# **New Features in RealBand 2018**

There are over 50 new features in RealBand 2018.

## **Summary List of New Features**

Windows Audio (WASAPI) driver support. This allows for low latency audio recording/playback without requiring ASIO. Note that this supports 1 stereo input plus 1 stereo output at a time. For multiple inputs/outputs, you should continue to use either MME or ASIO.

ABC Notation format support. You can save a track of notation in a popular ASCII text format to import into other programs, or you can paste this format into a user forum as a way of sending the track (usually the melody and chord symbols) to other users without having to attach a file.

The built-in Audio Chord Wizard detection in the Chords window automatically detects the chords of the song, based on the audio data from all non-muted audio tracks. This works similar to the standalone Audio Chord Wizard, except that it uses the current bar lines of the existing song.

Notation Enhancements

- X/8 time signature support. This is a special method of displaying 6/8, 9/8, or 12/8 time signatures in the Notation window.
- The *Duplicate previous chord in notation* right-click menu lets you quickly duplicate the previous chord (group of notes on same peg) without having to reenter it.
- Delete highlighted notes in notation right-click menu lets you delete all highlighted notes.
- Delete all notes on this peg in notation right-click menu lets you delete all notes on the nearest peg that was clicked on.
- You can now enter Section Numbers. Previously, you could enter letters (A-Z) only, but now you can also enter numbers (1-9).

Guitar Window Enhancements

- Clicking on the black area to the left of the zero fret notes in the Guitar window will delete the notes on just the channel of that string on the current notation time line rather than all notes at that time line.
- Clicking on a note will delete the note from the Notation window if the note is currently highlighted. If no notes are highlighted in red, then clicking on a note will first delete any notes on the current notation timeline and channel before inserting a new note.

**Big Piano Window Enhancements** 

- Clicking on the black area to the left of the piano will delete highlighted red notes from the Notation window. If no notes are highlighted in red, then clicking to the left of the piano will delete any note on the current notation timeline.
- Clicking on a note will delete the note from the Notation window if the note is currently highlighted in red.

#### Song Titles Brower Enhancements

- We've added 2,000 new song titles including requests from users, so there are now over 10,000 titles!
- You can now filter the list by genres, time signature, feel, tempo, and decades.
- The dialog can list song titles that will work with the current style.
- Subgenres have been added for most song titles. Searching by a subgenre name in the text filter will display song titles in that subgenre.
- Recommendation of styles has been improved. When you select a song title and press the [OK Find Matching Styles] button, the StylePicker dialog will open and show only styles that will work with that song title. This feature has been improved so that subgenres are also considered, so the style recommendations are more accurate.

#### StylePicker Enhancements

- Mixer-like control allows style customization within the StylePicker. This shows what tracks are used in the highlighted style in the list, and color-codes them according to the track types (MIDI/RealTracks/MIDI SuperTracks).

- Recommendations of styles is improved when using the [Find Titles] button at the top right of the dialog. This also displays subgenres and makes it easier to find styles for a certain popular song.

- New user categories have been added, including Americana; Bebop and Fast Jazz; Bluegrass, Train, and Old Time; Dixieland, Gypsy, and Old Jazz; Fingerstyle Guitar; Funk, RnB, and Soul; Heavy Rock; Singer-Songwriter; and World.
- The buttons to copy the styles list to the clipboard, set the dialog options, and reset the dialog to defaults have been moved to the [Action] button menu.
- The two buttons to rebuild a complete or partial styles list have been combined into a single button.
- Rebuilding the styles list also rebuilds lists in the RealTracks and RealDrums Picker dialogs.
- The option to change the font size of the text in the styles list has been moved to the StylePicker Options dialog.

*Edit - MIDI - Extract Channels to Tracks* command has a new checkbox. When "Place each channel onto available empty tracks" is checked, RealBand will extract the current track's MIDI data by placing each channel found onto the next available empty track.

The Preferences dialog displays with a vertical scroll bar if running RealBand on a low-resolution monitor (less than 768 pixels in height).

File - Save As now defaults to saving as a .SEQ file, unless this setting is changed in the Preferences - File dialog.

L hotkeys loop from the current bar in RealBand. L1 hotkey will loop one bar. L2 will loop two bars starting from current bar, etc. L0 will shut off looping.

An "Output always on" checkbox has been added in the MME Audio Drivers dialog.

