ISM

The IDPF standard for digital sheet music is ISM (Interactive Sheet Music).

ISM is the set of standards for sheet music downloaded from connected piano music stores. These files are coded using Web Standards, including CSS and XHTML. ISM allows publishers to produce and send music to vendors in a single file format, and allows purchasers to buy sheet music, download it and use it across multiple platforms.

ISM also allows for encryption of files, to protect against potential copyright infringement.

Initial release of ISM 1.0 was released in 2015 as digital sheet music files began to face issues of interoperability as connected pianos became more prevalent. 2018 saw the release of ISM 2.0.1, which updated maintenance issues and accommodations for web standards. ISM 2.0.2 is expected to be released some time next year.

For more updates regarding the changes being made to ISM, please visit ismgroup.org

ISM is currently supported by most major digital music publishers, including Hal Leonard and Alfred Music, and Apple (which recently started selling digital sheet music on their App Store). We encourage digital music publishers to agree to the standards and become members of IDPF.

For more information about ISM standards, see our Specifications page.

For more information about membership dues and privileges, please see our Membership page.

Click here to see a list of our members.