

KaTuGo — User Guide

KaTuGo is a macOS menu bar app that lets you create custom, color-coded buttons to instantly select and scroll to any track in Pro Tools — no more hunting through a crowded Edit window.

This guide covers installation, licensing, and day-to-day use, with special focus on the **two steps that are required before KaTuGo can actually control Pro Tools**:

- 1 Granting **Accessibility** permission to KaTuGo in macOS.
 - 2 Making sure the **"Selected Tracks: Scroll into View"** keyboard shortcut inside Pro Tools matches the one configured in KaTuGo. KaTuGo can now read that shortcut straight out of Pro Tools (and even write it for you), so in most cases this step takes one click — see Section 4.1.
- If you skip either of these, buttons will appear to do nothing (or only select the track without scrolling to it).

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1. Requirements

- macOS 12.6 (Monterey) or later — Intel and Apple Silicon both supported.
- Pro Tools 2024.x or later (PTSL scripting is built in and available by default — nothing to enable). The **minimum** Pro Tools version KaTuGo can work with is **2023.12**: that is the first release with customizable keyboard shortcuts, which KaTuGo needs to assign the "Scroll into View" command. On an older Pro Tools, KaTuGo shows a warning at launch and cannot scroll the session.
- A KaTuGo license key (see Section 3).

2. Installation & First Launch

- 1 Copy **KaTuGo.app** into your /Applications folder.
- 2 Double-click it to launch. Since the app is distributed outside the Mac App Store, on first launch macOS Gatekeeper may show an "unidentified developer" warning even though the app is notarized by Apple — if that happens, right-click the app icon and choose **Open**, then confirm.
- 3 KaTuGo has **no Dock icon** — it lives entirely in the **menu bar**, at the top-right of your screen (a small "GO" icon). If you don't see the window on launch, click the menu bar icon and choose **Show/Hide Window**.
- 4 On first run, KaTuGo opens directly to the **Edit Mode** window (see Section 8).

3. License Activation

Until a valid license is activated, KaTuGo shows an **Activation** screen instead of the normal interface:

- 1 Note the **Installation ID** shown on screen (you can click **Copy ID** to copy it).
- 2 Email your Installation ID to katumi.audio@gmail.com to request a license key.
- 3 Once you receive your key, paste it into the **License Key** field and click **Activate License**.
- 4 If the key is rejected, double-check it was copied in full (no missing characters) and that it matches the Installation ID you sent — license keys are tied to a specific machine.

For general support (not license requests), use info@katuapps.com — shown in the **About KaTuGo** window (menu bar icon → About KaTuGo).

4. Required Setup — Pro Tools

KaTuGo drives Pro Tools by (a) selecting a track over the scripting connection (PTSL, built into Pro Tools and available by default — no setting to enable) and (b) sending Pro Tools' own **"Selected Tracks: Scroll into View"** keyboard shortcut so the session scrolls to that track. The shortcut must be configured **in Pro Tools itself**, and — because keyboard shortcuts are a per-machine preference — **on every Mac you run KaTuGo on**.

4.1 Assign the "Scroll into View" shortcut

This used to be the step people most often forgot — the most common reason "buttons select the track but don't scroll to it." KaTuGo now keeps the two sides in sync for you, so in most cases there is nothing to do.

Pro Tools is the source of truth. At every launch KaTuGo looks at the shortcut assigned in Pro Tools to **"Selected Tracks: Scroll into View"** and adopts it, so the two always match. If Pro Tools doesn't have one yet, KaTuGo writes its own default into Pro Tools (see below). This also removes the old keyboard-layout confusion: KaTuGo's factory default is $\text{⌘} + \text{⌘} + \text{⌘}$ plus the key below **Esc**, which prints as **§** on ISO/European keyboards and as **** (backslash) on US ANSI ones — because the value is read from (and written to) Pro Tools, you never have to match symbols by hand.

To see or change the shortcut, open the menu bar icon → **Scroll Shortcut**: The panel shows the shortcut currently in Pro Tools (or KaTuGo's default if Pro Tools has none). To change it, click the box and press the combination you want: KaTuGo applies it **and writes it into Pro Tools in one step** — there are no separate "read"/"write" actions to think about. If other Pro Tools commands already use that combination, KaTuGo tells you.

