MEASURES · FIRST BETA · FOR TABIT PLAYERS

Try Measures with your own tabs

Measures is built for TabIt users: your .tbt files open as they are, the keys you know still work, and around them is a full studio for recording, mixing and practising. This guide takes about an hour. Tell us what broke, what confused you and what you'd change.

Build	Time	Everything is at
1.0.0-beta.1	**About 1 hour**	**playmeasures.com/beta**

How to use this guide

Each step has a box to tick. Do Part 1 first; after that take the parts in any order and skip any that don't interest you. Mark steps as you go:

✓ WORKED ✕ BROKE ? CONFUSING

What you need

A Windows 10 or 11 PC (64-bit), about 2 GB of free space, and some of your TabIt files. Headphones or speakers. A guitar and audio interface, or a MIDI keyboard, are optional; they're needed only for recording and the play-along game.

It's a beta

Rough edges are expected, which is why we need you. Measures never changes your .tbt files unless you save over them, but keep a backup copy of anything precious anyway. Nothing you do in this build is sent anywhere unless you choose to send it (Part 8).

The hour at a glance

Short on time? Do Parts 1, 2, 3 and 8: they're what matters most to a TabIt player.

Part	What	Time
1	Install Measures	5 min
2	Open your TabIt songs and practise with them	15 min
3	Edit the tab the way you do in TabIt, and save	10 min
4	Sounds: instruments, effects, the mixer	10 min
5	Your audio interface and latency	5 min
6	Record and export (optional)	10 min
7	The play-along game (optional)	5 min
8	Send us your feedback and anything else you'd like to share	10 min

TabIt to Measures in one table

In TabIt you…	In Measures…
Open a .tbt	**File → Open…** `Ctrl+O`. Any TabIt version's files open directly.
Save	`Ctrl+S`. The first save of a TabIt song asks for a name and writes a **.msr** Measures song (your tab plus Measures' sounds, effects and audio). The .tbt stays as it was.
Type frets	The same: `0`–`9` (two digits quickly for 10 and up), `x` muted, `*` stop, `Space` clear.
Move around	Arrows, `Ctrl+←/→` bars, `PgUp/PgDn` tracks, `Ctrl+G` go to bar, `Shift`+arrows select.
Play	`F5` this track, `F6` all tracks, `F8` stop.
Slow it down, loop, metronome	The **SPEED** box (25–200%, same pitch) and the practice bar: ↻ **Loop**, **Metronome**, **Count-in**, **Ignore repeats**.
Pick an instrument	The **Browser** and the track's **Sound source** in **Devices**.
Keyboard reference	**Help → Keyboard shortcuts** or `?`

Install Measures

PART 1 · 5 MIN

1. [ ] Go to **playmeasures.com/beta** and download **Measures_1.0.0-beta.1_x64-setup.exe** (about 400 MB).

2. [ ] Run it. Windows SmartScreen will warn that the app isn't recognised. That's because the beta isn't code-signed yet (the release will be). Click **More info** → **Run anyway**. It installs for your Windows user only.

   > **You should see:** "Measures" in the Start menu.

3. [ ] Open Measures. The first time, a **Welcome to Measures** panel shows where TabIt things are and what's new; read it, then click **Close** (**Help** → **Welcome** brings it back).

   > **You should see:** The panel, with Open a TabIt song, Start a new song and Send feedback.

4. [ ] Wait for the light at the top right to say **AUDIO READY**.

   > **You should see:** The Studio, with "Ready to open a song" and your sound device named next to the light.

5. [ ] *Optional:* the extra sound pack from the same page (about 500 MB) adds presets and wavetables for the Vaporizer2 synth: **Help** → **Install sound pack...**. Skip it unless you want to explore synths.

6. [ ] If Windows Firewall asks about Measures, either answer is fine. Allowing it on private networks lets **Link** sync tempo with other music apps on your network.

Finding your way

Along the top: **Studio** (play, edit, record), then **Library**, **Artists** and **Community**, which will become the online side; they aren't open to the public yet. The **Theme** picker is at the top right. In the Studio, a switch near the song's title flips between **Score** (your tab, like TabIt) and **Arrangement** (a DAW timeline). Along the bottom: **Browser**, **Devices** (the selected track's instrument and effects) and **Mixer**.

