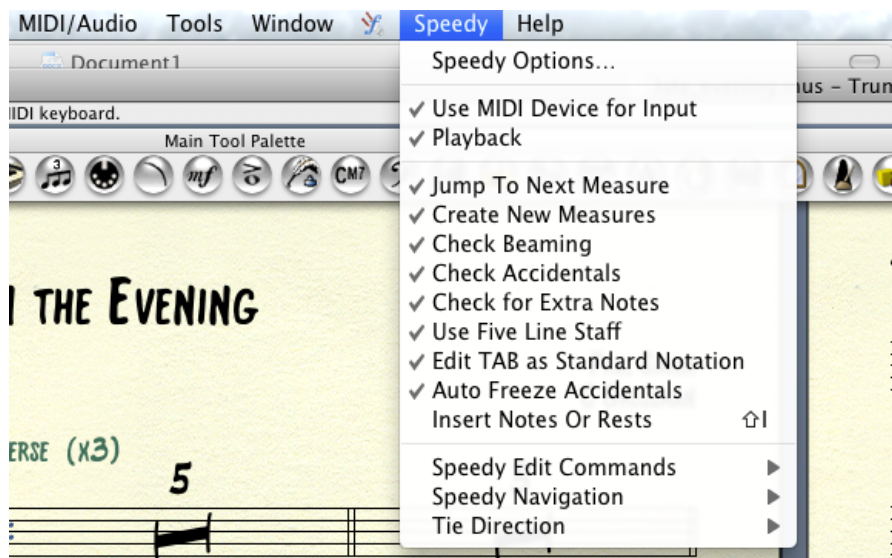


So Finale is a very esoteric piece of software with some really deep/unintuitive menus/functions, but once mastered it's damn powerful software. So this little tutorial assumes a proficient level of understanding of this specific software. Just a heads up.

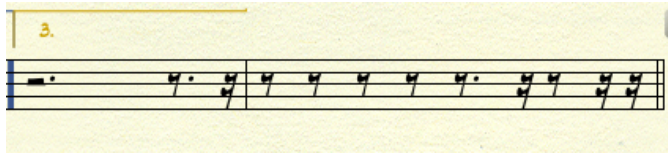
So, once you've got the rhythm notated (preferably by hand) set down the rhythmic transcription in front of you, open up Finale, get your document set up the way you want it, and select the speedy entry tool. In the 'Speedy' menu at the top of the screen, you want there to be a check-mark next to "Use MIDI Device for Input"



This ensures that when you enter notes using the number pad, you'll just get rests with no pitches, which is what we want. Trust me. You also want to make sure "Jump To Next Measure" is checked. The rest of the menu is up to you, although I'd just leave the defaults where they are.

While looking at your transcription, go through and simply notate each value that you see on the page, not worrying about ties. So for the first two bars of my transcription, including the pickup measure, I'd click into the first measure with the Speedy Entry tool and enter the numbers: (6.4.34444.3433). If you don't understand speedy entry, 6=half note and typing a period gives the note a dot, so after (6.4.3) you'll have a dotted half, dotted 8<sup>th</sup> and a 16<sup>th</sup>, so Finale will automatically jump to the next measure. Nifty stuff for sure.

So after typing (6.4.34444.3433) the measures will look like this:



Once you've entered some of this nonsense (at least it looks like it now), you can go through with the Speedy Entry tool and use the  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  arrow keys to select certain beats, and the  $\uparrow \downarrow$  arrow keys to select the pitch you want on that beat. Then you hit the <enter> key to realize that pitch, and the = key to tie between notes. Here you can see I've entered a few notes this way, and am cued up to hit <enter> for the next one:



The trick here is keeping your rhythmic transcription close at hand, so you can follow along and make sense of notes vs. rest. It's best to have it handwritten because then you can look between your staff paper and the computer screen.

That's it for now - what are your questions? Please post them in the comments section of the associated post - I'll do my best to answer them and append/update this tutorial as necessary. Thanks for reading!