

Year 8 Song Writing

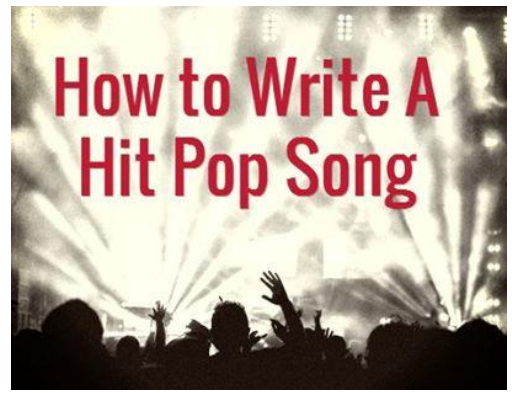
Style ballad, pop, rock, rap

Lyrics Similar syllables per line

Structure Intro, verse & chorus, bridge /instrumental, outro

Melody verse use stepwise /small leaps, catchy memorable ideas for chorus

Accompaniment created from chords or bass lines & drum kit. Add fills to link verse to chorus



How to Write A Hit Pop Song

Key vocabulary

ballad slow emotional song

harmony additional vocal part

chords a group of 3 alternate notes – played together, strummed or in a pattern (arpeggiated)

lyrics words

verse same music different words

chorus same material after each verse

fill increased drum rhythm into chorus

bridge new section between verse 2 and chorus

strumming rhythm created on guitar or ukulele



Lead sheets

C

Dm

Songs that have good lyrics have rhymes

F

G

But not all the time

C

Dm

A catchy melody, at least for the chorus

F

g

Will make you stand out well from the crowd

Getting Started

- start with verse or chorus.
- use the rhythm of the lyrics to drive the music.
- verses have the same musical material + small differences to build interest.

Chord accompaniment can contribute to the mood

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

The song should build from start to finish

- adding texture – building up, backing vocal harmony
- adding variety, improvised solo in bridge
- outro - Fade to finish, end with intro, or chorus repeated

Presentation

- edit and refine for the final recording
- write lyrics as a poem with chords as a lead sheet