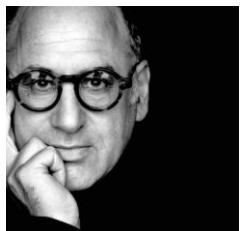


Ground Bass Facts!

- Idea originated in the 1600s.
- Composers used a simple bass-line that repeats throughout the piece of music.
- Composers then layered lots of melodies and countermelodies over the ground bass.
- Ground bass is still a popular method of composing today! There are some famous examples in popular music.



Michael Nyman



- A British composer.
- Born in London in 1944.
- A British composer who has written lots of film music and loves composing operas.
- 'Timelapse' is from the film *A Zed & Two Naughts*.
- Unusually, the film was written to fit the music, rather than the other way round!

Name of piece: Timelapse

Composed: 1985

Tonality	Key	Metre	Tempo	Form
Minor	Em	4/4	Lento	Ground Bass

Johann Pachelbel

- A German composer.
- Born in Nuremberg in 1653.
- He worked as an organist.
- His *Canon in D* features one of the most famous ground basses ever written.
- No-one knows exactly when it was written, but researchers believe it was between 1680 and 1706.

Name of piece: Canon in D

Composed: 1680 -1706

Tonality	Key	Metre	Tempo	Form
Major	D	4/4	Lento	Ground Bass

Keywords

Arrangement	Putting the sections of music in order.
Chord	The order the chords are played in.
Sequence	A melody which fits over the original melody.
Countermelody	A repeating bass line.
Ground Bass	A keyboard instrument similar to piano with strings that are plucked.
Harpichord	Making a part up on the spot.
Improvisation	Slowly.
Lento	Bright, cheerful sounding chords.
Major	Sad, mysterious sounding chords.
Minor	Extra notes added to decorate the melody line.
Ornaments	The metre of the music. E.g 4/4
Time Signature	Slightly changing an idea so it sounds different but is still recognisable.
Variation	

Don't forget the Elements of Music

- Timbre/Sonority:** The quality or type of sound.
- Pitch:** If the notes are high or low. **Tempo:** The speed.
- Structure:** The order of the sections in a piece of music.
- Texture:** How the parts fit together. **Dynamics:** The volume.
- Rhythm:** Different durations of note organised into a pattern.

Musicals!

- Story-telling through song, speech, acting and dance.
- Many stage musicals have been made into films. Including *West Side Story*, *Lion King*, & *Mary Poppins*.
- This is Me was first performed by Keala Settle.



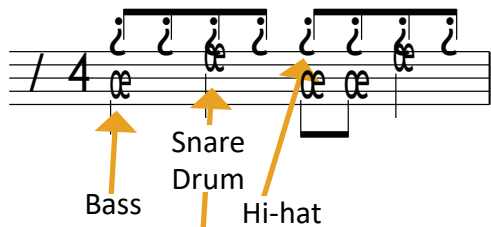
Name of piece: This is Me!

Composed: 2007

Composer: Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

Tonality	Key	Chords	Metre	Tempo	Form
Major	C	C, F, G, Am	4/4	Andante	Pop song

The drums



The drum kit sets the tempo and helps to keep it going. It is **very important** to listen to the drums.

The chords

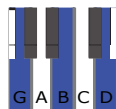
C = C, E, G



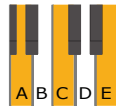
F = F, A, C



G = G, B, D



Am = A, C, E



Christmas Pop Songs

- 'Merry Christmas Everyone' was Shakin' Steven's 4th and last number 1 in the UK.
- The song reached No. 1 in 1985.



Name of piece: Merry Christmas Everyone

Composed: 1984

Composer: Shakin' Stevens & Bob Heatlie

Tonality	Key	Chords	Metre	Tempo	Style
Major	C	C, F, G, Am	4/4	Allegro	Pop song

Keywords

Allegro	Fast/Lively.
Andante	Walking pace.
Character song	Sung by a solo singer and describes what they are feeling or thinking.
Chord	Three or more notes played together.
Chord Sequence	The order the chords are played in.
Chorus	The catchy part of a song that is repeated in between each verse.
Crescendo	The dynamic increases gradually.
Ensemble	The name given to the cast of a musical. Also a group of performers.
Introduction	The beginning section of a piece of music.
Melody	The tune.
Metre	The time signature or number of beats in a bar.
Outro	The ending of a song.
Verse	The part of a song where the story is told. Different lyrics in each verse.

Don't forget the Elements of Music

Timbre/Sonority: The quality or type of sound.

Pitch: If the notes are high or low. **Tempo:** The speed.

Structure: The order of the sections in a piece of music.

Texture: How the parts fit together. **Dynamics:** The volume.

Rhythm: Different durations of note organised into a pattern.

Sequencing

At school we use an online DAW called Soundtrap. There are others you might know like GarageBand, Cubase and Logic.

