

Intermediate Game Production

using Scratch 1.4

Adding Sound

By the end of each task I should know how to...


Task 1 - add a simple sound to a script

Task 2 - make a sound play when sprites touch

Task 3 - add background music to scratch.

Adding Sound

Scratch has several ways of playing/adding sounds to a project.

play sound 
play sound  until done
stop all sounds

These blocks allow you to record your own sounds using a microphone or Import a saved sound file.
Note that Scratch comes with many pre-saved sounds.

play drum 48  for 0.2 beats
rest for 0.2 beats

Drum beats of different pitches can be added. The speed of the beat can be changed or pauses added.

play note 60  for 0.5 beats
set instrument to 1 

The note blocks allow tunes to be added to your game. Look on the Internet for tunes (eg E D[#] E D[#] E D C A).

change volume by -10
set volume to 100 %
☐ volume

You may want a sudden burst of sound in your game. The volume can be changed using these blocks.

change tempo by 20
set tempo to 60 bpm
☐ tempo

The tempo is the speed the sound plays at. Slow it down, speed it up or set it to a specific number of beats per minute (bpm).

Where you add the sound will be important. If you want background music add the blocks to the stage. If you want to add a sound to an event (like two sprites touching) think of where the sound blocks should be attached.

You should attempt **at least one** of the tasks below. Remember - these tasks are designed to make you solve problems yourself. Do not look at the solutions unless you absolutely have to!

Task 1 - Add a sound that is only played when the fish changes direction.

Task 2 - Add a sound that is played when the shark catches the fish.

Task 3 - Find the musical notes for a well known tune and create a backing track for your game. Sources of piano music could be the Internet, your home or the Music Department.

Adding Sound (solutions)

Task 1

First Import a sound into the fish sprite.



Add a sound under the turn block to make the sound play after the fish has turned.

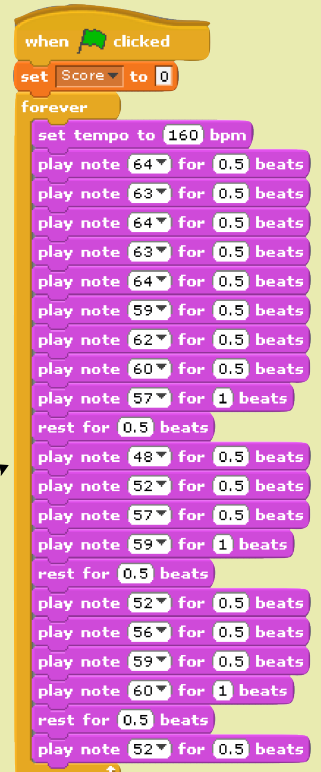
Note - if the block was placed inside the repeat loop it would play all the time. Try moving the block inside the repeat loop to see why this is wrong.

Task 2

First Import a sound into the shark sprite.



Add the sound inside the shark's IF - touching block.



Task 3

To add a backing track, add the sound blocks to the stage and place them inside a forever loop so that they keep playing all the time the game is being played.

The example plays the well known tune Für Elise.

Note - if you understand sheet music you could alter the length of each note by changing the length of the beats.