One catch — Pro Tools must be quit to save a change into it. Pro Tools only reads its keyboard-shortcut file when it launches, and rewrites it when it quits. So if you change the shortcut while Pro Tools is **open** to a

combination different from the one Pro Tools already has, KaTuGo shows an alert: it remembers your choice and writes it into Pro Tools automatically as soon as Pro Tools is closed (or the next time you launch KaTuGo). Until then Pro Tools keeps its old shortcut and scrolling won't work — so quit Pro Tools, reopen the panel, and you're set.

If Pro Tools has no shortcut yet and it's already running when KaTuGo starts, KaTuGo can't write it right then (see the catch above), so it tells you at launch: quit Pro Tools and KaTuGo assigns the shortcut by itself — it's active the next time you open Pro Tools, with nothing else to do. The same alert appears if the shortcut was written while the running Pro Tools was already open (it only reads the file at launch), asking you to restart Pro Tools.

Prefer to set it inside Pro Tools instead? Go to **Setup** → **Commands Keyboard...**, search **"Scroll into View"** (listed as **"Selected Tracks: Scroll into View"**), assign your combination, and close the window. KaTuGo picks it up automatically at its next launch.

⚠ If you use KaTuGo on more than one Mac (studio + laptop, for example), set the shortcut on **each** machine — Pro Tools keyboard shortcuts are stored locally per machine, not inside the session, and the displayed symbol can differ from Mac to Mac if the keyboard layout differs. Because Pro Tools is the source of truth, launching KaTuGo on each Mac lines it up with that machine's Pro Tools automatically.

5. Required Setup — macOS Accessibility Permission

To send the "Scroll into View" keystroke to Pro Tools, KaTuGo needs to control other applications — macOS calls this **Accessibility** access, and it must be granted explicitly by you.

5.1 Granting permission the first time

- 1 On first use, if permission hasn't been granted yet, KaTuGo shows a banner at the bottom of the Edit Mode window: "⚠ **Missing Accessibility Permissions!**"
- 2 Click that banner. The first click triggers a native macOS permission dialog and automatically adds **KaTuGo** to the Accessibility list.
- 3 In the dialog (or afterwards in System Settings), enable the checkbox next to **KaTuGo**.
- 4 You do **not** need to relaunch KaTuGo — it checks permission status automatically twice a second and the warning banner disappears the moment access is granted.

5.2 Granting/checking permission manually

If the automatic dialog doesn't appear, or you dismissed it and need to go back:

- 1 Open **System Settings** (macOS Ventura/Sonoma/Sequoia) — or **System Preferences** on older macOS.
- 2 Go to **Privacy & Security** → **Accessibility** (older macOS: **Security & Privacy** → **Privacy tab** → **Accessibility**).
- 3 Find **KaTuGo** in the list and turn the toggle **ON**.
 - If KaTuGo isn't listed at all, click the banner in KaTuGo once more, or click **+** in this System Settings panel and manually add KaTuGo.app from /Applications.
- 4 If KaTuGo is already listed and the toggle *looks* on but doesn't seem to work (common after installing a new version of the app, since the app's code signature changes):
 - Turn the toggle **off**, then **on** again.
 - If that doesn't help, select KaTuGo in the list and click **–** to remove it, then quit and relaunch KaTuGo so it re-prompts and re-registers itself cleanly.

You can jump straight to this System Settings pane at any time by clicking the banner again once KaTuGo has already prompted once — it opens the Accessibility pane directly instead of showing the dialog a second time.

6. Understanding the Connection Indicator

In Edit Mode, next to the session name, there's a small colored dot (LED). Hover over it for a tooltip. It reflects both requirements above at a glance:

Color	Meaning
 Green	Accessibility permission granted and connected to Pro Tools with no errors. Everything is working.
 Yellow	Accessibility permission is missing . Buttons may select tracks but scrolling will fail. Fix via Section 5.
 Red	Accessibility permission is granted, but there's a connection problem with Pro Tools (not running, or no session open). See Section 4 and Troubleshooting.

7. The Menu Bar Icon

Click the KaTuGo icon ("GO") in the menu bar to open its menu:

