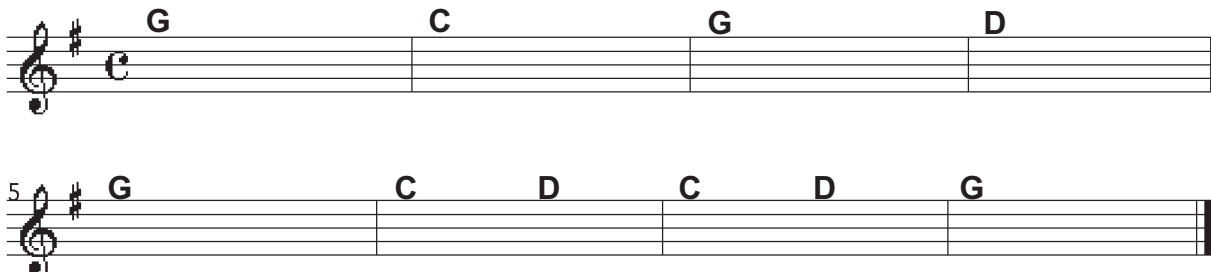


Writing a Melody

This is a simple system of writing a melody. All you have to do is follow the 'rules' set out below.



Rule 1 - Notes on the main beats must be chosen from the chord for that bar or that part of the bar. At the bottom of the page the notes laid out to help you;

Copy out the staves below with the chord symbols exactly where they are in the bar.

Rule 2 - **Passing notes** - Add notes between the main beats. But remember that these must be notes in the same scale. They must only move by a step.

Rule 3 - **Auxiliary notes**. - If a note jumps by more than a step from your main beat notes then it must be chosen from the same chord as the main beat.

Rule 4 - **Endings** - Note that your last chord change is from D (Chord V) to G (Chord I). This kind of ending is called a Perfect Cadence. If you had C (Chord IV) to G then it would be called a Plagal Cadence.

When you're laying out your music it's a good idea to use repeated rhythm patterns to make the music feel like it all fits together.

Tasks -

1. Try putting a rhythm pattern into your empty bars or better still just underneath them faintly to act as a guide.
2. Now start to put in the note pitches using the rules to help you.
3. You should now have a tune that you can play. Try it. Perhaps you could try it with your partner playing the chords or even try playing your tune as your partner plays theirs.
4. If you have tried playing your tune with your partner playing theirs at the same time you might have noticed that the tunes 'fit together'. Why is this? Try to find out the reason - this effect is called 'harmony' or, since you should have two different tunes, 'counterpoint'.
5. You might like to write a B section to the tune using the same chord sequence to make it longer. Your partner's tune will still harmonise with this new section.

Notes in the Chords

