Sequence Mapping Tips and Tricks

Presenter: Larry Calvert - Indiana



Submit Questions for our Vendor Panel!

https://ohiolightingmini.com/panel

Class Overview

Choose → Analyze → Map → Test

AGENDA:

- Choosing other's sequences and where to find
- What you like and matches your show theme!
- Horizontal/Vertical Level of Props
- Learn and Enjoy

Pole:

- ☑ Raise your hand if you only Sequence your own songs?
- ☑ Raise your hand if you have purchased > 10sequences for your show?
- ☑ Raise your hand if you have purchased > 10sequences for your show?



Introduction to my Experience

Larry Calvert - Greenwood, Indiana (South of Indianapolis)

- IT career in Software Development and IT Leadership
- Intro to Lights: State Fair - Wife: *"Up your Game Grandpa in Christmas Lights"*

  5 years of Displays; 30k lights; 7 - Falcon F16 v4/v5, & 5 Smart Receivers
- Raspberry Pi, FPP show scheduler/player

  Mega Tree (23' w/ star), Small Mega Tree (13' w/ star), Small Tree 8' Mattos
- Unique: PermaTrack permanently installed outline and 3 garage door outlines.
- Imitation is the greatest form of flattery! (Canister Christmas, xLights Zoom Group, Clyde Lindsey, Kyle Bostick, Steve Ni, most of xLights community!)

Pole:

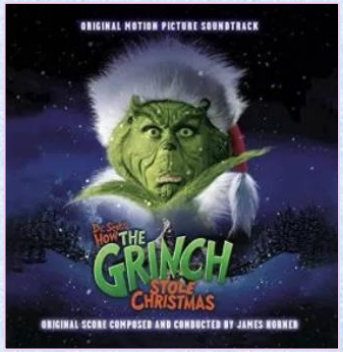
☑ Share your Display configuration: # Years? # Pixels? Controller Type(s)? Your Theme?



Theme and Style of Songs

Christian Worship, Traditional, Dubstep, Rock and Roll





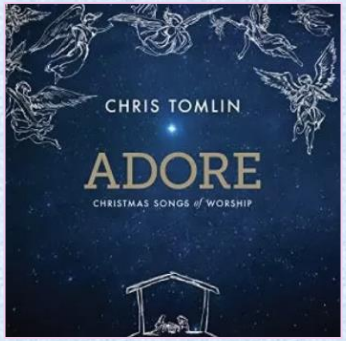














Mapping Tips & Tricks

LIGHT SHOWS

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Where to find Sequences?

- Free: xLights Google Drive, XLAW site, Vendors
- Paid: Sequence vendors, Vendor Clubs
- xLights Sequences – sequence index both Free and Paid: https://xlights.info

Mapping Tips & Tricks

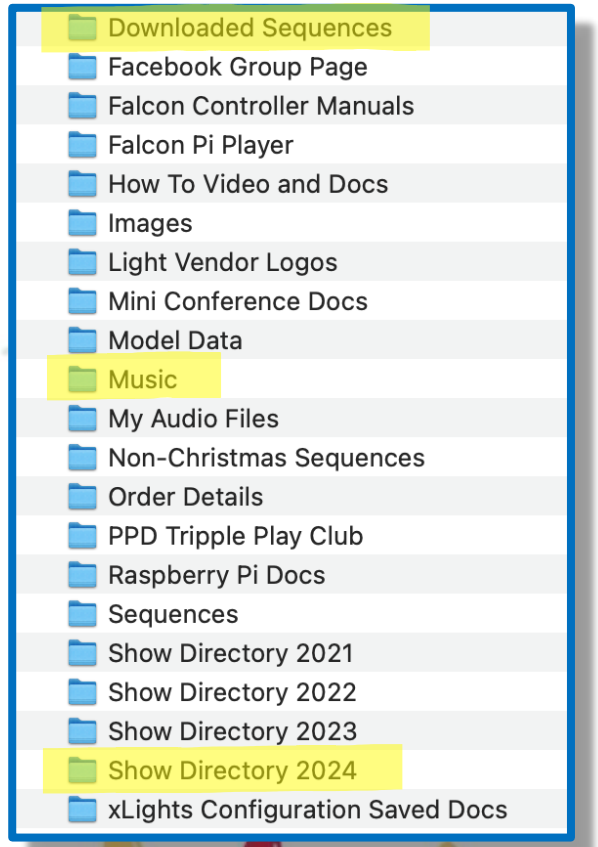
Choose → **Analyze** → Map → Test

Analyze: Organize Your Work

Download Zip file (Choose your format - Pro/HD/SD)

Arrange Folders for Sequence Components:

