

# Sibelius Tips

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## Repeats, 1st and 2nd endings

When working with Sibelius, most of the things we need to put in our scores are easy to do. One thing that has proven a bit challenging for me is repeats, and 1st and 2nd endings. Here are some solutions I have found over the years.

### Placing 1st & 2nd endings

*When adding a 1st or 2nd ending, the line that goes over the staff sometimes comes out too long.*

Type the esc key, to make sure nothing is selected.

Type L, getting the Lines dialog box.

Click on the ending you want.

Click on the measure where you want it to go.

The line over the staff will be too short, rather than too long, and will be easier to adjust.

### Ties and Slurs into 2nd endings

*When there is a tie or slur between the last note before the 1st ending, and the first note of the 2nd ending, you can use a non-magnetic slur, whether you need a tie or slur. (A non-magnetic slur is free-standing, not attached to any note.)*

Type the esc key, to make sure nothing is selected.

Drag the first note of the 2nd ending to the right to make space for the slur or tie.

Type S, setting up Sibelius to create a non-magnetic slur.

Click in some white space close to the place where you want the slur to go.

For best results, zoom in a lot. (A quick way to zoom in is with the plus sign at the bottom right corner of the Sibelius window.)

To place the slur in the correct position, drag the handles on the outside corners.

To flip it, drag the handle in the center.

When you have it as you want it, go to the View Tab, and, from the Zoom section, choose the zoom level you would like in order to continue with other tasks.

## Playback of Repeats

*For simple repeats, Sibelius usually intelligently plays them back the way you want. For complicated repeat structures, it may be easier to enter the playback order manually.*

### Go the Play Tab.

From the Interpretation section, choose Repeats.

Choose Manual repeats playback and fill in the measure numbers as desired.

### Playback 2nd time only

*If you have an instrument or voice that should not play back on all passes of a section:*

Select the passage that will play back only on certain passes.

Go to the Home Tab.

Choose Inspector from the Edit section.

In the Playback section, click on the play on pass boxes until all boxes are checked or unchecked as you wish. Sometimes a minus sign will appear. I haven't been able to find out what that means. I have gotten the results I want by continuing to click until all boxes are either checked or blank.

### **Repeat text**

*Indications like D. C., D. S., Coda, etc. are in*

Text Tab

From the Styles section, choose Tempo. (Finding this in Tempo is not intuitive for me, but that's where it is.)

*The Coda sign, and the Sign (for D. S.) can also be found in*

Notations>Symbols

If you want to control the size of these symbols, get them from the Text Tab, not the Notations Tab. Then you can select them and use the size box in the Format section.

### **Measure numbers in repeated sections**

*At times you may want to change the measure numbers in a repeated section.*

Select the first measure that will have a new number.

Go to the Text Tab.

In the numbering section, choose Bar number change.

If desired, go to the Home Tab, Edit section, and hide the first measure # in the renumbered section.

*Troubleshooting missing measure numbers: If measure numbers are normal in the first part of the document, and not showing up in the last part:*

You may have an incomplete repeat structure, such as a forward repeat mark and no corresponding backward repeat.

### **New text for ending**

In the spaces left box, enter -2.25. (Note that this is a negative number.)

Check or uncheck the "Draw on first system only" box as desired.

Click OK.

Click OK again.

Close the box.

Go to the section above (Placing 1st and 2nd endings) and follow those steps.

For questions or comments about this document or other Sibelius topics, send email to [David@heartwindmusic.com](mailto:David@heartwindmusic.com)