Much faster initialization of accompaniment functions (e.g. StylePicker and RealTracks Picker).

Drag and drop from the drop station to VSTi plugins that support this is now implemented.

And more!

## **Details of New Features**

#### Windows Audio (WASAPI) driver support

RealBand now supports Windows Audio Session audio driver, an alternative to ASIO (a driver with low latency, but usually can be used by one program at a time) or MME (an older driver with worse latency). The Windows Audio Session driver has ultra-low latency (< 25 ms on a typical Windows PC), so audio operations like playing or sending out information via MIDI happen with no noticeable delay. Note that this supports 1 stereo input plus 1 stereo output at a time. For multiple inputs/outputs, you should continue to use either MME or ASIO.

Audio Driver Type	
Windows Audio	•
Drivers	

When you boot up RealBand, it will be already set to use this driver without any action from you. If you want to confirm the selection, open the **Preferences** - **Audio** dialog (*Options / Preferences /* [Audio]) and see the "Audio Driver Type" option.

When the "Windows Audio" is selected for the driver type, clicking on the **[Drivers]** button will open the **Windows Audio Drivers** dialog.

RB, Windows Audio Drivers	
Audio <u>I</u> nput Driver	<u>A</u> udio Output Driver
Microphone (Realtek High Definition Stereo Mix (Realtek High Definition	
Use Default Driver	Use Default Driver
Buffer size:	560 Sample frames 25.40ms latency
	Shared Mode
Song Sample F	Rate: 44100
Actual Driver S	Sample Rate: 44100
ОК	Cancel Help

# **ABC** notation format support

You can save a track of notation in a popular ASCII text format to import into other programs, or you can paste this format into a user forum as a way of sending the track (usually the melody and chord symbols) to other users without having to attach a file.

To save the file, press the **[Save As]** toolbar button. Then, when the **Save As** dialog opens, select "ABC Files" as a file type, and specify the location and the name of the file.

RB Save As	×	J
	mputer + C (C:) + RealBand + ABC Files - 4 Search ABC Files	]
File name:	ZZPOPBAL	]
Save as type:	ABC Files (.abc) (*.ABC)	
Browse Folders	Save Cancel	

This will open the **Save to .abc file settings** dialog.

Select a track to save:	
BB Bass	A
BB Drums	
BB Piano	
BB Guitar	
BB Strings	
BB Melody BB Calaist	<b>.</b>
BB Soloist	· ·
Include Chords	Simplified Chord Names
V Include Notes	
Copy to clipboard	Save As File Cancel Help

In the "Select a track to save" area, click on the track that you want to save in the file.

Enable "Include Chords" to save chords in the file.

When "Include Notes" is checked, notes on the selected track will be saved.

When "Simplified Chord Names" is enabled, complicated chords will be written as simplified names. For example, D7#5#9 will be written as D7.

The [Copy to clipboard] button will copy the file to the clipboard. You can then paste it into other programs. The [Save as File] button will let you type a name and select the destination in your hard drive.

#### Built-in Audio Chord Wizard automatically detects the chords of the song.

The built-in Audio Chord Wizard detection in the Chords window automatically detects the chords of the song, based on the audio data from all non-muted audio tracks. This works similar to the standalone Audio Chord Wizard, except that it uses the current bar lines of the existing song.

To use this feature, open the Chord window and press the [**Reinterpret Chords**] button. When the **Interpret Chords** dialog opens, select the "Use Audio Interpretation" option.

BB Interpret Chords			-	×
	Use Audio Int Use MIDI Inte			
Fine Tune Cents:	D	De-Clam		
Bass Split Note:	C#4	Attenuate Bass H	Harmonics	
Lowest Bass Note:	E 2	Harmonic Scaling		
		🗹 3db Beat Detecti	on Sensitivity	
Eron	n Bar: 1	<u>T</u> hru Bar:	1	
	OK Cancel	Help		

NOTE REGARDING THE ABOVE FEATURE: If you import an audio file for which the bar lines and tempos need to first be determined (and to be aligned RB bar boundaries), you can enter a click track with either the computer keyboard or MIDI keyboard using the *Record Click Track* command in the Record button menu.