(-) Soundtrap

The screenshot shows the Soundtrap DAW interface with the following labeled components:

- Tracks / Channels
- Playback Line
- Bar numbers
- Save button
- Project title
- Solo
- Audio recording
- MIDI
- Automation
- Mute
- Automation Line
- Record
- Return to start
- Play
- Tempo / B.P.M
- Metronome / Click

Dance Music

- Electronic Dance Music was popularised in the 1980s.
- Evolved from Disco.
- Typically it is composed from synthesised sounds; rarely using live instruments.



Name of piece: Blinding Lights by The Weeknd Composed: 2019

Tonality	Key	Metre	Tempo	Style
Major	C#	4/4	Allegro	Electropop

Keywords

Allegro	Fast / Lively.
Arrangement	Putting the sections of music in order.
Automation	A process done automatically by the software.
Chorus	An effect applied to a instrument or vocal part to make is sound wider.
Delay	An effect that plays a sound slightly later than without the effect.
Digital Audio Workstation	Software used to create music on computer. Like Soundtrap or Logic.
Distortion	An effect creating a gritty and dirty sound. Often used on electric guitar.
Electronic Dance Music	A style of dance music, created using sequenced audio and DAW's.
Layering	The process of building up different musical parts.
Looping	Automatic repeating of a short musical idea.
Musica Instrument Digital Interface	MIDI - allows a keyboard and a computer to communicate.
Quantise	A process snapping MIDI recordings into time.
Reverb	An effect that alters the amount of echo a sound has.

Don't forget the Elements of Music

- Timbre/Sonority:** The quality or type of sound.
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- Rhythm:** Different durations of note organised into a pattern.

Latin-inspired Pop Music

- Features a lot of melodic and rhythmic syncopation.
- Like most popular music, it has a clear 4/4 metre.
- Makes use of repeating chord patterns in a minor key.
- Only uses a small number of chords, creating a simple harmony.
- Lyrics about love and everyday life.
- Can include brass instruments in a horn section.
- Often includes a clave rhythm played by the claves.



Cuba

- Music inspired by African and European music (particularly Spanish).
- These influence come from the large numbers of African slaves and European immigrants who came to Cuba in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Cuban music led to the development of styles such as salsa, jazz, mambo and the tango.



Camila Cabello

- A Cuban-American singer and songwriter.
- She was a member of the group Fifth Harmony who were on X-Factor USA in 2012.
- In *Havana*, Cabello pays tribute to her country of birth.
- The song is also about a special romantic relationship she had with someone in Cuba.
- Rapper Young Thug also features on the song.



Name of piece: Havana

Composed: 2017

Tonality	Key	Metre	Tempo	Form
Minor	A minor	4/4	Moderato	Pop Song

Keywords

Chord Sequence	The order the chords are played in.
Chorus	The catchy part of a song that repeats after each verse.
Horn Section	The name give to any trumpets, trombone and saxophones playing.
Intro	An instrumental section at the start.
Montuno	A repeating rhythm played on the piano in Cuban/Latin music.
Outro	An instrumental section at the end.
Soprano	The highest pitched female voice.
Syncopation	Rhythmic stresses that are not on the main beats.
Time Signature	The metre of the music. E.g 4/4
Tonality	Whether music sounds major or minor.
Verse	The sections of a song where the story is told.

Chords

Am	E	F
A, C, E	E, G#, B	F, A, C
Tonic	Dominant	Sub-mediant

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Rock Music

- Has a standard line-up of electric guitar, bass guitar, drum kit and vocals.
- Sometimes, there is a keyboard.
- Has a very clear metre, and the drums drive the rhythm.
- Uses repeating patterns of chords.
- The vocal line is the melody, the backing band are the accompaniment.
- The electric guitar often has solos.
- Drum fills are often heard leading from one section to the next.

Chord Inversions

When the order of the notes in a triad is changed.

Root Position **1st Inversion** **2nd Inversion**

Labels for Root Position: Fifth, Third, Root. Notes: G, E, C.

Labels for 1st Inversion: Root, Fifth, Third. Notes: E, C, G.

Labels for 2nd Inversion: Third, Root, Fifth. Notes: C, G, E.

Keywords

- Chord Sequence** The order the chords are played in.
- Chord Inversion** When the order of the notes in a triad is changed.
- Chorus** The catchy part of a song that repeats after each verse.
- Fifth** A note 5 pitches above the tonic.
- Intro** An instrumental section at the start.
- Outro** An instrumental section at the end.
- Syncopation** Rhythmic stresses that are not on the main beats.
- Third** A note 3 pitches above the tonic.
- Tonic** The bottom note in a chord. The pitch from which the 3rd and 5th are found.
- Triad** A three note chord.
- Verse** The sections of a song where the story is told.

