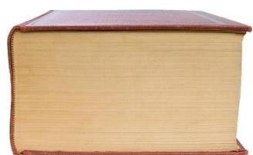


Exploring Arrangements

The words “arrange” or “arranging” means to put things in a certain order.

So, in music when we talk about arranging, we mean sorting instruments or sounds in a certain way to make a piece or a song sound good.

An arrangement is what this is called once the sorting is complete.



Arrangements can have a thick texture with lots of instruments playing at once...



or they can have a thin texture with only one or two instruments playing at once.



They can be loud or quiet.



Fast or slow.



You may decide that, as part of your arrangement, you want a full orchestra...



or you may want just one acoustic guitar.



No song or piece of music is ever written without someone thinking really carefully about how to arrange it.

Musical Spot the Difference



In this unit, each week, as well as developing our own arrangements for different songs, we are going to listen to how two groups of musicians have created different arrangements of the same piece.

We are going to call this 'Musical Spot the Difference' as we try to pinpoint how the arrangement has changed.

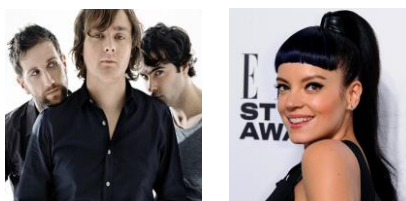
We may decide to use some of these ideas and differences in our own arrangements in the coming weeks.

Take On Me



Comparing A-Ha's Original Version with an Orchestral Arrangement

Somewhere Only We Know



Comparing Keane's Original Version with Lily Allen's Cover

Dancing Queen



Comparing ABBA's Original Version with a 1920s Jazz Version by Postmodern Jukebox

Video Killed the Radio Star



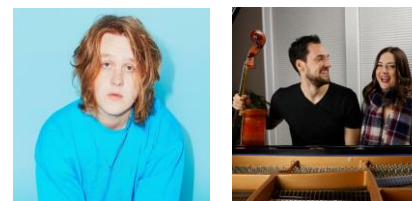
Comparing The Buggles' Original Version with a Jazz/Queen Inspired Version by Postmodern Jukebox

The James Bond Theme



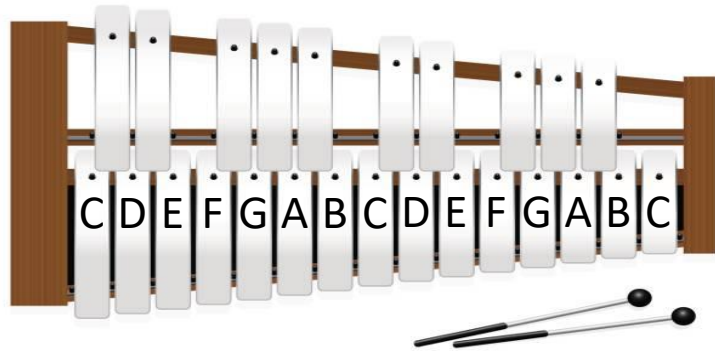
Comparing the Original Monty Norman Version with a Ska Inspired Version by The Skatalites

Someone You Loved



Comparing Lewis Capaldi's Acoustic Version with a Piano and Cello Arrangement

The Glockenspiel



Pitch



Pitch is how high or low a sound is.

Smaller instruments tend to have a higher pitch.

Larger instruments tend to have a lower pitch.

Pulse and Rhythm



Pulse is the heartbeat of the music.



Rhythm is when long and short notes are joined together.

Musical Notes



Crotchet =
1 beat



Crotchet rest =
1 beat of
silence



Minim = 2
beats



Semibreve
= 4 beats



1 quaver = $\frac{1}{2}$ beat
2 quavers = 1 full beat



Quaver rest = $\frac{1}{2}$
beat of silence

Dot Notation

Dot notation is a way of writing music without using standard musical notation. It is a cross between a graphic score which uses pictures and standard musical notation.

