

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:

- Restart:** An arrow points to the 'Restart' button with the text 'Erase and start over'.
- Timeline:** A long double-headed arrow spans the top of the grid with the text 'This is the default set-up: 4 measures with 4 beats/measure'.
- Pitches:** An arrow points to the grid boxes with the text 'Click the boxes to add pitches'.
- Percussion:** An arrow points to a dot on the grid with the text 'Click the • to add percussion'.
- Mic:** An arrow points to the 'Mic' button with the text 'Click Mic and sing to add pitches'.
- Play:** An arrow points to the play button with the text 'Play your song'.
- Instrument Family:** An arrow points to the 'Marimba' and 'Electronic' buttons with the text 'Change the instrument family'.
- Tempo:** An arrow points to the tempo slider with the text 'Change the speed'.
- Save:** An arrow points to the 'Save' button with the text 'Save the link to get back to your melody'.
- Measure Extension:** An arrow points to the right side of the grid with the text 'If you want to make your melody longer add measures here'.

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.

- ___ Go up
- ___ Go down
- ___ Stay the same
- ___ Move by step
- ___ Move by skip
- ___ Move by leap
- ___ Make patterns that are repeated
- ___ Is your melody singable? Do you want it to be?
- ___ Does your melody come to "the end"?
- ___ 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

