

# Keyboard Chord Diagrams with SongFrame Using the Chirp Virtual MIDI Keyboard

Very often we are asked whether SongFrame can show keyboard chord diagrams in addition to the guitar fretboard diagrams already in the product. While this capability is on our eventual to-do list, you can do this right now using the Tanager AudioWorks Chirp Virtual MIDI Keyboard Controller product available separately. Chirp is a utility application that allows you to use your laptop keyboard as a MIDI keyboard controller - a perfect accessory to work on melodies when it is impractical to carry a hardware MIDI keyboard along with you. Chirp is capable of MIDI input and output - and we'll make use of both in this application note.

Load SongFrame and Chirp. In SongFrame's **Setup** menu, click on the **MIDI and VST Setup** sub-menu and click on the **Chord Track** tab. Set the MIDI Output port for the Chord track to "**1.Internal MIDI.**" This is an empty LoopBe30 virtual MIDI port we use to route traffic to and from the Chirp product. In Chirp's **File->MIDI Setup** menu, choose the Microsoft GS Wavetable Synth (or your favorite hardware MIDI synth) as the Output Device, and set the Input Device to the "**1.Internal MIDI**" port we sent data from SongFrame out on.

Now, when you click on a Chord in the Chord Library/Progressions Tool/Chord Track, you'll see the chord played in the Chirp display and hear it via the GS Synth or output device you selected. This is an excellent tool to learn keyboard chords!



*The Chirp Virtual MIDI Keyboard Controller can be used to show keyboard chord diagrams from the chord track or chord tool output from the SongFrame Songwriter's Toolkit software package.*