Menu item	What it does
Edit Mode / Compact View	Switches between the full editing window and the small floating pill bar.
Show/Hide Window	Toggles window visibility without changing mode.
Reset Window Position	Snaps the window back under the menu bar icon if it got lost off-screen.
Import Layout	Import from File... loads a layout (.kgo) from anywhere on your Mac. Below it, previously saved layouts from other sessions that share at least one track name with the current session (sessions in the same project folder are marked with ★ and listed first) — pick one to load its buttons.
Export Layout...	Saves the current layout as a .kgo file wherever you like, so you can back it up or send it to a colleague (Section 11).
Opacity	Background transparency of the window: 5% / 40% / 80% (default) / 100%. Buttons themselves always stay fully opaque.
Buttons Size	Small / Medium (default) / Large button sizing in Compact Mode.
Scroll Shortcut: ...	Shows the currently configured shortcut and opens the shortcut panel, where you can change it — the change is applied in KaTuGo and written into Pro Tools in one step (Section 4.1 / Section 12).
Track Groups	When on (default), the compact window shows a tab strip and your buttons can be split into groups. Turn it off to go back to a single flat set of buttons (Section 9.1).
Sync Track Colors	When on, new buttons inherit their track's color from Pro Tools automatically.
Auto-Open Folders	When on, clicking a button inside a folder track automatically opens that folder.
Auto-Close Folders	When on, KaTuGo automatically closes the previously auto-opened folder when you jump to a different one.
Clear All Buttons	Removes every button from the current layout (asks for confirmation).
User Guide	Opens this guide inside KaTuGo.
About KaTuGo	Version number, your Installation ID, and the support email.
Send Diagnostic Logs	Optional, off by default — sends anonymized diagnostic logs to help troubleshoot issues if you're working with support.

Menu item	What it does
Quit	Quits KaTuGo.

8. Edit Mode — Building Your Button Layout

Edit Mode is the main window where you create and organize buttons ("Shortcuts"), one per track.

8.1 Adding buttons

There are three ways to add a track button, all under **Target Track**:

- **Grab icon** (the button with the hand/grab icon): adds a button for every track **currently selected** in Pro Tools, in one click.
- **Dropdown picker** ("Select track..."): choose a single track by name from a list of all tracks in the session not already added.
- **Magnifying glass / search**: opens a search sheet to filter and pick a track by typing part of its name — useful for sessions with many tracks.

New buttons automatically inherit the track's color from Pro Tools if **Sync Track Colors** is enabled in the menu bar.

8.2 Managing buttons

Each button in the **Shortcuts** grid supports:

- **Click** — jumps to (selects + scrolls to) that track in Pro Tools, same as in normal use.
- **Drag** — reorder buttons by dragging them to a new position in the grid.
- **Right-click** → **Rename** — sets a custom display label, independent of the actual Pro Tools track name.
- **Right-click** → **Change Color** — pick from 7 preset colors (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple, Gray).
- **Right-click** → **Delete**, or click the small × badge on the top-right corner of the button.

8.3 Switching to Compact Mode

Click the small resize/arrow icon in the header (top-right of the window) to collapse into **Compact Mode** — a small floating pill bar with just your buttons, ideal for keeping on screen alongside Pro Tools during a session.

9. Compact Mode — Everyday Use

This is the mode you'll use most of the time while mixing/editing:

- A small floating bar showing all your saved buttons, always on top, movable anywhere on screen (drag the background).
- **Click a button** to jump to that track in Pro Tools.
- **Right-click a button** for Rename / Change Color, same as in Edit Mode.
- **Double-click the background** of the bar to auto-fit its size to the current buttons.
- Hover near an edge for a couple of seconds to reveal a resize handle (glowing border) if you want to manually resize the window/grid.

- Click the same header icon (or use the menu bar item **Edit Mode**) to go back to the full editing window at any time.
- The tab strip and buttons adapt to Pro Tools' own UI theme, staying readable whether you run Pro Tools in Dark or in the lighter Classic theme. KaTuGo's own windows, panels and messages are always dark, whatever appearance macOS is set to.

9.1 Track Groups (Tabs)

Instead of one long row of buttons, you can split them into **groups**, shown as tabs at the top of the compact window — for example *Drums*, *Vocals*, *Strings*. Only the selected group's buttons are displayed, so the window stays small.

- **Switch group**: click its tab.
- **Add a group**: click the **+** button at the end of the tab strip.
- **Right-click a tab** for:
 - **Rename** — give the group a meaningful name.
 - **Copy Buttons To** — copy this group's buttons into another group.
 - **Delete** — removes the group and its buttons *from the open session* (asks for confirmation). Other sessions keep their own groups. The first group (**Main**) can't be deleted.
- **Groups belong to the session**. The tab strip is rebuilt from the session's project file every time you open a session, so a group you added while working on another session doesn't show up (empty) here. Buttons are remembered **per session, per group**: reopening a session restores the right tabs with the right buttons.
- If tabs don't fit the window's width they wrap onto more rows, and the window can't be shrunk small enough to clip them.

Upgrading from an earlier version? Nothing is lost — the buttons you already had become the **Main** group.

