

FREEPAD

A custom paper-based MIDI interface.

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Freepad is a piece of software that enables anyone with a webcam, paper and a pen, to draw their own MIDI interfaces. In three simple steps it allows the user to establish an interface which can send out MIDI notes for playback with their preferred sampler, synthesizer or otherwise. There are three steps to setting up Freepad:

1. SET - Set up a webcam pointing at a piece of paper, and set the background from which Freepad subtracts the interface.
2. DRAW - Quite simply draw out the desired interface, and tell the system to set it.

3. PLAY - Once Freepad has parsed the interface, simply set up the MIDI output, and then start playing your custom interface.

The system operates by using computer vision techniques to interpret when a shape that you have drawn is struck. These same techniques are what enable Freepad to be a customizable and accessible MIDI interface for those who require.

For more information on Freepad, please visit the project online, where you can download a demo and watch videos further demonstrating its functions at: www.metacreation.net/projects#Freepad