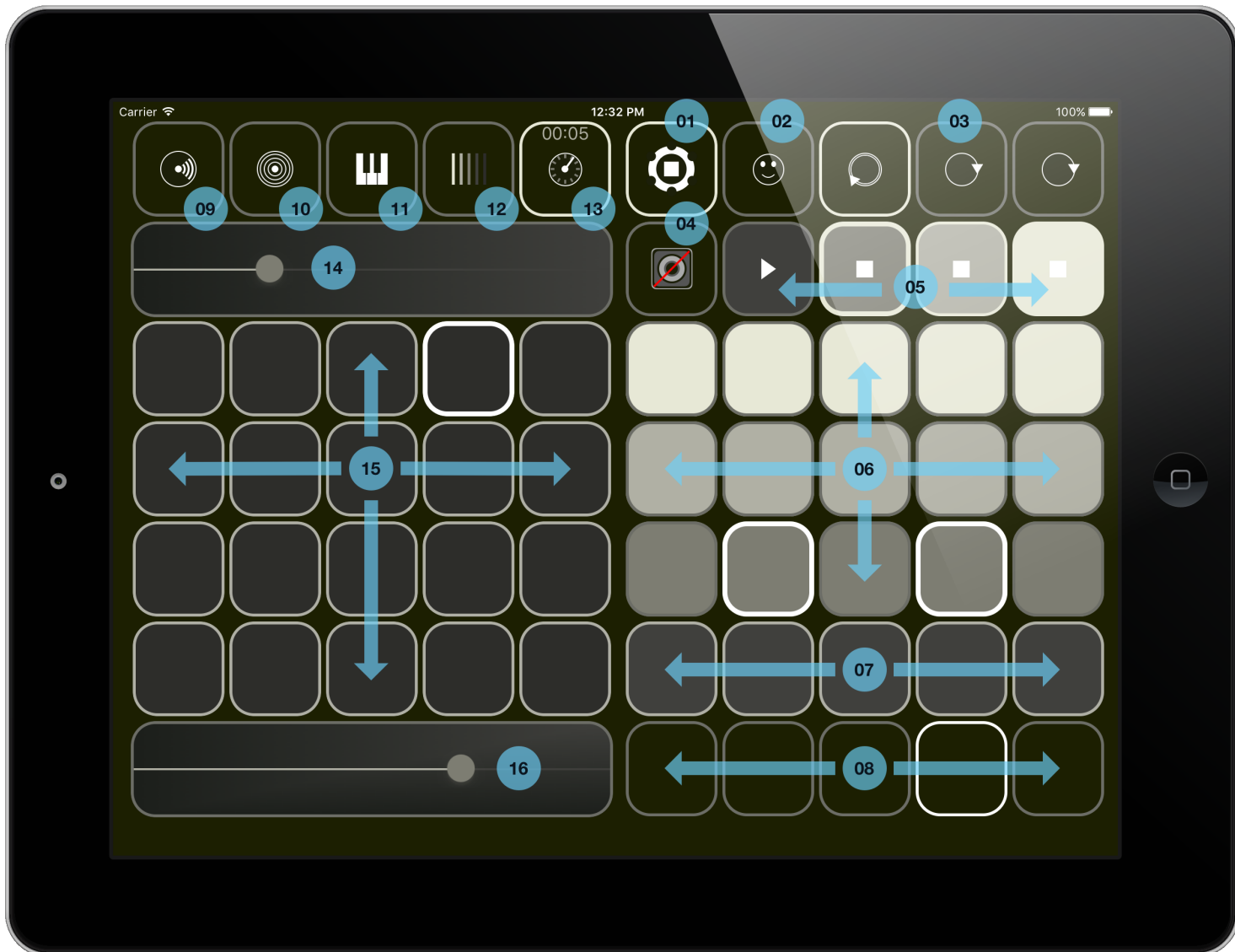# pianoscaper quick-start guide

1. **Auto-play** - Tap this button and pianoscaper will generate evolving soundscapes that are unique every time. This function showcases the generative nature of the app and is the first thing you should try!