Open your songs and practise

PART 2 · 15 MIN

This is the part we care about most: does Measures read your TabIt files right, and does playback sound like TabIt's?

1. ☐ **File → Open...** and choose one of your .tbt files.

   > **You should see:** Its title, every track's tab with its tuning, and the bar count.

   Like TabIt: same tab, same tracks.

2. ☐ Press `F6` and listen for a couple of minutes. Does each track sound like the instrument TabIt gave it? Do bends, slides, hammer-ons, palm mutes, let-ring, repeats and tempo changes behave as they did in TabIt?

   > **You should see:** "PLAYING", the playhead moving and the page following it.

3. ☐ `F8`, then `Ctrl+G`, a bar number, Enter, `F6`.

   > **You should see:** Playback starts at that bar.

4. ☐ Click a track's tab and press `F5` (just that track).

5. ☐ Type **75** in **SPEED**, press Enter and play.

   > **You should see:** Slower at the same pitch; the ↺ next to it goes back to 100%.

6. ☐ Set **Bars** 5 **through** 8, click ↻ **Loop**, tick **Metronome**, set **Count-in** to 1 bar, and play.

   > **You should see:** A bar of clicks, then bars 5–8 round and round.

7. ☐ Click the **KEY** readout next to the tempo.

   > **You should see:** The song's key and scales that suit it. Does it match what you know of the song?

8. ☐ **Open as many of your songs as you can**, especially odd ones: tuplets, 7- and 8-string tracks, drum tracks, very long songs, files from old TabIt versions. A song that opens wrong, or won't open at all, is the most useful thing you can send us (Part 8).

Other formats

File → Import Guitar Pro..., **Import MIDI...**, **Import MusicXML...** and **Import text tab...** read those files as a new song, with a note saying anything that didn't carry over. Try any you have.

Edit the tab, and save

PART 3 · 10 MIN

1. Click a space and type **5**, move right and type **1 2** quickly.

   You should see: 5, then 12. A dot (•) by the title: unsaved changes.

   Like TabIt: identical keys.

2. Type `x` and `*` on two spaces; `Space` clears one.

3. `Ctrl+Z` three times, then `Ctrl+Y`.

   You should see: Each edit undone and redone in order.

4. Select a bar with `Shift`+arrows, `Ctrl+C`, move on a few bars, `Ctrl+V`.

5. Try the TabIt editing you use most: tuplets, bar lines, chords, lyrics, instrument changes, repeats. Note anything that's missing or works differently.

6. `Ctrl+Shift+S` and save it as a .msr on your Desktop. Close Measures, open it again and reopen the song.

   You should see: Your edits are there, and the original .tbt is unchanged.

Sounds

PART 4 · 10 MIN

TabIt plays one General MIDI sound per track. In Measures each track has a sound source and a chain of effects, like a channel in a DAW.

1. ☐ Open the **Browser** and look through **Sounds**, **Effects**, **My instruments** and **Plugins**.
2. ☐ Select a track, open **Devices**, and under **Sound source** try a different instrument, then switch back to the original.
3. ☐ On a guitar track, add Overdrive, an amp, Delay and Reverb from **Effects**. Turn knobs while it plays; try a factory **Preset…**.
4. ☐ **Plugins**: Measures comes with about 50 free plugins (Surge XT, Dexed, Dragonfly reverbs and more), and finds your own VST3, VST2, CLAP and LV2 plugins. Put one on a track and open its window.

   > **You should see:** Bundled ones say "Included with Measures". If one fails, its slot says so and offers **Reload**.

5. ☐ Open the **Mixer**: faders, pan, mute and solo.
6. ☐ Try the themes (top right).

Your audio interface

PART 5 · 5 MIN

Measures has only been tried on a handful of audio setups. Yours tells us a lot, even if all you do is press play.

1. ☐ **Tools → Preferences → Audio...**: note the driver, device, buffer and latency shown.

2. ☐ If you have an audio interface with an ASIO driver, choose **ASIO** and your interface. Play a song for a minute.

