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Chapter 4: Working with Layouts, Pages and Banks

Layouts

[Read about layouts here](#)

MD File types

Complete MD layouts use the file extension `.mididesigner`

Individual layout pages when exported use the file extension `.mididesignerpage`

Saving Layouts



MD does NOT automatically save files. You must save the file to retain any edits.

iPad & iPhone *MORE / ACTIONS / SAVE LAYOUT*. This will place the file in the *MIDI Designer* folder on the device.

Mac On the Mac menu bar, select *FILE / SAVE LAYOUT*. This allows saving files in any desired directory.

Temporary layout data is stored in the `backup.mididesigner` and `autosave.mididesigner` files. Do Not rely on these in place of frequently saving your layout. If you accidentally overwrite some critical work, make copies of these files, then open the copies to see if the missing work was captured.

Opening Layouts

1. Use the menu within the app
 - **iPad & iPhone** *MORE / CONFIG / ACTIONS / LOAD LAYOUT*
 - **Mac** *FILE / OPEN...*
2. Click on a `.mididesigner` file in the Mac *Finder* or iPad & iPhone *Files*.
3. Click on a `.mididesigner` file in Mail, Safari, Dropbox and many other apps.

Append Layout When opening layouts, the *Append Layout* prompt appears.

- Yes will combine the current layout with the selected layout.
- No will replace the current layout with the selected layout.

- Cancel returns to the existing layout.

Create New Layout

New will remove all Page Banks (and therefore, Pages and Controls) and provide a blank slate, with an option to create default controls. On the iPad, you will have options for layout size and orientation.

- **iPad & iPhone** *MORE / CONFIG / ACTIONS / NEW*

- **Mac** *FILE / NEW LAYOUT*

Mail and Delete

Mail and Delete options are left overs from the iOS sandbox era. These still function, but you can also access the files in the MIDI Designer folder (iOS) or using the Finder (Mac).

Additional Mac File Notes

[Additional Notes on Files on Mac](#)

Working with Pages in Design Mode

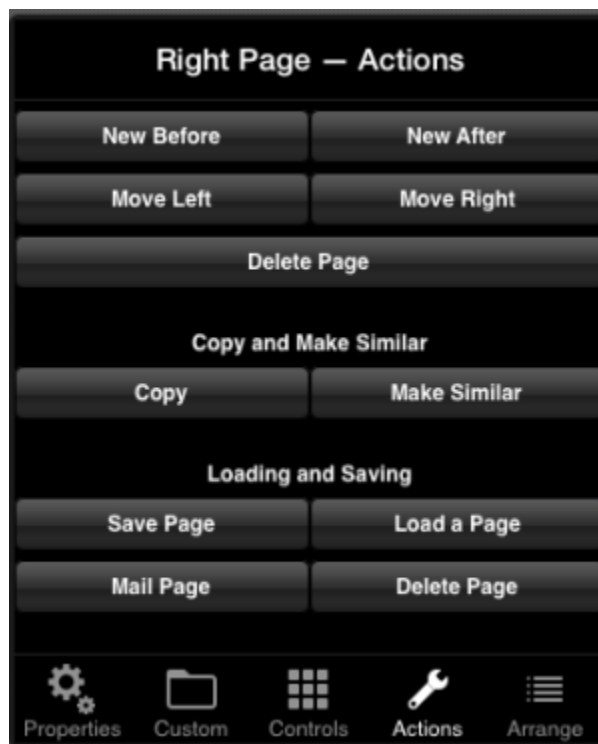
Access Page Properties Pane

The Page Properties Pane is used to adjust Page Properties, and perform actions on pages and controls.

- iPhone: Enter design mode → single tap on page name
- iPad: Enter Design Mode → double tap on page tab

