Chronotron Settings

Application Settings - General

Remember parameters for each file

When set, the application remembers the tempo, key and other parameters for each file that was played[1], so they are recalled the next time the same file is opened again. This option is on by default.

Remember playback position

When set, the last playback position is recalled when the same file is opened again, otherwise files start playing from the beginning. This option if off by default.

Start playback automatically

When set, playback starts immediately after a file is opened or when the playlist switches to a new track. This option is on by default. Switching it off causes the app to cue each file or playlist track without actually starting playback until the user hits Play.

Notify of Chronotron news[2]

When set, the app checks for relevant online news (e.g. Chronotron blog articles) on startup and displays a notification message whenever there's an update.

Application Settings - Appearance

Tempo and key sliders[3]

Controls whether or not the tempo and key sliders are shown in the main window. This option is on by default.

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[1] For as long as the application remains installed on the device and within the limits of available storage. Per-file settings can be exported for backup or migration purposes (see Application Settings - Per-File Settings).

[2] This setting was added in Release 145.

[3] This setting was added in Release 99. Previously it could be found in the Tempo and Key pane.

Player button labels[4]

Controls whether or not the labels of the player buttons (e.g. Play, Hold, Next and so on) are visible. This option is off by default.

Loop buttons[5]

Controls whether or not the loop buttons are shown in the transport. This option is on by default.

Audio scroller always visible[6]

Controls whether or not the audio scroller is always displayed. The default value is on[7]. When this setting is off, the audio scroller control is only shown during Hold mode.

Opacity of on-screen controls over video[8]

Controls the opacity of the on-screen elements when playing video. Use this option to make the buttons, sliders and other controls stay readable when playing videos having a light background. The default value is 25%.

Display progress bar tick marks

This setting controls the number of tick marks to display in the media progress bar, which may come in handy for some specific scenarios like square dancing. By default, no tick marks are displayed.

Application Settings - Performance

Use video hardware acceleration

When set, the computer graphics card is used to handle video frames instead of the CPU. This option has no impact on audio performance or quality. The default value is On.

> Don't disable video hardware acceleration unless you're experiencing video playback problems (e.g. corrupted video frames).

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[4] This setting was added in Release 171.

[5] This setting was added in Release 99. Previously it could be found in the Loop pane.

[6] This setting was added in Release 100. Previously it could be found in the Tempo and Key pane.

[7] The default value was changed from off to on in Release 104.

[8] This setting was added in Release 116 to replace the Performance setting "Cast shadows on transparent controls".

Use DirectX for video controls[9]

When this option is enabled, DirectX is used for video effects like Brightness and Contrast. The default value is Off.

> Enable this setting to get better video effect quality and performance, if your system has good support for DirectX.

Dynamic video frame rate[10]

When set, video frame rate is automatically increased as required (for example, during Hold mode) to improve video smoothness. The default value is On.

Process audio on multiple CPU cores

When set, the application leverages multiple CPU cores to perform audio processing. Having this option enabled on systems having 4 or more cores allows using higher quality settings without causing dropouts. The default value is On.

> Don't disable audio processing on multiple CPU cores unless you intend to run other CPU-intensive applications while Chronotron is running, or if you're experiencing audio dropouts under heavy system load.

Low latency playback

When set, the playback engine is configured so that tempo, key and other controls respond as quickly as possible, which is particularly important for the Hold function. This mode will also cause the system to consume more CPU resources and energy. The default value is On.

> If you have a fast CPU and if you don't use the Hold function regularly, disabling this option may result in smoother video playback.

Display waveform in the scroller

This setting controls whether or not the waveform is shown inside the audio scroller. You can disable it to prevent the waveform from loading – therefore sparing CPU and disk resources – when using the Hold function. Note, though, that the waveform is loaded only when the scroller is shown for the first time. The default value is On.

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[9] This setting was introduced in Release 174

[10] This setting was added in Release 125.

Display waveform for online streams[11]

When enabled, the waveform is also displayed for online streams, as opposed to just local for content. The default value is On.

> Keep this option enabled only if you play online content with the app (e.g. using Open URL) and if you have a fast and stable Internet connection.

Display transients in the waveform[12]

When enabled, transients (i.e. strong note attacks) are displayed on top of the waveform. The default value is On[13].

Clear waveform cache[14]

Use this button to clear the waveform cache. Waveforms will be rebuilt (and cached again) for each file the next time they are opened and the audio scroller is visible.