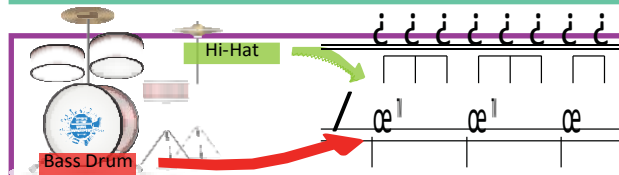
Kings of Leon

- An American rock band formed in Nashville, Tennessee.
- The band is made up of three brothers and their cousin.
- The song *Use Somebody* was a big success in the UK, reaching No. 2 in the charts and featuring for 40 weeks back to back.
- The album the song is from (Only by the Night) was named Best International Album at the 2009 Brit Awards.



Name of piece: Use Somebody		Composed: 2008			
Tonality	Key	Metre	Tempo	Form	
Major	C	4/4	Allegro	Rock Song	

Drums



Don't forget the Elements of Music

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Dynamics

The volume

- Fortissimo (ff)**
Very loud.
- Forte (f)**
Loud.
- Mezzo forte (mf)**
Moderately loud.
- Mezzo piano (mp)**
Moderately quiet.
- Piano (p)**
Quiet.
- Pianissimo (pp)**
Very quiet.
- Fortepiano (fp)**
Loud, then suddenly quiet
- Sforzando (sfz)**
Suddenly loud.
- Crescendo** ($\langle \rangle$)
Getting louder.
- Diminuendo** ($\rangle \rangle$)
Getting quieter.



Form

The order of the different sections

- Binary Form**
A B
- Ternary Form**
A B A
- Rondo Form**
A B A C A
- Theme and Variations**
Theme Var. 1 Var. 2 Var. 3
- 32 Bar Song Form**
Sections 1, 2, 4 = the same.
Section 3 = different.
- Form** describes the overall piece of music.
- Structure** usually describes how a section is put together.

Harmony

The chords

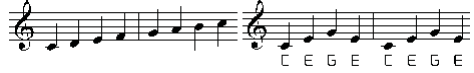
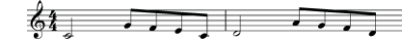
- C d e F G a b
I ii iii IV V vi vii
- I, IV & V:** Primary Chords (major).
- ii, iii, vi:** Secondary Chords (minor.)
- Perfect Cadence: Chords V to I**
Like the full stop at the end of a sentence.
- Imperfect Cadence: Any chord to V**
Like a comma half-way through a sentence.



Melody

The tune

- Conjunct**
Move by step.
- Disjunct**
Move by leap.
- Sequence**
A pattern repeated higher or lower.
- Ascending**
Getting higher.
- Descending**
Getting lower.
- Scalic**
Moving up or down in a scale.
- Broken Chord**
Notes of the chord one after another.
- Diatonic**
Fitting with the chords.
- Chromatic**
Using notes from outside the chord.



Rhythm and Metre

The pattern of notes, rests and their groups

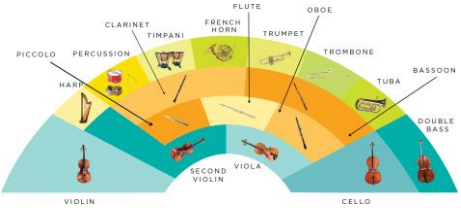
- Simple time**
2 3 4
4 4 4
Has 2, 3 or 4 beats in a bar, grouped in 2's.
- Compound time**
6 9 12
8 8 8
Has 6, 9 or 12 beats in a bar, grouped in 3's.
- Syncopation**
The strong beat falls off the beat.
- Dotted rhythm**
Creates a long-short pattern.
- Drum fill**
Short drum solos used to join sections together.
- Triplets**
3 notes in the space of 2.



Sonority

The type of sound

- Strings** **Woodwind** **Brass** **Percussion**
- Arco** - played with the bow.
- Pizzicato** - plucked.
- Muted** - creates a slightly muffled sound.
- Roll** - a consistent stroke on the drum creating a constant sound.
- Glissando** - sliding from one note to another.
- Strumming** - a sweeping sound brushing all the strings on a guitar to create a chord.
- Picking** - playing one string at a time.



Texture

The layers of sound

- Monophonic**
One voice or melodic line.
- Chordal**
All the parts layer to create a chord, moving at the same time.
- Melody and Accompaniment**
A tune with chordal backing.
- Polyphonic**
Two or more melodic lines sounding at the same time.
- Call and Response**
Two groups take it in turns, like a musical conversation.



Tonality

If the music is major, minor, modal or atonal

- Major** - bright and happy sounding.
 - Minor** - gloomy and sad sounding.
 - Modal** - a mixture of major and minor sounds.
 - Atonal** - No key - sounds often sound like they clash.
- Each **MAJOR** key has a **related minor**. They share the same **key signature**.

