

Song Maker Melodies!

Names _____
(Work alone or with a partner)

Decide the mood or feeling you want to communicate through your music: _____

Use Song Maker to create your melody: <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/Song-Maker/>

The screenshot shows the Song Maker interface with several annotations:

- Erase and start over:** Points to the "Restart" button in the top right corner.
- This is the default set-up: 4 measures with 4 beats/measure:** A box spanning the first four measures of the grid.
- Click the boxes to add pitches:** Points to the colored boxes in the grid.
- Click the • to add percussion:** Points to the small black dots in the grid.
- Click Mic and sing to add pitches:** Points to the "Mic" button in the bottom right.
- Play your song:** Points to the play button in the bottom left.
- Change the instrument family:** Points to the "Marimba" and "Electronic" buttons.
- Change the percussion sound:** Points to the "Electronic" button.
- Change the speed:** Points to the "Tempo" slider.
- Save the link to get back to your melody:** Points to the "Save" button.
- If you want to make your melody longer add measures here:** Points to the "Undo" button.

Experiment with pitches

Try out many different combinations until you find patterns that you like and that will help communicate the mood or feeling you've chosen.

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go up | <input type="checkbox"/> Move by step | <input type="checkbox"/> Make patterns that are repeated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go down | <input type="checkbox"/> Move by skip | <input type="checkbox"/> Is your melody singable? Do you want it to be? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stay the same | <input type="checkbox"/> Move by leap | <input type="checkbox"/> Does your melody come to "the end"? |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> What if...? |

Important! Before you end your work time, be sure to use the Save button and copy the link so you can come back to your melody.

Experiment with sounds (timbres)

Try out different sounds for your melody and the percussion accompaniment until you find the combination you like and that best communicates the mood or feeling you've chosen. *What if...?*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marimba | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano | <input type="checkbox"/> Blocks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strings | <input type="checkbox"/> Kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woodwind | <input type="checkbox"/> Conga |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Synth | |

Experiment with speed (tempo)

Try out different speeds for your melody until you find the one that best communicates the mood or feeling you've chosen. *What if...?*

If you had more control over the dynamics and articulation...

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>piano</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>staccato</i> (short and spaced) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>mezzo piano</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>accent</i> (with emphasis) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>mezzo forte</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>legato</i> (smooth and connected) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>forte</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>crescendo</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>decrescendo</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sudden changes | |

Explain your choices—How do they help communicate the intended mood or feeling?

Pitches _____

Timbres _____

Tempo _____

Dynamics and articulation _____

Talk about your melody and play it for others

