
Blank Staff Paper

The Dorico Templates folder linked from my website contains PDF files of blank music paper, created in Dorico, and the Dorico files used to create them. Here's how they were done.

If starting from an existing project:

- Remove all music
- Remove all information from the Project Information dialog.
- Use Setup Mode to remove extra flows.
- Delete all but 4 measures
- Use the Properties Panel to hide the time signature (You need a time signature to create measures, but it's easy to hide using the Properties Panel.
- (Pro only) In Engrave Mode, edit the Default First Page. Delete unwanted text frames and resize the music frame.
- Use the Bars/Barlines menu (or Shift-B popover) to change the final barline to a regular barline.
- Make these changes in the Layout Options dialog.
 - Bar Numbers -- Show Bar Numbers -- Set to NONE
 - Note Spacing -- Only justify final system in flow when more than -- UNCHECK
 - Page Setup --Page Size. Set to whatever paper size you want.
 - Page Setup -- Space Size -- Make the Staff Spacing slightly larger, so that the staves are easier to write on.
 - Players -- Bar Rests and Multi-bar rests -- Show bar rests in empty bars -- UNCHECK
 - Staves and Systems -- Staff Labels on first system -- Set to NONE
 - Staves and Systems -- Staff Labels on subsequent systems: set to NONE
 - Staves and Systems -- Casting Off -- Fixed number of bars per system -- Set to 1 (this will turn each of your four measures into systems consisting of a single long bar with no barlines)

Result is four blank systems on a page. The bracketing and clefs from your original project will be preserved.

If starting from a brand new project:

- Start a brand new project, using either one of your templates or one of Dorico's templates.
- In Write Mode, create 4 measures (or use the Shift-B popover to remove all but 4 measures). You must have a time signature to create measures; once the measures are in place, use the Properties Panel to hide the time signature. Then make changes to Layout Options outlined above.

To create different staff papers in one project:

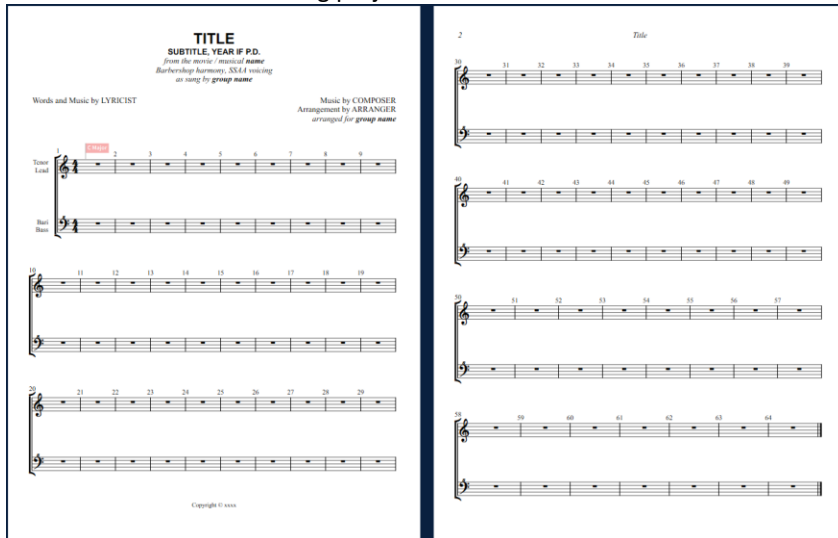
Once you have the first one set up, go to Setup Mode and duplicate the flow. Then make any needed changes (clefs, page size, etc) in each individual flow. In Layout Options -- Page Setup -- Use First Page template, select: Any flow starting at top of page.

When printing -- to print only a selected flow, go to Print Mode. Under Print range, select Flows, then select the flow you want.

To create blank paper consisting of staves only.

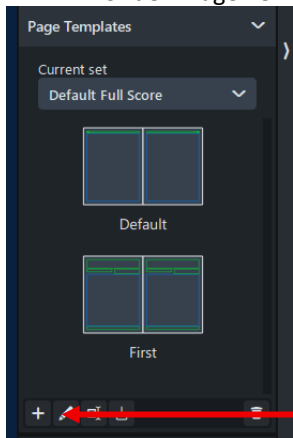
The method above will give you blank staves with bracketing and clefs that you might have already put in. If you want a page with nothing but blank staves, here's how to do it.