If you prefer the previous single-set behavior, turn **Track Groups** off in the menu bar; KaTuGo then shows only the Main group's buttons, with no tab strip.

10. Track States: Hidden & Inactive

KaTuGo mirrors two Pro Tools track states directly on the buttons, so you always know what you're clicking:

- **Hidden** (dashed border, reduced opacity, small eye-slash icon): the track is hidden in the Pro Tools Edit window.
- **Inactive** (diagonal stripe pattern overlay, reduced opacity): the track is currently inactive in the session (e.g., not present in this particular session, or deactivated).

These are visual indicators only — the button still works, but the result may differ depending on the track's actual state in Pro Tools.

11. Session Memory, Importing & Exporting Layouts

- KaTuGo automatically remembers the button layout **per Pro Tools session** (and per group — see Section 9.1). Reopening the same session restores its saved buttons automatically.
- If you open a session KaTuGo has never seen, it inherits the closest matching project **from the same session folder** — all its group tabs and buttons — scored on how many of its buttons exist as tracks in the session you just opened. This is what makes a **renamed session**, a **Save Copy In**, a **recovered session**

after a Pro Tools crash or one of Pro Tools' own **Session File Backups** come up with the layout already in place. Backups count as the same project even though they sit in the Session File Backups subfolder.

- The inheritance happens only once, for a session with no layout of its own: from then on that session keeps its own layout, and editing it never touches the session it inherited from.
- To manually bring in a layout from another session, use menu bar → **Import Layout** and pick from the list (sessions with matching track names are shown, closest project match marked with ★).

11.1 Layout files (.kgo)

- **Import from File...** (inside the **Import Layout** submenu) loads a layout from any folder on your Mac, not just from the sessions KaTuGo already knows about.
- **Export Layout...** saves the current *project* — every group and its buttons, not just the one you're looking at — as a **.kgo** file wherever you choose, handy as a backup or to share with someone else.
- .kgo files have their own icon: **double-click one** (or send it to a colleague, who double-clicks it) and KaTuGo loads that layout straight away.
- **Opening a .kgo replaces your group structure.** Because a .kgo file is a full project (all groups, not a single layout), importing one **rebuilds your group tabs to match the file** — your current groups are replaced by the ones in the file. Use this when you want to load someone else's (or a backed-up) project wholesale; it's not for merging a single tab's buttons into your existing groups.
- Single-layout imports (from the **Import Layout** submenu's session list — see Section 11 above) still just load into whichever group is currently on screen, without touching your other groups.

11.2 Automatic project backup

KaTuGo keeps a .kgo project file for every session in one place, so you always have an up-to-date backup — no manual export needed:

- Saved at ~/Documents/KaTuGo/<session name>.kgo, using the exact session name. The Pro Tools session folder is left untouched: KaTuGo never writes anything into it.
- If two sessions in different folders share the same name, the second one gets a short suffix (e.g. Mix.kgo and Mix-3f9a1c.kgo) so neither overwrites the other.
- Created the first time you add a button, and updated automatically on every button or group change (add, rename, recolor, reorder, delete, new/renamed/deleted group).
- Contains every group, so it's a complete snapshot of the project's layout. To work on another Mac, use **Export Layout...** or just copy the .kgo from that folder — the other machine loads it by double-clicking it.
- Coming from an earlier version? Project files that used to live in <session folder>/KaTuGoProjects/ are moved to the Documents folder the first time you reopen that session.

12. Customizing the Scroll Shortcut

If the default combination doesn't suit you — whatever symbol it shows as on your keyboard layout (see Section 4.1) — or it conflicts with another shortcut you use:

- 1 Click the menu bar icon → **Scroll Shortcut:**
- 2 The panel opens showing the shortcut currently assigned in Pro Tools — or KaTuGo's default if Pro Tools has none yet. Opening it means "I want to see or change this."
- 3 To change it, click the box and press the new key combination. It's captured immediately, and KaTuGo **applies it in KaTuGo and writes it into Pro Tools in the same step** — no separate buttons. If other Pro Tools commands already use that combination, KaTuGo lists them so you can pick something else.
- 4 Click **Done**.

If **Pro Tools is open when you change the shortcut**, and the new combination is different from the one Pro Tools currently has, KaTuGo shows a "Quit Pro Tools to apply" alert — Pro Tools only reads its keyboard-shortcut file at launch, so the change can't be stored while it's running. KaTuGo remembers your choice and writes it into Pro Tools automatically as soon as you quit Pro Tools (or the next time you launch KaTuGo). Until then Pro Tools keeps its previous shortcut and scrolling won't work. If you pick the same combination Pro Tools already has, no alert appears — the two are already in sync.

