



The 8 Elements of Music



Tonality

The overall sound of the music
is pleasant or unpleasant

Dynamics

How loud or soft the music is

Timbre

The unique sound quality of
an instrument or sound

Form

The order and arrangement
of the parts of the music

Texture

The layers of sound, how
sparse or dense the music is

Harmony

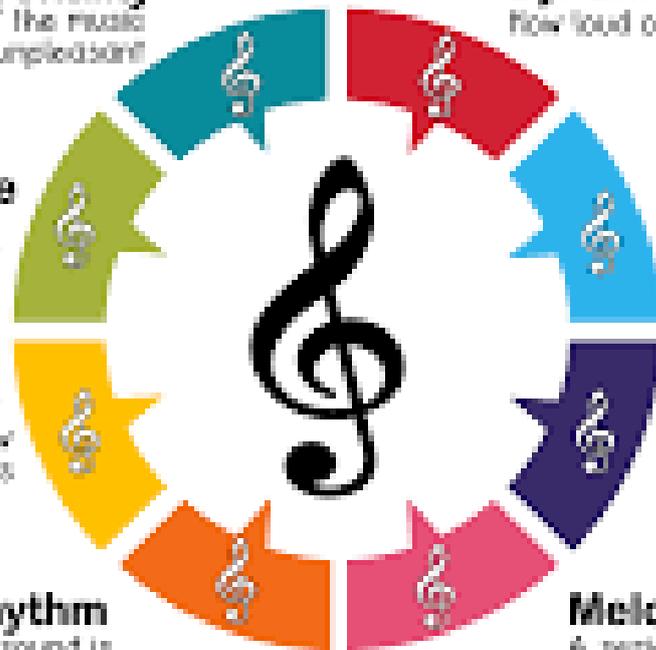
The instruments that support
the melody with chords

Rhythm

How long or short a sound is

Melody

A series of pitches that makes
a tune



Rhythm Note Values

Notes	Name		Value
	Semibreve	Whole note	4 beats
	Minim	Half note	2 beats
	Crotchet	Quarter note	1 beat
	Quaver	Eighth note	1/2 beat
	Semi-quaver	Sixteenth note	1/4 beat
	2 Quavers	2 Eighth notes	1 beat
	4 Semi-quavers	4 Sixteenth notes	1 beat

Rhythm Pyramid Rests

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				Semibreve Whole bar Rest				
				Minim Rest				
				Crotchet Rest				
								Quaver Rest

Pitch

The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is a treble clef staff with a C major scale: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The notes are labeled with red letters below them. The bottom staff is a bass clef staff with the same C major scale: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The notes are labeled with green letters below them.

The diagram shows a section of a piano keyboard with black keys highlighted. Each black key has two enharmonic spellings: one with a sharp sign and one with a flat sign. The white keys are labeled with their natural names.

C# or D \flat	D# or E \flat	F# or G \flat	G# or A \flat	A# or B \flat	
C or B#	D	F or E#	G	A	B or C \flat

Tempo

Common Tempo Markings

	Tempo Text	Meaning	bpm
Slow	<i>Grave</i>	very slow	25 – 45
	<i>Largo</i>	slow and broad	40 – 60
	<i>Lento</i>	slow	45 – 60
	<i>Adagio</i>	slow (with expression)	66 – 76
Medium	<i>Andante</i>	“walking” speed	76 – 108
	<i>Moderato</i>	moderately	108 – 120
	<i>Allegretto</i>	moderately fast	112 – 120
	<i>Allegro Moderato</i>	slightly slower than allegro	116 – 120
Fast	<i>Allegro</i>	fast, quickly, brightly	120 – 156
	<i>Vivace</i>	fast and lightly	156 – 176
	<i>Allegro Vivace</i>	very fast	172 – 176
	<i>Presto</i>	exceptionally fast	168 – 200