- Start with an existing project.



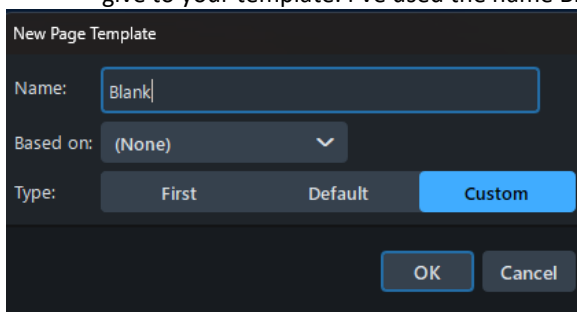
The image shows two pages of a music score. The left page is the first page, featuring a title block with fields for 'TITLE', 'SUBTITLE, YEAR IF P.D.', 'From the name: musical name', 'Barbershop harmony, SSA setting', and 'as sung by group name'. It also lists 'Words and Music by LYRICIST' and 'Music by COMPOSER', 'Arrangement by ARRANGER', and 'arranged for group name'. The score includes parts for 'Tenor Lead' and 'Bass' with musical notation on staves. The right page is the second page, labeled '2' and 'Title', showing musical notation for measures 31 through 44.

- Select Engrave Mode and open the right-hand zone
- Under "Page Templates" look for the + sign



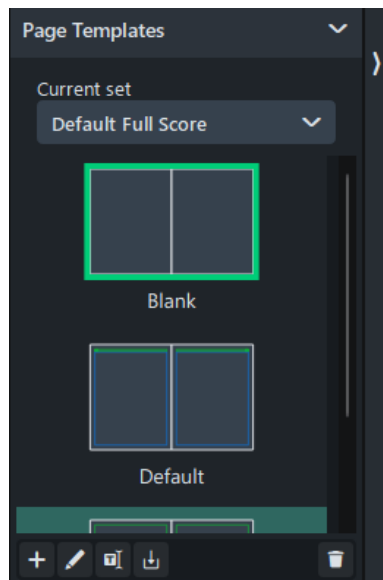
The image shows the 'Page Templates' dialog box in a music software interface. It has a dark background with white text. At the top, it says 'Page Templates' with a dropdown arrow. Below that, 'Current set' is set to 'Default Full Score'. There are two template options: 'Default' and 'First', each with a small preview icon. At the bottom left, there is a '+' sign, a minus sign, and a trash icon. A red arrow points from the '+' sign to the right-hand zone of the software interface.

- Click the + sign, then fill out the New Page Template dialog as shown. For Name, enter the name you wish to give to your template. I've used the name Blank; the name can be whatever you want. Click OK.