	Record Click Track   Beat (K or Note E5) or Bar (L or middle C5)
	Always record both audio and MIDI
Record Pu	nch-in Metronome Loop

Then, right-click on the Tracks, Audio Edit, or Notation window, and use the Click Track menu item to align the music to the click track.

Click Track Align (or Realign) music to click track...

#### **Notation Window Enhancements**

X/8 time signature support. This is a special method of displaying 6/8, 9/8, or 12/8 time signatures in the Notation window. When loading a file with one of these time signatures, RealBand will convert the song to either 4/4 or 3/4, in a way which won't affect how the timing of the song is heard because we treat the 8th notes as triplets (40 ticks at a PPQ of 120) and not straight 8ths (60 ticks). RealBand will then automatically set the Notation window to display the song in the corresponding x/8 format (either 6/8 split or 12/8 if the song was converted to 4/4, or 9/8 if the song was converted to 3/4). Note: 6/8 is displayed by splitting a larger 4/4 bar into two 6/8 bars. This works because an x/8 song is made up of eighth note triplets and not straight eighths. So, a 4/4 bar that has 3 eighth note triplets per beat (three 40 tick notes at 120 ppq) sounds the same as a bar of 12/8 notation or the same as two bars of 6/8 notation.

NOTE: In these x/8 modes, we set the notation resolution to 6 pegs per beat for finer detail. When an x/8 mode is active, RealBand makes some internal adjustments to the note grouping routines to properly display the notation as x/8. (For example, rests are displayed properly.)

The *Duplicate previous group of notes in notation* right-click menu lets you quickly duplicate the previous chord (group of notes on same peg) without having to reenter it.

Ð.	Edit Note
P	Delete Note
	Duplicate previous group of notes
	Delete Lieblishted Bed Nates (DEL)

Delete highlighted notes in notation right-click menu lets you delete all highlighted notes.



Delete all notes on this peg in notation right-click menu lets you delete all notes on the nearest peg that was clicked on.



You can now enter Section Numbers. Previously, you could enter letters (A-Z) only, but now you can also enter numbers (1-9).

Section Letters	•			
Bar-Based Section Letters	×	А	N	1
Notation Symbols	×	B	O P	2
Cleanup Orphaned Notation Controller Events		D	Q.	4
Chord height adjustment		E	R	5
Advance by 1 peg (Alt + Right Arrow)	_	G	т	7
Backup by 1 peg (Alt + Left Arrow)		н	U	8
backup by I peg (Ait + Left Allow)		Ι	V	9

#### **Guitar Window Enhancements**



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Clicking on a note will delete the note from the Notation window if the note is currently highlighted. If no notes are highlighted in red, then clicking on a note will first delete any notes on the current notation timeline and channel before inserting a new note.

# **Big Piano Window Enhancements**



Clicking on the black area to the left of the piano will delete highlighted red notes from the Notation window. If no notes are highlighted in red, then clicking to the left of the piano will delete any note on the current notation timeline. Clicking on a note will delete the note from the Notation window if the note is currently highlighted in red.

Song Titles Browser: ABC								
iter String				Clear	Add			
Genre 💌 TimeSig 🛛	🗴 Feel 💌 Tempo 💌 Decades 💌		/ st	yle: ZZJAZZ.S	TY			
Title	Artists[Keys], [W]riters	Genre	Key	Tempo	Feel	TimeSig	Decade	Voca ^
Aba Daba Honeymoon	Debbie Reynolds & Carleton Carpenter	Jazz	Bb	180	Sw8	4	1950s	MH
ABC	The Jackson 5	R&B	Ab	95	Ev16	4	1970s	MH
The ABC's Of Love	Frankie Lymon & The Teenagers	R&B	F	190	Sw8	4	1950s	MH
Abilene	George Hamilton IV	Country	F	105	Sw8	4	1990s	MH
About A Girl	Nirvana	Medium Rock	E	135	Ev8	4	1990s	MH
About You Now	Sugababes	Modern Pop	E	165	Ev8	4	2000s	FH
Above All	Michael W. Smith	Ballad	Bb	65	Ev16	4	2000s	MH
Above And Beyond	Buck Owens	Country	G	155	Sw8	4	1960s	MH
Abracadabra	Steve Miller Band	Lite Pop	Am	125	Ev8	4	1980s	MH
Abraham, Martin, John	Marvin Gaye	Ballad	Bb	90	Ev16	4	1970s	MH
Acadian Driftwood	The Band	Lite Pop	F	75	Ev16	4	1970s	MH
Accidental Racist	Brad Paisley, LL Cool J	Country	G	70	Ev16	4	2010s	MH 📮
•								÷.
0306 items in list		Sorted by: Title,Cover,A	artist,Genr	e				
Title=ABC	Brown	se for more info						
Artist(s)=The Jackson 5			VT			136 -	<u>с</u>	L 0-W
Genre=R&B KeyWord=R&B movin		Info (Google search) YouTube Spotify Spotify (Title Only)						
TimeSig=4 =4/4, Key=Ab ,Ev 16,t	empo=95,year=1970					Refresh	Defau	ulte
	_	OK - Find Matching Styles Close Cancel Help						
	*							