Keys and Scales



note names: C D E F G A B C D \flat E \flat F G \flat A \flat B \flat C D \flat



D E F \sharp G A B C \sharp D E \flat F G A \flat B \flat C D E \flat



E F \sharp G \sharp A B C \sharp D \sharp E F G A B \flat C D E F



F \sharp G \sharp A \sharp B C \sharp D \sharp E \sharp F \sharp G A B C D E F \sharp G



A \flat B \flat C D \flat E \flat F G A \flat A B C \sharp D E F \sharp G \sharp A

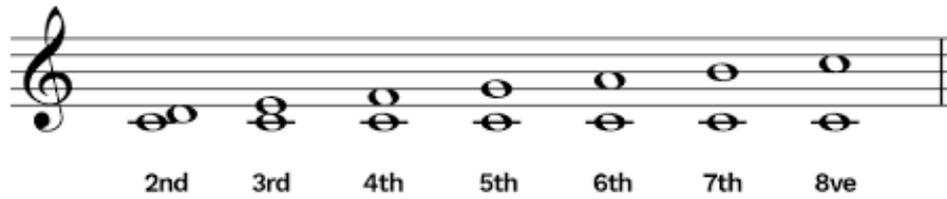


B \flat C D E \flat F G A B \flat B C \sharp D \sharp E F \sharp G \sharp A \sharp B

C Major G Major D Major A Major E Major B Major F \sharp Major C \sharp Major

F Major B \flat Major E \flat Major A \flat Major D \flat Major G \flat Major C \flat Major

Intervals



<p>Minor 2nd 1 Semitones</p>	<p>Major 2nd 2 Semitones</p>	<p>Minor 3rd 3 Semitones</p>	<p>Major 3rd 4 Semitones</p>
<p>Perfect 4th 5 Semitones</p>	<p>Tritone 6 Semitones</p>	<p>Perfect 5th 7 Semitones</p>	<p>Minor 6th 8 Semitones</p>
<p>Major 6th 9 Semitones</p>	<p>Minor 7th 10 Semitones</p>	<p>Major 7th 11 Semitones</p>	<p>Perfect Octave 12 Semitones</p>

Intervals in Music

Minor 2nd

Major 2nd

Minor 3rd

Major 3rd

Perfect 4th

Augmented 4th / Diminished 5th

Perfect 5th

Minor 6th

Major 6th

Minor 7th

Major 7th

Harmony

C Dm Em F G Am B^o

C: I ii iii IV V vi vii^o

The image shows a musical staff in treble clef with a C-clef. Seven chords are represented by groups of three black dots on the staff lines, corresponding to the notes C, D, E, F, G, A, and B. Above each chord is its letter name: C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, and B^o. Below each chord is its Roman numeral: I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, and vii^o.

C Major Scale		
I	Tonic	C
II	Supertonic	D
III	Mediant	E
IV	Subdominant	F
V	Dominant	G
VI	Submediant	A
VII	Leading Note	B

Music in Context

The story behind a song, the context in which it was written, the context in which you first heard it, and the past experiences it causes you to remember all greatly affect your perception of a song and how powerful it is for you.

How to create a story for music that seems to have none

When coming up with a story for the music you're listening to, start with the emotions that it rouses in you. Then ask, "Well why does the singer/the subject/I feel that way? What's the source? What's the cause?" And start filling in the blanks from there!

Another tactic is to think, "What does this music remind me of? What does it sound like?" Maybe it reminds you of a past experience, a thought, an idea. Maybe it sounds like a march (a war march? a funeral march?), a waltz, a romance, a polka. Maybe it sounds like a thunder clap, a circus show, a couple arguing, a flower blooming in a ray of sunshine.

Creating a story can make the music more meaningful and more powerful. It plays a huge part in how the music is perceived, understood, and internalized. Context matters in music.



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



Accordion



Banjo



Bass guitar



Clarinet



Euphonium



Bongo



Cello



Cymbal



Flute



Drum kit



Harmonica



Gong



Hammered dulcimer



Harp



Guitar



Lute



Lyre



Mandolin



Marimba



Piano



Piccolo



Saxophone



Tambourine



Trombone



Trumpet



Tuba



Ukulele



Viola



Violin



Xylophone