Audio quality

This option defines the sound quality of the tempo and key change algorithm, both for real-time playback and media rendering. The selected quality also affects the accuracy of the note detection algorithm.

Quality is a subjective measure. Higher quality is generally perceived as a more natural-sounding tempo/key change effect and better note definition, sometimes being more noticeable at the lower end of the audio spectrum.

The available choices are Good, Very good, High, Very high and Highest. The higher the quality setting, the more CPU resources will be consumed by the app.

> When applying key changes with formant preservation, the Highest quality setting uses a more accurate algorithm that is particularly suitable for vocal-only tracks, but may produce sound artifacts on mixed audio material.

The default value is High. These default quality settings offer a good tradeoff between CPU usage and sound quality across a wide variety of audio material.

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[11] This setting was introduced in Release 149

[12] This setting was re-introduced in Release 121 (it had been removed in Release 119)

[13] The default value changed from Off to On starting with Release 121

[14] This setting was introduced in Release 104

Maximum reverse playback length

Defines how far back in time from the current playback position the Hold function can go without dropping samples.

This setting affects the amount of memory – and video memory, if the option "Use video hardware acceleration" is on – that the app consumes. The default value is 5 seconds.

Maximum YouTube™ video download resolution[15]

This setting lets you define the maximum resolution of the YouTube™ video downloader. The clips will be downloaded at the maximum resolution available, but not higher than this setting.

The available choices are Audio only[16], nHD (360), VGA (480), HD (720), FHD (1080) and UHD/4k (2160). The Audio only option results in downloading just the audio track. The default value is HD (720).

Application Settings - Recently Used List

Clear the recently used list

Use this button to clear the recently used file list. Note that clearing the list does not clear the parameters that have been remembered for each previously played file.

Application Settings - Locations

YouTube™ download folder

This option allows you to configure the folder where videos downloaded from YouTube™ will be stored. By default, this will be the Chronotron subfolder in your current Videos library.

Videos Library[17]

This setting allows you to manage the folders that belong to the Videos library. This is a system-wide setting; therefore, adding and removing folders affects which items appear in the Videos library for Chronotron, but also for any other applications that rely on it.

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[15] This setting was introduced in Release 116

[16] The Audio-only option was introduced in Release 135

[17] This setting has been introduced in Release 178

Music and Playlists Library[18]

This setting allows you to manage the folders that belong to the Music library (note that Chronotron relies on playlist files being stored in the Music library). This is a system-wide setting; therefore, adding and removing folders affects which items appear in the Music library for Chronotron, but also for any other applications that rely on it.

Video recording target folder[19]

This option allows you to configure the folder where videos recorded using the app are stored. By default, this will be your Videos library.

Application Settings - Playlist

AutoSave

If this option is set, when playlists are saved (manually) for the first time any subsequent changes[20] are saved automatically to disk. The default value is On.

Authorize access to location

For security and user privacy reasons, Windows Store apps have limited access to local and network storage.

Chronotron has access to files in your Music and Video libraries by default; however, playlists obtained from certain sources may refer to files that are not in a location accessible by the app.

Use this function to authorize the app to access a specific folder so it can load playlist media from that location. Note that authorizing access to a folder also allows the app to access all subfolders within the selected folder.

Select the parameters to preserve upon track change

This setting allows selecting which parameters retain the same value across the entire playlist, as opposed to using a different value for each file. The available choices are Tempo, Key, Speed[21], Equalizer, Volume, Balance, Solo Channel, Video Flip, Video Delay and Audio Track Selection[22].

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[18] This setting has been introduced in Release 178

[19] Video recording was removed in Release 137, so this setting is no longer available

[20] Changes include tempo, key and other parameters of any file in the playlist.

[21] Speed was introduced in Release 99.

[22] Audio Track Selection was introduced in Release 155

By default, all parameters are unselected, which means that playlists will remember all parameters for each file separately.

Application Settings - Per-File Settings

Export per-file settings for backup or to import them into other devices

Use the Export All button to export the parameters that were remembered for each individual file played in the app. The resulting text file contains, for each file, the actual file path and a string that encodes the parameters used when the file was last played.

The Import All button allows importing parameters from a previous export. If necessary, a text editor can be used to amend the paths or to reassign all settings from one file to another. Note, though, that individual settings like tempo and key do not appear in a readable form and are therefore not editable.