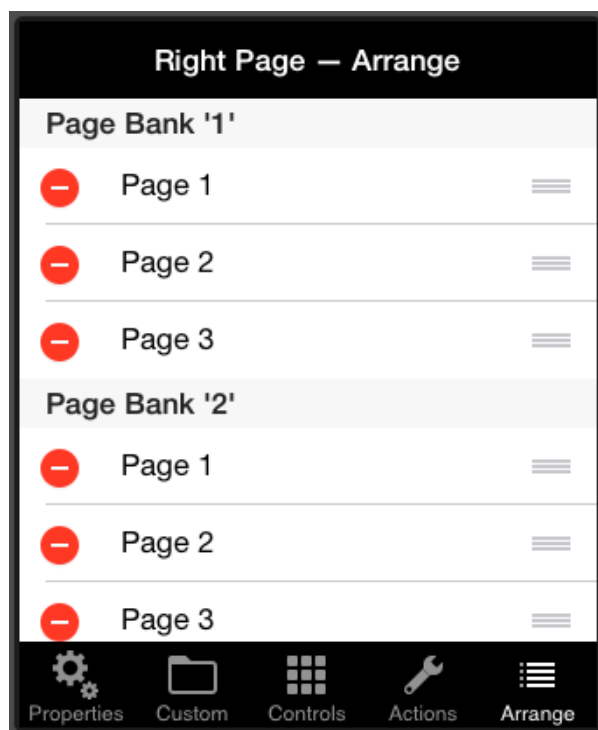
Access Page Actions Tab

Use the Page Actions Tab to add, delete move pages and other actions. Access Page Actions from the Page Properties Pane → Page Actions Tab



- Add a Page: from Page Actions Tab, use “New Before” or “New After”
- Move Page: From Page Actions Tab, use “Move Left” or “Move Right” to move the page
- Delete a Page: from Page Actions Tab, use “Delete Page” (there are two: use the top one)
- Copy and Make Similar refer are [described below](#)

Page Arranger



- Also, you may use the Page Arranger: Page Properties Pane → Arrange
- The Page Arranger also allows for moving pages between banks, deleting and renaming pages.



iPad & Mac

You can drag the page tab and drop in desired location

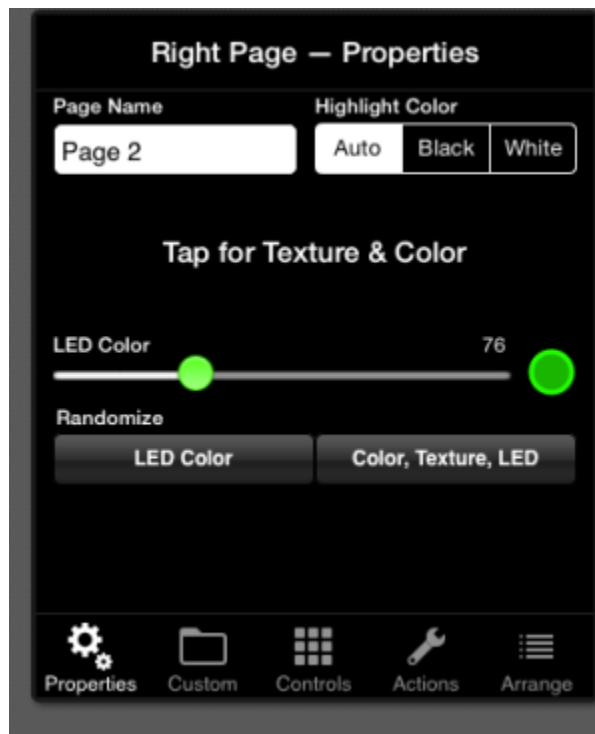
Copying Pages

There are three ways to make copies of pages.

- **Copy Page** — this creates a copy of the page using control copies, which are linked to the controls on the copied page.
- **Page Make Similar** — this creates a copy of the page with independent controls. Initially, the new page's controls have the same relationships as the controls on the copied page.
- **Save a page as a file, and then load the file:** Controls are completely independent. Inter-control relationships on the page are maintained, but relationships to other controls in the layout are broken.

Page Properties Pane

Page Properties change the visual properties of the given page.



Access Page Properties from Page Properties Pane → Properties (first tab)

Page Name

Change the name of the page displayed on the top tab.

Highlight Color

- Highlight Color is the text color used by controls. It's also the text color the Page Tab (iPad only).
- Individual controls can specify their own highlight color
- Change the highlight color between black white and auto. When auto is selected MIDI designer will automatically change it depending on the background color of the page.

