



Singing and Performing

Renaissance
1400 - 1600

Baroque
1600 - 1750

Classical
1750 - 1827

Romantic
1820 - 1900

Modern
1890 - 1960

Contemporary
1960 - Present

Performing Together

round	A song in which two, three or four groups sing the same melody but starting at different times. The overlapping parts create harmony.
partner song	A song made by combining two or more complete melodies that could be sung separately.
melody and accompaniment	A melody which has another line of music played with it.
duet	A piece of music or song that is performed by two people. Each performer in a duet is equally important.



Elements of Music

Pitch – How high or low a note sounds

Duration – How long or short a note is

Dynamics – How loud or quiet a piece of music is played

Silence – The gaps, rests and breaks in a piece of music

Structure – Overall plan of a piece of music

Tempo – How fast or slow the music is

Timbre – Sound quality of an instrument or voice

Texture – The effect of melodies and harmonies together.

Major and Minor Chords

A chord is a group of notes played together to create a musical effect.

C Major



When a chord sounds bright and happy it is usually a major chord.

D Minor



When a chord sounds sad or spooky it is usually a minor chord.

Musical Features

Sections of music can have different types of sound, such as:

<i>staccato</i>	When the notes sound short and spiky.
<i>legato</i>	When the music sounds smooth and flowing.

Singing

<i>crescendo</i> 	When a composer wants music to get louder, they might use a symbol like this.
<i>decrescendo</i> 	When a composer wants music to get quieter, they might use a symbol like this. Another name for this symbol is diminuendo.