## **Song Titles Brower Enhancements**

We've added 2,000 new song titles including requests from users, so there are now over 10,000 titles!

10306 items in list

You can now filter the list by genres, time signature, feel, tempo, and decades.

Genre 💌	TimeSig 💌	Feel 💌	Tempo 💌	Decades 💌

The dialog can list song titles that will work with the current style.

Country	4/4 💌	Ev16 💌	85 💌	Decades 💌	style: _BULDOGS.STY	
obankiy 🔄	· · ·	2110 0				

Press the **[style:**] button to filter the list by the genre, time signature, feel, and tempo of the current style. If the checkbox to the left of this button is enabled, then when you open the dialog, the list will be automatically filtered to show song titles that are similar to the current style.

Subgenres have been added for most song titles. Searching by a subgenre name in the text filter will display song titles in that subgenre.

Filter String	synth pop ballad			
	Genre 💌 TimeSig 💌	Feel 💌 Tempo 💌 Decades 💌		Title=From a Distance Artist(s)=Nanci Griffith
Title		Artists[Keys], [W]riters	Genre	Writer(s)=Julie Gold
Forever	Young	Alphaville	Ballad	Genre=Ballad SubGenre=Synth Pop Ballad
From a	Distance	Nanci Griffith, Julie Gold[w]	Ballad	TimeSig=4 =4/4, Key=F# ,Ev 16,tempo=70,year=1980

Recommendation of styles has been improved. When you select a song title and press the [OK - Find Matching Styles] button, the StylePicker dialog will open and show only styles that will work with that song title. This feature has been improved so that subgenres are also considered, so the style recommendations are more accurate.

# **StylePicker Enhancements**

Mixer-like control shows what tracks and instruments are used in the currently selected style in the list, and colorcodes them according to the track types (MIDI, MIDI SuperTracks, or RealTracks).

Bass	Instrument: 34 Finger Electric Bass
Piano	2230:Piano, Rhythm 80sPopMedium Ev 120 [Miles Black]
Drums	RealDrums=NashvilleEven8^1-SideStick,Ride [Brian Fullen]
Guitar	543:Guitar, Electric, Rhythm Dreamy Ev 120 [Darin Favorite]
Synth Pad	1278:Synth Pad, PopUplift Ev 120 [Blair Masters]
Melody	
Soloist	

Recommendation of styles is improved when using the [Find Titles] button at the top right of the dialog. This also displays subgenres and makes it easier to find styles for a certain popular song.

Song Titles Browser: Ballerina									
Filter String								Clear	Add
	Lite Pop 💌	4/4 💌	Ev8 💌 120 💌 De	cades 💌				style: M_80P0PM.	.STY
Title		Artists	s[Keys], [W]riters	Genre	Key	Tempo	Feel	TimeSig	
Ballerin	а	Vaugh	nn Monroe	Lite Pop	А	120	Ev8	4	
It's A Good Day		Peggy	/ Lee	Lite Pop	С	125	Ev8	4	
Bird Dog		The E	verly Brothers	Lite Pop	В	140	Ev8	4	
Cindy Ob Cindy		Eddio	Fisher	Lite Dop	G	125	Ev/8	4	

New user categories have been added, including Americana; Bebop and Fast Jazz; Bluegrass, Train, and Old Time; Dixieland, Gypsy, and Old Jazz; Fingerstyle Guitar; Funk, RnB, and Soul; Heavy Rock; Singer-Songwriter; and World.

