

How to convert 2-up 11x17(or A3) booklet format (e.g. Merton Music parts on IMSLP) to single-page standard PDF format

Uses forScore/Badger apps with iPad or iPhone

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You have found the sheet music (etc) you've been looking for! But alas, the PDF is in 2-up, 11x17 (or A3) format -- i.e. two pages to a sheet -- which is supposed to be printed on 11x17 (or A3) paper, and then folded into a booklet. Would you like to convert this into conventional, single PDF pages which are easy to print at home? Then, read on!

I know that there are a lot of steps below. But really, once you do this once or twice I think you'll find it's pretty easy ...

WHAT YOU NEED:

(1) iPad or iPhone. (This works on an iPhone, but--due to the small screen--is not as easy as on an iPad, since it requires pinch-zooming, for greater visibility.) Note: This method will NOT work on Android devices, or PC's.

(2) forScore app, and its subsidiary app called "Badger".

(3) To use the following method, I think you'll need at least as recent a release as these:

forScore: 10.4
iOS: 11

(4) IMSLP app (optional)

STEPS:

(1) Using the IMSLP app (or by visiting IMSLP.org via the browser on your iPad/iPhone), export (or "share") the booklet PDF to forScore.

(2) Bring up the booklet PDF in forScore, and "share" it (in PDF format) to the Badger app.

(3) Once you do the above step, you will automatically be put into Badger.

----- The following steps are done in the Badger app: -----

(4) In the Badger app, touch "Pages" (bottom right of screen).

(5) You should now be looking at "thumbnails" of the pages. To help with the steps below, realize that if you touch any thumbnail, you can see an enlargement.

(6) Press "Edit" (top right). Under each thumbnail, you should see three icons: X, arrow, +

X = delete
arrow = rotate
+ = make duplicate page

(7) Delete any pages you don't want. (E.g. if you just want one of multiple parts.)

(8) Make a duplicate of any page with two page images on it.

(9) For every double page, you want to crop the first one so that only the LEFT page image is there, and crop the second one so that only the RIGHT page image is there.

For every single page, you want to crop out the blank side of the sheet.

(10) Here is how to crop:

- (a) Touch the page to enlarge it
- (b) Press "Sizes" on top right
- (c) You'll see a small dark "right angle" on each corner. Move one of these, so that the page image you DON'T want is grayed out.
- (d) Press "Done" at upper right.

(11) When done with all the above, press "Save" at upper right.

----- You're done with Badger. Now you'll work in the forScore app: -----

(12) Open the document in forScore. You'll see (I hope) that it now has the modifications you made in Badger.

Note:

Not needed for the current purpose ... But if you want to learn more about how cross-app file sharing works on the iPad and iPhone (starting with the forScore and iOS releases mentioned at top), see this forScore info page: <https://forscore.co/10-4-in-place-editing/>

(13) The document should look like what you want. Well except for one teeny detail: the pages are probably OUT OF ORDER. So here's what you still need to do:

(14) Using forScore's Annotate feature, write the page number on each page, in LARGE script. Hopefully there will be printed page numbers that you can copy. If not, you'll have to dig deeper into rehearsal letters, or whatever other clues there might be. (You are creating LARGE page numbers so that you can easily see them, when we are dealing with thumbnails below.)

(15) Press the toolbox icon at upper right (after pressing center of screen to bring up menu). Then press "Rearrange".

(16) You'll see a thumbnail display much like the one in Badger. Using your finger, move the thumbnails around, so that they are in the order of the big page numbers you wrote.

(17) Press "Save As" (not "Save", so you have a fallback). Accept the altered name ("2" at the end) or make up a name of your own.

(18) You can now (using the "Eraser" icon in Annotate) erase those big page numbers you wrote.

(19) YOU ARE DONE ...

(20) Except, if you want to use the part OUTSIDE of forScore, you have to "share" it (as a PDF).

Note: You might ask, why do we need the Badger app? Why not do the whole thing in forScore, using "Rearrange" and "Crop"? This is what I tried at first. It LOOKS like it works ... except that the single pages end up getting truncated. (I think this is why the forScore people came out with the Badger app ... to deal with such "unusual" cropping demands as we are making here.)

*** Thanks to the folks on the Facebook "forScore" page (especially Walter Barrett) for helping me figure out the above!

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