Tap for Texture and Color

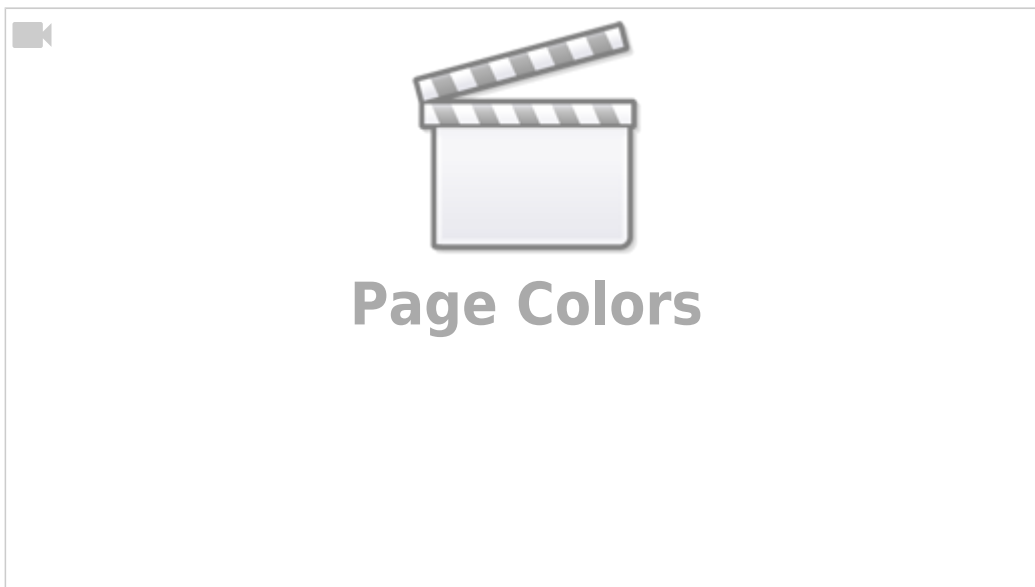
The textures and colors change the page's texture and color. Hitting *random texture* or *random color* randomly changes texture or color. the background.

LED color slider

- LED color slider changes the hue for the LED for all controls on a page. If set, individual Control's LED Properties will not be affected by the pages' LED Color Slider.
- Use Randomize LED Color to change the LED color randomly

Randomize: Texture/Color/LED

Change the page background and the page-wide LED randomly.



Working with Pages as Files

You can save individual pages as files. This allows copying a page from one layout to another layout. Pages use the file extension `.mididesignerpage`

Save Page

Page Properties Pane → Actions → Save Page allows you to save the current page with a name.

- **iPad & iPhone** - page file is placed in the MIDI Designer folder
- **Mac** - file save interface allows saving anywhere in file system

Load Page

1. **Page Properties Pane → Actions → Load Page**
2. Click on a `.mididesignerpage` file in the Mac *Finder* or iPad & iPhone *Files*
3. Click on a `.mididesignerpage` file in Mail, Safari, Dropbox and many other apps.

[Also see additional notes on loading page files on Mac](#)

Mail and Delete

Mail and Delete options are left overs from the iOS sandbox era. These still function, but you can also access the files in the MIDI Designer folder (iOS) or using the Finder (Mac).

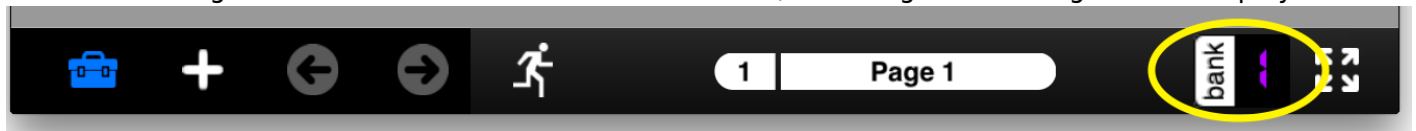
Working with Page Banks in Performance Mode

Access Page Bank Indicator(s)

iPad: the right and left sides each have a Page Bank Indicator



iPhone: the Page Bank Indicator is on the Bottom Toolbar, to the right of the Page Name Display



Switching Banks

- Touch the Page Bank Indicator to step through the banks sequentially.
- Alternately, you can use [bank jump buttons](#)
- you will not be able to see the page bank indicator in Performance Mode:
 - iPad: if the left side has one visible bank and the right side has one or two visible banks
 - iPhone: if there is only one visible bank

Working with Page Banks in Design Mode

Change number of visible banks

Press and hold on the banks indicator to the left of the more buttons to see the Bank Quantity Select Popover. Select any number from 1 to 8.

Move Pages Between Banks

- Use the Page Arranger (from Page Actions, hit the “Arrange” tab).
- On iPad, you can also drag the Page Tab to move a page from one bank to another.



Also see [One Big Page](#)

From:
<https://www.mididesigner.com/wiki/> - **MIDI Designer Reference Manual**

Permanent link:
https://www.mididesigner.com/wiki/doku.php/manual:04_layouts_banks_pages?rev=1681607595

Last update: **2026/05/01 12:11**