- “Downloaded Sequences” - store the Zip file download
- “Music Folder” – store the MP3 used for your sequence
- ”Show Directory” – for the current Year/Display elements
- ”Configurations” – Controller, Network, How To



Mapping Tips & Tricks

Choose | **Analyze** | Map | Test

Analyze:

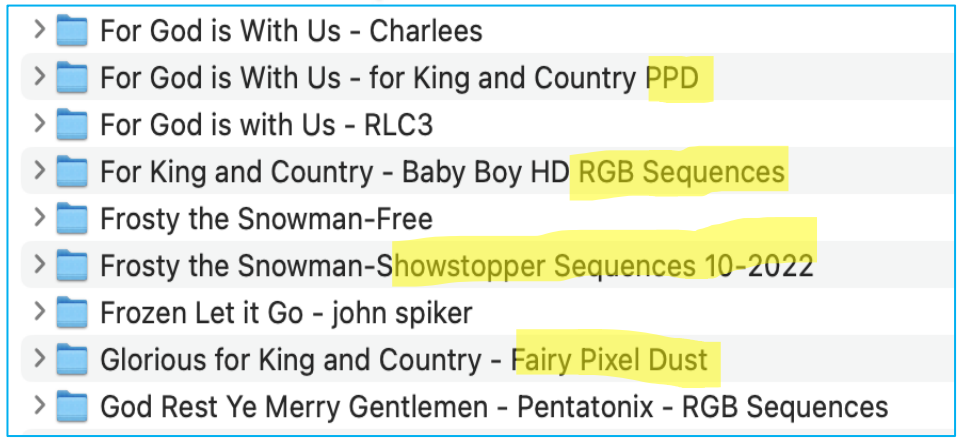
Create Sub-folder in your Downloaded Sequences Folder – ***Add Sequencer name*!**

Also, Sub-folder for Unzipped components (automatic when opening Zip file)

Purchase/Download Music MP3

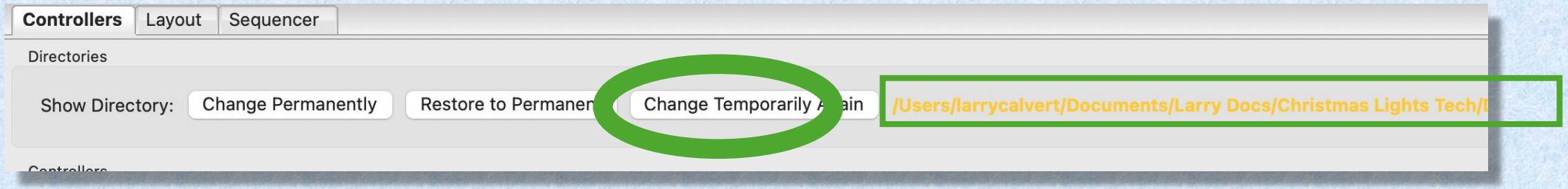
Hint: Rename to **remove Track #**

Hint: Rename to remove special characters {, [, (



Mapping Tips & Tricks

Plan → Analyze → **Map** → Test



xLights:

- Open an instance of xLights to create your new sequence.
- Open New (second) instance of xLights (*Right Click*) – preferably on 2nd Screen
- On controllers Tab: Change “Temporary” to point to original Sequencer’s xLights Layout
- Must point to the directory with the xLights rgb_networks & rgb_effects files from the downloaded Zip file. TIP: Keep ***BOTH*** Zipped file & Unzipped contents in the Folder.

xLights: Your 1st Instance:

Create a new Sequence

Choose musical sequence you downloaded (Amazon, Sequencer, Apple Music)

Choose the Frames per Second (default 20, Most Sequencers 40, Some higher!)

Choose the Master View (default) or Your view (See Clyde or Kyle videos for your own)

Menu: Import Effects

Choose the downloaded sequence – ***the ZIP file***

- ***On Import Sequence: xLights will update the file folder paths to your computer from the ZIP file (not from the specific files).*** ***<Sometimes!>***

Plan | Analyze | Map | Test

xLights: Your 2nd Instance:

- Open the original Sequence
- Choose the Master View (default)
- Right click on display elements
- Review the Master View ***Render Order***, go back to your 1st instance and adjust accordingly

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Lights: Render Order, Render Order, Render Order

To get the best results, your render order must match the sequencer render order as close as possible

Create matching Groups if necessary

HINT: I think of this as a “Pop Up Picture book”…

The whole house at the top and the smaller or HD props and Yard at the bottom.

xLights renders from Top (normally whole house Groups) to Bottom. Within Group – reverse – bottom Up.

