quantize the result; Chord-Aware Key/Scale re-quantizes each bar to its own inferred chord instead of one fixed key for the whole phrase.
- **Mood Affects** picks whether Mood/Brightness change velocity, pitch, or both; New Notes controls whether the transform may add notes beyond the original ones.
- **Live change** applies every slider/combo move immediately, without pressing Apply.
- **Revert** restores the original MIDI and resets every control; Apply commits the current settings when Live change is off.

Sound Preview & Sound Browser

Play/Pause/Stop/Loop audition a bundled instrument's rendering of the current MIDI – available in Free mode too, not just licensed. The selector next to the transport picks which instrument sound plays; the checkmark button saves it as this preset's own default (auto-selected next time if Auto-load default sound is on); setting a preset's default MIDI needs a license. Long MIDI notes are sustained by looping the sound when Sustain long notes is on. Regen rebuilds the preview audio if needed. The Sound Browser (top toolbar) lets you search, preview and pick from the full bundled and generated sound library, organised into packages.

Presets

Presets save/restore the FULL set of musical parameters and style-knob values above (not the generated MIDI itself) so you can jump back to a favourite configuration.

- **Up/down triangles:** step to the previous/next saved preset.
- **Preset name button:** opens the full preset browser (search, favourites, ratings, tags, author/type/style/package filters).
- **Floppy-disk button:** quick-saves the current settings as a new preset.

Free Mode & Licensing

Without a verified license, Generate/Save/Drag are each limited both per time window and over the plugin's lifetime, and there's a cap on total sessions – Settings > License shows your exact current limits and usage. Verifying a license removes all of these.

Separately, if the license server itself can't be reached, Free-mode actions (Generate, Accuracy, AI Enhance, Save, Drag, Load) are temporarily blocked with a clear message until it's reachable again; this doesn't apply once you're licensed.

Why the MIDI quality varies

- **Model strength:** the AI model matters most. Flagship models of OpenAI, Anthropic and Gemini follow key, scale, length and style far more reliably than small, mini, lite or free models, which more often return wrong or repetitive notes. Use a strong main model and a small, quick “Fast model” for AI Enhance, Accuracy and self-check. A higher Effort setting usually composes better than low.
- **Wording:** a one-word prompt gives a generic result. Name the genre, era, role (lead, bass, arpeggio, pad), mood, rhythm feel and register, or let AI Enhance expand it. Contradictions (for example “busy and dense” while Density is strongly negative) pull the result in two directions – make them agree or use Only prompt. Very theory-heavy wording and Deterministic make the result rigid; leave Deterministic off for a musical result.
- **Cut-off answers:** if you see “response incomplete”, the model used its whole answer budget (including its thinking) before finishing the notes. Raise Max tokens (Settings > API Keys) or lower the Effort. If the same simple pattern keeps coming back, the answer was unusable and MidAI fell back to a default phrase.
- **Free models and limits:** free and low-tier plans limit requests and tokens per minute and the size of one request (for example “Request too large for model” or rate-limit errors). Generate, every self-check round, the Accuracy check and AI Enhance are each a separate request, so the second or third one often fails on a free key. MidAI shows the provider's own error text. Wait a minute, set self-check rounds to 0–1, turn Automatic accuracy check off, pick a model with higher limits or move to a paid tier.
- **Self-check is not a cure:** extra rounds can fix wrong notes but cannot make a weak model's idea good, and each round costs time and rate-limit budget.
- **The sound, not the notes:** a thin or unsuitable preview instrument makes correct MIDI sound bad. Try another sound, enable Sustain long notes, or audition the MIDI with your own instrument in the DAW.

Third-Party AI Providers

The AI providers selectable in Settings > API Keys (OpenAI, Anthropic, Gemini, Groq, OpenRouter, Grok/xAI, DeepSeek) are independent third-party services. They are not part of MidAI and are not operated, controlled, or warranted by Anumys / Whispering Instruments. Using any of them requires your own account and API key with that provider, and may require a separate paid subscription or usage-based billing charged directly by them – MidAI does not include, resell, or subsidize this access.

Recommended providers: OpenAI, Anthropic, and Gemini models give the most reliable results with MidAI's prompts.

The availability, response time, and the accuracy or musical quality of what a third-party AI provider returns are entirely outside our control and are not guaranteed. Anumys / Whispering Instruments accepts no responsibility or liability for errors, downtime, unexpected cost, data handling, or any other outcome resulting from your use of a third-party AI provider. Review that provider's own terms of service and privacy policy for how they handle your requests and data.

Providers commonly rate-limit how many requests you can send per minute. AI self-check rounds each need an extra request on top of the main Generate call, so they're usually the first thing to start failing once that limit is hit – if you see repeated failures during self-check, try turning AI self-check rounds down (Settings > General) until the limit resets.

Formats

Runs as VST3, CLAP and LV2 in your DAW, and as a standalone application. The BPM / Auto BPM controls only appear in the standalone app – a hosted plugin takes its tempo from the DAW instead.

Status Bar

Shows the active provider/key state, whether a MIDI phrase is ready, and your license status. In Free mode, the cooldown readout next to it shows when the next generation is allowed.

Legal Documents

The current End User License Agreement, Privacy Policy, Refund Policy and other legal documents that apply to MidAI and other Anumys products are published at:

<https://anumys.eu/legal>

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