

SongScribe

AI lyric + chord chart generator for songwriters + musicians. Input mood + genre + structure; get starter song scaffold. AI music gen tools are weak on song structure; songwriters want scaffolding, not finished work. \$9/month.

Category	Set 7 · Verticals & Creator
Customer	Songwriters + amateur + semi-pro musicians + indie-music creators wanting compositional scaffolding for new songs
Monetisation	\$9/mo Solo · \$24/mo Pro (with collaboration + advanced editing) · \$499 lifetime
Build effort	Med
Plan version	v1.0 — 2026-05

Executive Summary

SongScribe is a compositional assistant for songwriters + musicians. The wedge: AI music generation tools (Suno + Udio + similar) produce finished song output; this is interesting for content production but not useful for songwriters who want to compose their own work. SongScribe is the inverse — provide structural scaffolding (lyric scaffolds + chord progressions + song-structure templates + melodic motif suggestions) that the human songwriter uses as starting point for their actual composition.

Pricing: \$9/mo Solo, \$24/mo Pro, \$499 lifetime. Year-1 target: 4,000 paying subscribers generating ₹1.6 crore annual revenue against ₹28 lakh costs. Cash-positive month 3. Niche but obsessive audience.

The Problem

Songwriters + amateur/semi-pro musicians face a creative-blank-page problem. Starting a new song requires hundreds of small decisions (key + tempo + structure + chord progression + opening lyric + melodic motif) that experienced songwriters develop intuition for but blocked or inexperienced songwriters struggle with. Result: many songs are never started; many are abandoned in early stages.

Existing options. AI music generation (Suno + Udio): produces finished songs but lyrics are generic + structure not user-controllable + audio output not editable in music-software workflow. Music theory tools (Hookpad + Captain Chords): chord progression suggestions but not lyric or structure scaffolding. Songwriting books + courses (Pat Pattison + Berklee Online): foundational but slow.

Market gap: compositional scaffolding + lyric starter + chord progression + structure templates at consumer-creator-tool pricing.

The Solution

SongScribe's flow. User inputs: mood (sad + uplifting + nostalgic + energetic + etc.), genre (folk + indie pop + hip-hop + country + etc.), song theme (love + heartbreak + nostalgia + protest + etc.), structural preference (verse-chorus + AABA + through-composed), optional reference songs.

Generates: complete song scaffold including: structural outline (intro + verse 1 + pre-chorus + chorus + verse 2 + bridge + outro with measure counts), lyric scaffold per section (opening lines + thematic direction + rhyme scheme + suggested syllable counts), chord progressions per section (with chord chart + suggested voicings + key recommendation), melodic motifs (basic notation + audio playback), tempo + time signature.

User iterates: changes structural section + regenerates specific sections + adjusts mood + reviews multiple variants.

Pro tier (\$24/mo) adds: collaboration workspace (co-writer can edit), advanced editing (chord substitutions + key changes + rhyme refinement), MIDI export (drop into DAW workflow), audio rendering of scaffold for review.

Three structural differences. First, scaffolding-not-finished-output (vs. Suno-style generative). Second, lyric + chord + structure integrated (vs. piecemeal tools). Third, songwriter-workflow-aware (export to DAW + collaboration with co-writer).

Market Opportunity

Global songwriter + amateur-musician market: ~30M. Willing-to-pay segment for compositional tools: ~3-5M.

At blended ARPU of \$135/yr, SAM is \$400-700M globally. Realistic 4-year capture: 0.05-0.2% = \$200k-1.4M ARR.

Adjacent expansion. Year 2: specific-genre deep tiers (country songwriting + hip-hop production specific tools). Vocal-melody-AI integration. Year 3: music-supervisor partnership (royalty-track production for music supervisors needing background tracks).

Target Customer

Primary persona: a 33-year-old amateur singer-songwriter who has written 15 songs over 5 years + wants to be more prolific + struggles with chord progression variety. Will pay \$9/mo Solo.

Secondary persona: a 28-year-old indie band co-writer pair using SongScribe for co-writing sessions remotely. Will pay \$24/mo Pro tier for collaboration.

Tertiary persona: a 41-year-old film composer occasionally needing pop-song-scaffold for projects. Will pay \$499 lifetime.

Product

Composition intake: mood + genre + theme + structure + reference songs.

Scaffold generation: structural outline + lyric scaffold + chord progressions + melodic motifs + tempo.

Iteration tools: section-regeneration + mood-adjustment + variant-review.

Pro tier additions: co-writer collaboration + advanced editing + MIDI export + audio rendering.

Lifetime tier: one-time purchase + all Solo features + free version updates.

Technical Architecture

Frontend: Next.js + React + Tone.js for in-browser audio.

Backend: Python on Hetzner cloud + GPU for AI processing.

AI music: combination of GPT-4o for lyric + structure generation + music-theory-specific models (Pop2Piano + similar) for chord progressions + custom melodic-motif generator.

MIDI export: standard MIDI file generation.

Audio rendering (Pro): cloud-based audio rendering of scaffolds.

Payments: Stripe + Razorpay.

Business Model & Unit Economics

Three tiers. Solo \$9/mo or \$89/yr. Pro \$24/mo or \$239/yr (collaboration + advanced editing + MIDI + audio). Lifetime \$499 one-time.

Conversion: 14-day trial converts at 18%. Distribution: 70% Solo, 25% Pro, 5% Lifetime.

Gross margin: 78%. Major cost: AI inference + audio rendering.

LTV: \$108 × 14 mo = \$151 (Solo); \$288 × 20 mo = \$480 (Pro); Lifetime \$499 one-time.

Unit Economics (Year-1 base case)

Year-1 paying subscribers	4,000
Blended ARPU	\$190/year
Year-1 revenue	\$195,000 (~₹1.6 crore)
Gross margin	78%
CAC	\$30
Year-1 all-in costs	~₹28 lakh
Year-1 net contribution	~₹95 lakh

Go-to-Market

Channel 1 — Songwriter-community (45%): r/Songwriters + r/musicproduction + indie songwriter forums + creator-collaborations.

Channel 2 — Music-education partnerships (25%): Berklee Online + similar music-education platforms.

Channel 3 — Music producer + DAW community (20%): integrations with Logic Pro + Ableton + FL Studio user communities.

Channel 4 — Paid acquisition (10%).

Roadmap (first 12 months)

- Month 1-3: MVP with scaffold generation + Solo tier. 250 subscribers.
- Month 4-5: Pro tier with collaboration + MIDI export, 900 subscribers.
- Month 6-8: Audio rendering + genre-specific templates, 2,200 subscribers.
- Month 9-10: Advanced editing + chord substitution + lifetime tier, 3,200 subscribers.
- Month 11-12: 4,000 subscribers, ₹1.6 crore annualised.

Key Risks

- Generic AI music tools improving (Suno + Udio); some songwriters may switch to finished-output workflow. Mitigated by scaffolding-not-finished positioning that serves the actually-want-to-write-myself segment.
- Music-theory tool incumbents (Hookpad + Captain Chords) expanding scope — possible. Mitigated by lyric + structure integration depth.
- Niche audience scale. Mitigated by accepting focused-business shape.
- Music-rights complexity: AI-generated music has murky rights situation. Mitigated by user-owns-output positioning + clear scaffolding-not-finished-work framing.

- Slow trial-to-paid for creative-tool segment. Mitigated by extended trial + sample-output marketing.