2. **Mood** - Toggle between "happy" (G major pentatonic) and "sad" (D minor pentatonic) moods.

3. **Loop recorders** - Tap once to arm (orange), tap again (or any voice key) to record (red) and tap again to play (cream). Tapping while playing will go in and out of overdub mode. Double-tap to stop.

4. **Bass mute** - Mutes the bass voice (bottom row) – see "bass voice"

5. **Voice automation** - Turns automation on and off for the corresponding (colour-coded) voice. When on, pianoscaper will generate "good" notes depending on the currently active bass or chord root note. When automation is on, the voice row is disabled.

6. **Treble and middle voice keypads** - Three rows of voice keys pitched high to low with each key pitched to a note in the active scale / mood low to high, left to right.

7. **Chord voice keypad** - Chords corresponding to the notes in the active scale / mood. Pressing a chord key will also engage the bass key below it. To prevent this, engage the mute bass option. Playing chords also changes the active root note.

8. **Bass voice keypad** - Lower register notes corresponding to the active scale / mood. Changing bass notes determines the active root note. When the root note changes, "hints" will be displayed on the middle and treble voice rows.

9. **Delay** - Introduces a multiple delay line (echo) effect applied to the audio output.

10. **Reverb** - Introduces a reverberation effect applied to the audio output.

11. **Piano** - Adjusts the probability of more natural piano sounds being selected for chords.

12. **Ambience** - Adjusts the probability of the ambient sounds keypad automatically triggering according to the current chord or bass root note.

13. **Timer** - Sets a timer in the range of 1 minute to 8 hours in useful intervals. When the timer expires, auto-play and any running loops will be stopped.

14. **Effect amount** - Adjusts the value or amount of the currently active effect – delay, reverb, piano, ambience or timer. Tap the effect you want to change and the slider will show the current setting.

15. **Ambient sounds keypad** - String-like and ethereal pad type sounds voice keypad corresponding to the active scale / mood.

16. **Volume** - Adjusts overall output volume and dynamics. At higher settings, the sounds will also have slightly faster attack and decay times and also increases the probability of additional notes in auto-play and voice automation.

Please note that the iPhone interface is similar but split over two views in portrait mode with a toggle switch to flip between the two.

More about pianoscaper…

pianoscaper is a generative music app and virtual instrument that's easy on the ears and fun to play. Launch the app, and with a single tap of the auto-play button, pianoscaper will create evolving and ambient soundscapes that are unique every time.

While all of the pianoscaper sounds originated from acoustic pianos, many have been extensively processed to create an "impossible piano" that can morph between orchestral-type swells and ethereal choir-like sounds. Think of it as piano DNA taken to the next level!

pianoscaper in auto-play mode is the perfect companion for relaxing, studying or providing non-intrusive headphone music at work or on your commute. You can even set a timer so you can fall asleep to its gentle and soothing tones.

You can also play pianoscaper as a virtual instrument using the dedicated keypads and performance loop recorders, and tailor the sounds with built-in reverb, delay and "character" effects parameters. And while you're playing, pianoscaper can lend a hand by adding auto-accompaniment parts and even provides hints for notes it thinks might sound good depending on which notes you play!

As a sample-based instrument, pianoscaper currently supports two "moods" – a happy mood, based on the G major pentatonic scale, and a sad mood, based on the Dm pentatonic scale. Please note that pianoscaper is not a chromatic or MIDI-compatible instrument, and it is unlikely to become one, although additional moods and scales may be added as free updates.

You can also record and process the audio output of pianoscaper using any Inter-App Audio host that supports IAA Generators.

You are free to use pianoscaper in your own recordings or live events and installations on a royalty-free basis. All I would ask for is a simple credit that includes the name of the app – "pianoscaper".

I hope you will agree the pianoscaper interface, while minimalist and a perhaps a little cryptic initially, will eventually become very easy to use. Please do take the time to study this quick-start guide which can also be found on the pianoscaper.com website. This is also the best place to ask questions, get technical support or report any issues.

Happy pianoscaping from Rob Jackson, developer of pianoscaper and moodscaper.

For more information please visit www.pianoscaper.com and www.moodscaper.com