

Van Basco Karaoke Player Installation

Click to install the Van Basco Karaoke player. This is a tried and tested program and is very safe. Answer 'Next' to English, click 'Next', click 'I agree' (terms), and then 'Next' to the install path (where you want it on your computer). Click 'Next' again to associate this program with MIDI files, and finally 'Finish'.

How to use the Karaoke Player with MIDI files

I just want to click on a website MIDI file and have the Karaoke player play it

1. Well, you have to now tell your system that from now on you want a 'MID' file to be opened by the Karaoke Player
2. Assuming you are using a Windows Operating System...
3. Click the 'start' button and look for 'My Computer'. Click on that
4. Click 'tools' from the top line menu, then 'options'
5. Click the tab labelled 'file types'
6. Scroll down this alphabetical list until you come across MIDI
7. Click the button labelled 'change', then select 'vmidi' from the list of recommended programs
8. Click 'close' to finish
9. Don't forget to read the details below so that you can quickly change tempo, rewind, replay etc- just like you used to on a tape machine

Creating your own library, and then using the Karaoke Player

1. Copy (Right click on a MIDI file and "Save As") any of the "MID" files on this site to a suitable location on your computer, for instance "My Documents/My Music" (you can put them anywhere as long as you know where they are).
2. Now you can click on the Van Basco icon on your desktop to start the Van Basco program.
3. When you first start up, you will see a 'welcome' box. Unless you want to see 'hints' every time, uncheck the 'show tips' box in this window, and then click 'Close'.
4. Six mini windows then appear: a keyboard, a control window, a lyrics window (not relevant), a 'MIDI output' window, a 'Karaoke player' window and a playlist window. If you click on the border of these with your mouse and hold the mouse click down, you can drag these windows into an arrangement that suits you.

5. Playlist Window: Use the right hand side of this window to find your MIDI file (standard 'Windows Explorer' type interface). If you double click a file, it then appears in the left-hand window (the playlist). To play the file, you must double click on the name again in this left window.
6. The file begins to play. Look in the 'control' window. In real time you can slow the tempo down: click and drag the 'slider bar' up or down. This is very useful!
7. The Karaoke player window looks a bit like a cassette recorder: you start, stop, pause etc using this box. Note how the 'play' key becomes the 'pause' key when the file is playing. At this point, you can use the slider bar to find a particular section by elapsed time. If you hit 'stop' the file is reset to the beginning.
8. Finally, the 'MIDI output' window is where you see the parts playing. The left hand side is like a volume meter for each part. There are two buttons to the left of these volume meters. The leftmost (turns red) mutes the part, the rightmost (turns green) brings the part to the foreground. If you use the SATB files, you'll need to use this green button to hear your part more prominently. If you use the 'soprano' file (or whatever is your part), you will not need to take any special action to hear your part emphasised (but if you choose to boost again then your part will be very dominant)
9. Once you have downloaded all the files you want, you don't have to visit the website anymore- you can just start the Karaoke player from the desktop or the start menu. You simply call up your playlist and get rehearsing.