**How to make Dorico put 4 bars on a system**
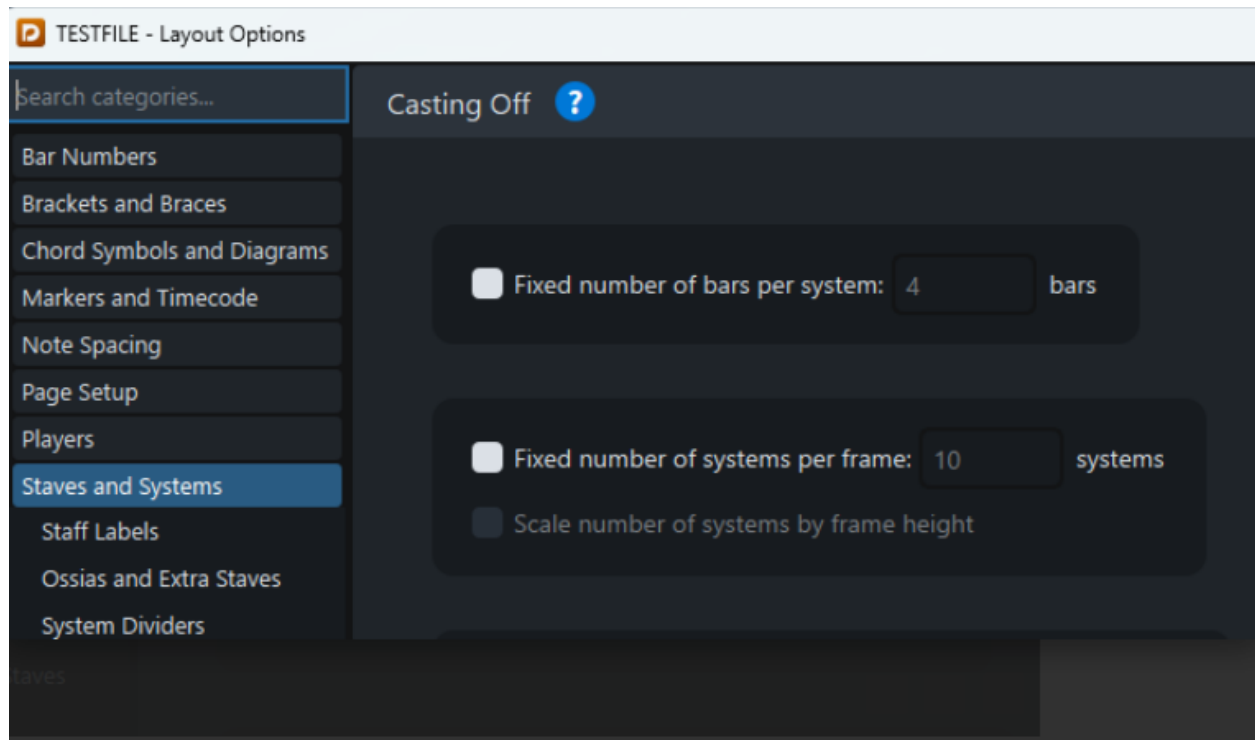
In Layout Options / Staves and Systems, select "Casting Off" (Library Menu / Layout Options, or Ctl-Shift-L / Cmd-Shift-L)

Check "Fixed number of bars per system and select (or type) the number 4.

Click "Apply" then "Close".



To be honest, I don't force Dorico to have a specific number of bars per system or systems per page. My own practice is to leave these unchecked and let Dorico space the music. Dorico's own music spacing is very good. But if you do want a set number of bars on every system, this is the best way to do it.

You might be wondering: what is "Casting Off"?  Casting off is a term from the older practice of engraving music on plates, when the engraver had to plan the layout of systems and pages very carefully before beginning to engrave.