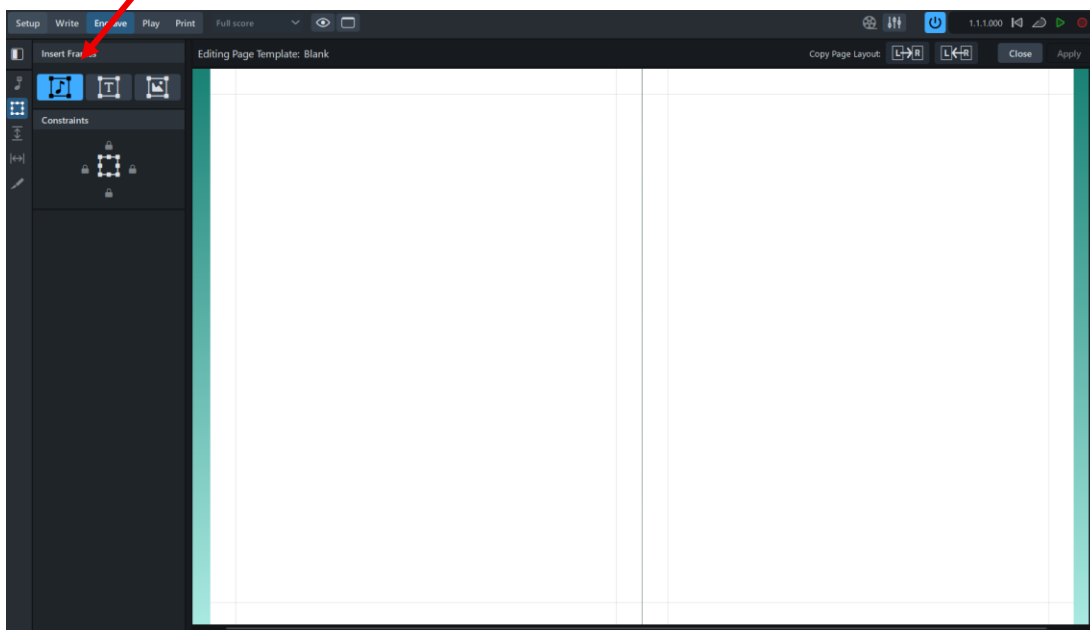
The image shows the 'New Page Template' dialog box. It has a dark background with white text. The 'Name' field contains the text 'Blank'. The 'Based on' dropdown menu is set to '(None)'. The 'Type' section has three buttons: 'First', 'Default', and 'Custom', with 'Custom' being highlighted in blue. At the bottom, there are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Your new template will now show in the right-hand zone under "Page Templates".

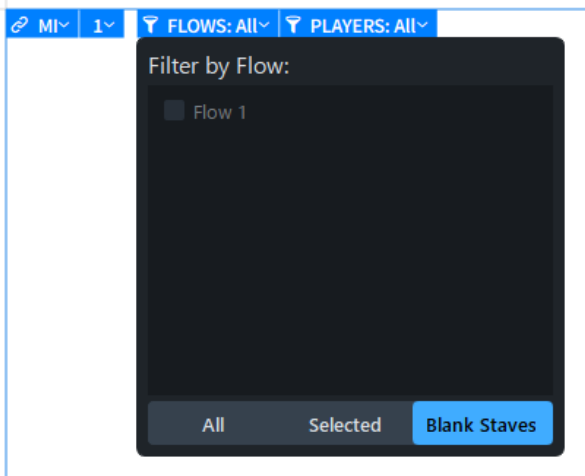


- Now you're going to edit the template you've just created, by putting a music frame in it. Double click on the template you've created (called Blank in this case)

- Open the left zone and highlight the music frame icon

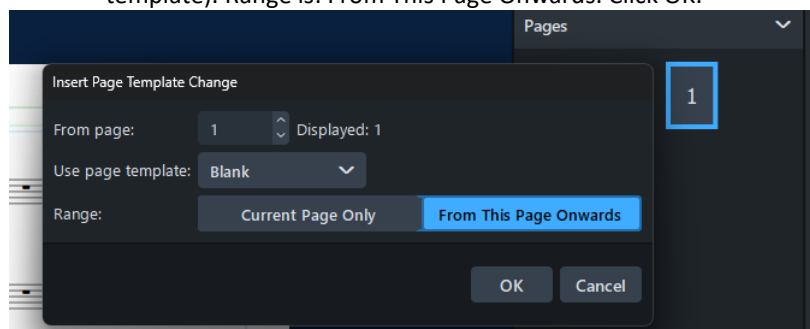


- On the left-facing page, click and drag to draw a blue music frame around the page border. Click L->R next to "Copy Page Layout" to apply the change to the right facing page. Then click "Apply"
- On the left-facing page, click the blue box labeled FLOWS: All and click the down arrow. Select "Blank Staves". Again, click on L-> next to "Copy Page Layout" to apply the change to the right-facing page the click Apply then Close.

