

Year 7 Recipe for a pop song

Ingredients:

Style	ballad, pop slow, up tempo
Lyrics	similar number of beats per line divide into verses and chorus
Structure	add introduction, links between verse & chorus, possible bridge or instrumental, outro
Instruments	accompaniment chords
Melody	often stepwise with some small leaps, similar patterns in verse, new ideas for chorus
Accompaniment	based on chords or riffs. Consider how rhythm is created from chords or bass lines & drum kit

Method: DO YOU START WITH THE MUSIC OR THE LYRICS?

Work on either verse or chorus first.

Create a good sense of rhythm for the lyrics.

Use the rhythm of the lyrics to confidently drive the music.

Each verse has the same musical material, but could have some small differences to build interest.

Consider how chords can contribute to the mood

- slow held or repeated / strummed rhythmic chords
- arpeggiated separated notes of a chord played in a pattern

Consider how the song can build through form start to finish

- adding texture – building up instruments, backing vocal harmony
- adding variety, how can improvisation help your song?

Refine, edit and improve

- Take turns to listen to the piece and offer suggestions

TASTE TEST – RECORD AND LISTEN TO IT

How does it stand alongside songs you know?

What improvements can you suggest ?