Reset Default puts the factory combination back and writes it into Pro Tools just like any other change.

⚠ Because Pro Tools is the source of truth, if you later change the shortcut inside Pro Tools' Commands Keyboard window, KaTuGo adopts that new one at its next launch. The two sides stay in sync automatically — just remember to set it on every Mac you use KaTuGo on.

13. Troubleshooting

Symptom	Likely cause	Fix
LED is  yellow, banner says "Missing Accessibility Permissions!"	Accessibility not granted, or macOS revoked it after an app update	Go to Section 5 and re-enable/re-add KaTuGo in Accessibility settings.
LED is  red	Pro Tools isn't running, or no session is open	Open Pro Tools with a session loaded, then check the LED again.
Buttons select the track in Pro Tools, but the Edit window doesn't scroll to it	The "Selected Tracks: Scroll into View" shortcut isn't assigned in Pro Tools, or doesn't match KaTuGo's configured shortcut	Quit Pro Tools , open Scroll Shortcut: ... in KaTuGo and set the combination you want (it's written into Pro Tools), then relaunch Pro Tools. See Section 4.1.
Changed the shortcut but Pro Tools still doesn't scroll	You changed it while Pro Tools was open , so it couldn't be saved into Pro Tools yet (KaTuGo warned you in red)	Quit Pro Tools — KaTuGo writes the pending shortcut into it automatically — then relaunch Pro Tools.
At launch KaTuGo says "Quit Pro Tools to finish setting up KaTuGo"	Pro Tools has no shortcut assigned to "Selected Tracks: Scroll into View" and it can't be written while Pro Tools is open	Quit Pro Tools. KaTuGo assigns the shortcut by itself right then; it's active the next time you open Pro Tools — nothing else to do.
The .kgo project files are no longer in the session folder	From 0.1.19 they live in ~/Documents/KaTuGo and are moved there automatically the first time you reopen each session (Section 11.2)	Nothing to fix — open that folder to find them. Use Export Layout... or copy the .kgo to move a project to another Mac.
The panel says "Restart Pro Tools to apply"	The shortcut is stored, but the running Pro Tools started before it was written and reads shortcuts only at launch — its Commands Keyboard window still shows the old/none binding	Quit and relaunch Pro Tools; it then loads the shortcut and the panel shows "In sync".
A group's buttons disappeared	The wrong tab is selected, or Track Groups was turned off in the menu bar (only the Main group is shown then)	Click the right tab, or re-enable Track Groups (Section 9.1).
A tab I created isn't there in another session	Groups belong to the session, not to the app: each session shows only its own tabs (Section 9.1)	Nothing to fix — add the group again in this session, or use Import Project to load the other session's whole project (which replaces the tabs).
Nothing happens at all when clicking a button	Accessibility permission missing (check LED color)	See Section 5.
Works fine on one Mac, not on another with the same session	Pro Tools keyboard shortcuts and Accessibility permissions are per-machine settings, not stored in the session	Repeat both Section 4 and Section 5 on the other Mac.

Symptom	Likely cause	Fix
No tracks appear in the picker/search	No session currently open in Pro Tools	Open a session in Pro Tools — KaTuGo detects it and reloads the track list automatically.
Accessibility toggle is on but still doesn't work, after updating KaTuGo	Code signature changed with the new build, so macOS treats it as a different app internally	Remove KaTuGo from the Accessibility list (select it, click –), quit and relaunch KaTuGo, and grant permission again when prompted.
Gatekeeper warning ("cannot be opened because the developer cannot be verified") on first launch	Standard macOS behavior for apps not distributed via the Mac App Store	Right-click the app icon → Open → confirm. Only needed once.

14. Quick Setup Checklist

Use this checklist on every new Mac before reporting an issue:

- KaTuGo installed in /Applications and license activated (Section 3)
- **"Selected Tracks: Scroll into View"** in Pro Tools matches KaTuGo's **Scroll Shortcut** — KaTuGo keeps them in sync automatically; to change it, quit Pro Tools and set it in the **Scroll Shortcut: ...** panel (4.1)
- macOS → Privacy & Security → Accessibility → **KaTuGo enabled** (Section 5)
- Connection LED shows  green in KaTuGo's Edit Mode window (Section 6)

If all the boxes are checked and it still doesn't work, use **Send Diagnostic Logs** (menu bar) before contacting support at info@katuapps.com.