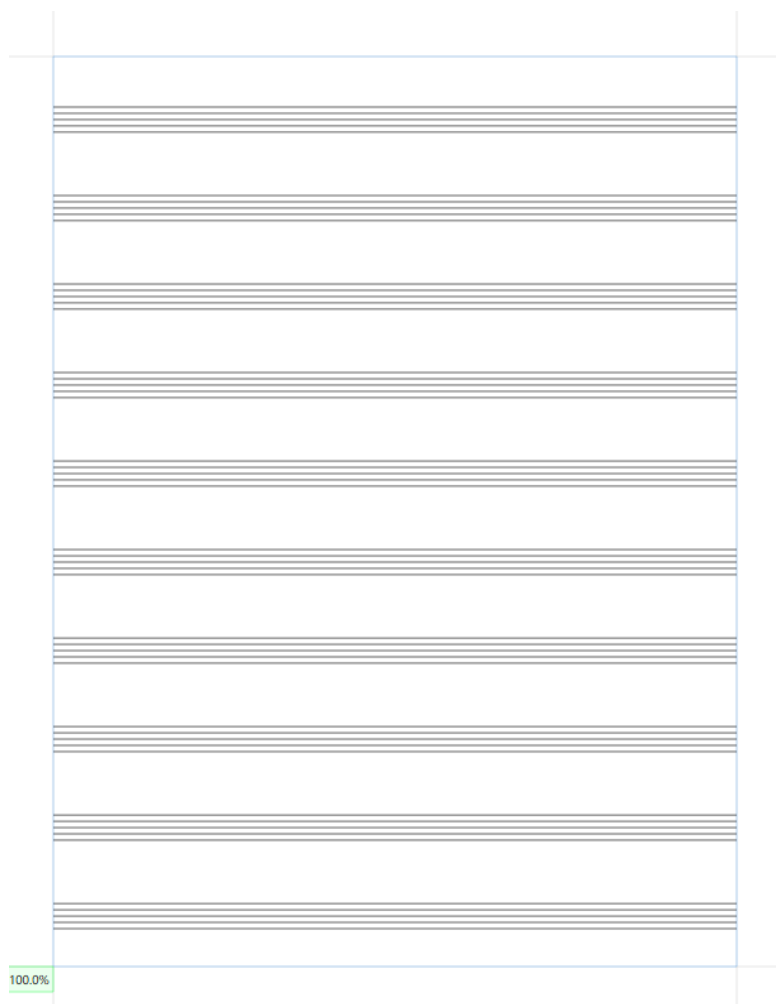


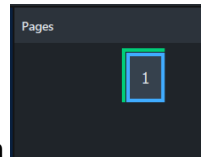
After you click Close you should see your original project. Now, we'll make the blank template you've created the default template for this project.

- In the right-hand zone, under “Pages” click on Page 1 to select it. Then right-click and select “Insert Page Template Change”. Fill the dialog box out as shown. Use page template: blank (or whatever you’ve called your template). Range is: From This Page Onwards. Click OK.



When you click OK, you should see a single page with blank staves. Save the file!

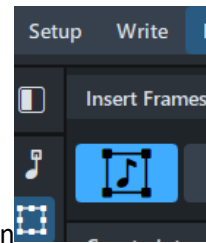




In Engrave Mode, in the right-hand zone under “Pages” you’ll see this icon

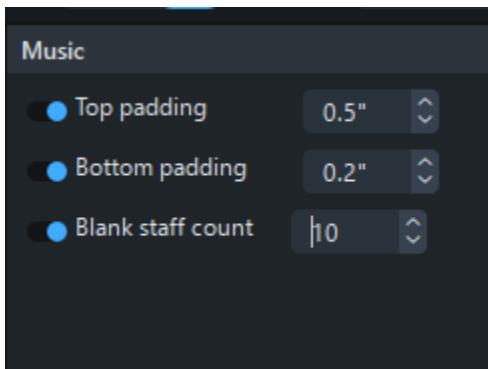
The green border indicates a page template change. If you were to right click on that icon and select “Remove All Page Template Changes” you would see the original project that you started with.

Customizing the blank score page using the Properties Panel



Select Engrave Mode, open the left-hand zone and highlight the music frame icon

Click on the handle in the center of the top row to select the frame, then Ctrl-8 (Cmd-8 Mac) to open the Properties Panel. In the Properties Panel, under “Music” you can set the amount of top padding, bottom padding, and number of staves on the page.



Customizing the blank score page using Layout Options

Use Layout Options / Space Size to make the spaces slightly larger, to make them easier to write on.