Choose Use	ategory to display in StylePicker	×
	Filter String	
	Benre Americana	•
PG Music	Senre\Bebop and Fast Jazz Senre\Bluegrass, Train, Old Time	
PG Music	Senre\Dixieland, Gypsy, Old Jazz Senre\Fingerstyle Guitar	
	Senre\Funk, RnB, and Soul	=
PG Music	Senre\Singer-Songwriter	
PG Music	Rediscovered RT Styles/2017 All Rediscovered Rediscovered RT Styles/2017 Country	
PG Music	Rediscovered RT Styles/2017 Jazz	-
	Rediscovered RT Styles/2017 Poo-Rock	
Memo:	mericana: All Americana styles. There are 1,214 possible styles in this list.	
46 items in	Refresh     Open User Categories Folder     Create New Category     OK     Cancel	

The buttons to copy the styles list to the clipboard, set the dialog options, and reset the dialog to defaults have been moved to the **[Action]** button menu.

	Copy List to Clipboard
Action	Set Dialog Options
	Reset Dialog to Defaults

The buttons to rebuild a complete or partial styles list have been combined into a single button.

Rebuild	Complete Rebuild of Styles List
	Partial Rebuild of Styles List (rebuild PG StylesOnly)

Rebuilding the styles list also rebuilds lists in the RealTracks and RealDrums Picker dialogs.

The option to change the font size of the text in the styles list has been moved to the StylePicker Options dialog.

	Action	Set Dialog Options		Font Size	8 🔻
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#### **Other Enhancements**

Edit | MIDI | Extract Channels to Tracks command has a new checkbox.

Extract Channels to Tracks	×
💟 Use Data Filter	
🔲 Use Channel Table	
📝 Place each channel onto aavailable empty tracks	
Erom: -1 : 1 : 0 << <	
Ihru: -1 : 1 : 0 >> >	
OK Cancel Help	

When "Place each channel onto available empty tracks" is checked, RealBand will extract the current track's MIDI data by placing each channel found onto the next available empty track. For example, if the current track is Track 1, and it has MIDI data on two channels (1 and 10) and Track 2 is blank, then the MIDI data on channel 1 will stay on Track 1 and the MIDI data on channel 10 will be moved to Track 2.

The **Preferences** dialog displays with a vertical scroll bar if running RealBand on a low-resolution monitor (less than 768 pixels in height).

RB Preferences				
1-General 2-Audio 3-File 4-Big Lyrics Window 5-Notation 6-MIDI 7-Song Generation 8-SMPTE 9-Metronome	e   10 - Piano   🛛 🖉			
✓ Song Title in Window Caption				
Enable Undo For Event Level Editing				
✓ Dialogs use Ct/3D Effects				
Syse <u>x</u> Input Buffers: 3				
Sysex Input Buffer Size: 128				
Silent Message Boxes	=			
Restore 'Never Ask Again' Questions				
Number of Undo Levels: 5				
Undo <u>w</u> arning message threshold (in megs); 50				
📝 Enable Flyby Hints				
☑ Left click on track-type icon in Tracks Window shows pop-up menu				
Click and drag MIDI tracks to other programs as .MIDI files				
Default Measure Offset: -2				
When resizing the program, resize and cascade the windows inside the main window				
☑ Advance current time after dragging/dropping a file onto the Tracks Window	-			

File - Save As now defaults to saving as a .SEQ file, unless this setting is changed in the Preferences - File dialog.

RB Save As					×
C:\Re	alBand\Files 🔹	· <b>*</b> *	Search Files		٩
File name:	Untitled				-
Save as type:	RB Files (.SEQ) (*.SEQ)				-
💌 Browse Folders			Save	Car	ncel

An "Output always on" checkbox has been added in the MME Audio Drivers dialog. If this option is enabled, sound will always be sent to the device. If this is disabled, sound will be sent to the device only when the song is playing. Enable this option if you want MIDI plugins to work when the song is not playing.

Audio Drivers	×
Audio <u>I</u> nput Driver(s)	<u>A</u> udio Output Driver(s)
Microsoft Sound Mapper Microphone (Realtek High Defini Stereo Mix (Realtek High Defini	Microsoft Sound Mapper Speakers (Realtek High Definiti
	Move Selected Devices to Top
	✓ Output always on
ОК	Cancel Help

When the program initializes the accompaniment functions, dialogs like StylePicker, RealTracks Picker open much faster now.