   > **You should see:** Sound through your interface, a smaller latency figure, no crackles.

3. ☐ If your interface has a free output and input, connect a cable from one to the other and use **Detect latency**.

   > **You should see:** A measured round trip in milliseconds.

4. ☐ Crackles, dropouts, or no sound at all? Note your interface's name and the settings shown; the diagnostics file in Part 8 carries them for you.

Record and export

PART 6 · 10 MIN · OPTIONAL

1. Switch to **Arrangement**, click **+ Audio track**, and open **AUDIO RECORDING**: pick your guitar's input channel, set monitoring, and **Arm** the track.

   > **You should see:** You hear your guitar through Measures.

2. Put the playhead at bar 1, **Record from playhead**, play along for a few bars, then **Stop and keep take**.

   > **You should see:** A clip of your playing, lined up with the song.

3. With a MIDI keyboard: **+ MIDI track**, pick an instrument for it, then **MIDI keyboard and recording** → choose the keyboard → **Connect keyboard** and play; **Record MIDI from playhead** to record.

4. **File** → **Export audio…**: export the mix as WAV or MP3 and play it outside Measures.

   > **You should see:** The file, with its loudness and true peak reported.

The play-along game

PART 7 · 5 MIN · OPTIONAL

1. Open a song, then **Playback → Play-along game...**

   You should see: The play-along window, with a highway of notes for the track.

2. Choose your **Part** (track) and a **Difficulty** (Easy, Medium, Hard or Expert). Under **Input**, pick your MIDI keyboard, or your audio interface and the channel your guitar is on.

3. For guitar, measure latency first (Part 5), so your timing is judged fairly.

4. Click **Start play-along** and play each note as it reaches the line marked PLAY HERE.

   You should see: Each note shows Hit, Early, Late, Miss or Wrong note as you play.

5. Click **Stop and show results**, or let the song finish, to see your score, stars and rank. **Play again** starts over.

Send us your feedback

PART 8 · 10 MIN

*Two ways, both through **playmeasures.com/beta**: the feedback form (what you'd change, what broke), and files that help us build the engine. Send whatever you're comfortable with; everything is optional.*

1. The feedback form

The **Beta feedback form** on **playmeasures.com/beta** asks how it went, what broke, what you'd change, and what TabIt did that Measures doesn't yet. You can fill it in more than once: once now, and again whenever you find something. The sheet on the last page has the same questions, if you'd rather jot things down as you go.

2. Files that help build the engine

What	Why it helps	How
Your TabIt songs	Every song that opens wrong or plays differently from TabIt becomes a test case, so it never breaks again. Songs kept private, used only for testing.	Attach the .tbt to the form (any you like, but especially ones that misbehave).
Diagnostics	Crash reports, your audio device and latency results, your plugin list. No songs, no audio, nothing secret.	**Help → Save diagnostics...**, then attach the zip to the form.
Your audio setup	Measures has been tried on very few interfaces. Yours, with its latency and any dropouts, shows us where it struggles.	Do Part 5 first; the diagnostics file carries the results.
DI guitar recordings	Clean DI recordings of short exercises train Measures' AI guitar tone (AI DI). Only recordings you mark for training, with your consent, are ever used.	**Tools → Training session...**: open an exercise, record it, **Keep for training**, and confirm the consent.

1. ☐ Easiest: **Help → Send feedback...** does all of this in one go. Write your notes, tick what to include (diagnostics, the open song, other songs, your DI recordings; songs and recordings ask for your consent), click **Save report...**, then **Open the beta form** and attach the zip there.

2. ☐ If Measures ever closes unexpectedly, it says so when it next starts and offers to save diagnostics. Please do, and send it with a line about what you were doing.

Where it goes

Form answers and files go to the Measures team (Evan, who makes Measures) and are used only to fix and build Measures. Songs and recordings are never published, shared or sold. Ask on the beta page to have anything you sent deleted.

Feedback sheet

SAME QUESTIONS AS THE FORM

Overall, out of 5, and why

What broke (what you were doing, what happened)

What confused you or got in the way

Something TabIt did that Measures doesn't (yet)

What you'd change or add

What you liked most