

Q&A for the Final Project

Is it OK if we modify MIDI files to create any of our 15 in-scene compositions or any of our 4 transition compositions?

Yes, you may modify MIDI files to create any of the required 19 compositions.

For the transition compositions, are there any specific things you are looking for?

The only requirements for the transition compositions is that you create at least 4 unique compositions and that each of them be between 2-5 seconds in duration.

Do I need to change all of the instruments of a composition for it to qualify as a new composition that can be counted toward the 19 required compositions?

You only need to change one instrument for it to count as a new composition (i.e. the supporting instrumentation can be the same).

Does changing the tempo of a track count as a new composition towards the 19 required? Also, if I changed the tempo twice, does that count as 2 new compositions?

Yes and yes. Changing the tempo counts as a new composition, and you can do it multiple times to create multiple new compositions. However, please try to limit the number of times you do this. In other words, you should also use other methods for creating new compositions besides changing the tempo (e.g. changing the instruments, writing a new melody, implementing vertical remixing, etc).

How long should my soundtrack be?

Your soundtrack should be between 3-6 minutes long.

If my soundtrack doesn't sound great, will I lose points?

You will not be graded on the artistic or creative merit of any of your compositions.

When we are making the walkthrough sequence, we label it like: 1A, 2B, etc. So does every new composition have a new letter? So for example, if I used my Hero Theme, it would be 'A' and then if I changed the instrumentation of the Hero Theme, would it still be 'A' or would it become 'B'?

The composition would become 'B' in this scenario. Note that every new composition for a particular scene has a new letter. So if we take your hero scene (call it Scene 2), then the "normal play" music would be '2A' and the music with modified instrumentation would be '2B'.

Is vertical remixing done within a composition or between compositions?

It depends on how you look at it. In vertical remixing, music from some tracks is disengaged (or faded out) while music from other tracks is engaged (or faded in). So really, it's fair to say that vertical remixing is done both within a composition (i.e. the composition that contains all of your tracks) and between compositions (i.e. the two new compositions that arise by doing

the cross-fading). If this explanation makes sense to you, then you have a good understanding of vertical remixing. If this explanation doesn't make sense to you, I wouldn't worry about it at this point. Just be sure you know how to implement vertical remixing using the cross-fading technique that we went over in class.