

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 1

Beat

Tempo

Meter

4/4
Time
Signature

Rhythm

Quarter
notes





Half
notes



Whole
notes



Low (Bass) 
High (Treble) 
sounds

Musical
Alphabet

Octave

8va
&
8vb

Steps
(half &
whole)

C Major
Scale

Whole & Half
step formula
of C Major
Scale

SIDE STREETS

INSTRUMENT FAMILIES

String

Woodwind

Brass

Percussion

Keyboard

Electronic

Vocal

SOPRANO
ALTO
TENOR
BASS

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 2

3/4
Time
Signature

Dotted
Half
notes


Rests

Ties

Skips
(3rd)

C Major
melodies
combining
Steps &
Skips

Sharps
#

Ascending
Chromatic
Scale
(using #
names)

G Major
Scale

Tonic

Dominant

Leading
Tone

4ths
&
5ths

Power
Chords

Inverted
Power
Chords

TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE

PHRASE RELATIONSHIPS
& SIMPLE FORMS

The
Phrase

Repeat
Sign 

1st & 2nd
Endings

Question
&
Answer

Binary
Form
(AB)

Ternary
Form
(ABA)

D.C. al Fine
D.C. al Coda

D.S al Fine
D.S. al Coda



MUSICAL NAVIGATION
SYMBOLS

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 3

2/4
Time
Signature

Eighth
Notes

Flats
b

Descending
Chromatic
Scale (using
flat names)

F Major
Scale

Minor &
Major
2nds/3rds

Major &
Minor
Triads
(chords)

TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE

SONG FORM

Verse

Chorus

Pre-
Chorus

Bridge

Arch
form

Rondo
form

Medley

Theme &
Variations

Through-
composed

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 4

6/8
Time
Signature

Dotted
Quarter
Notes



Basic
Syncopation

Major
Triad

Minor
Triad

Diminished
Triad

Augmented
Triad

Key
(Tonal)
Centers

Harmonized
Major Scale
(using
triads)

Suspended
Chords
sus2 & sus4

Arpeggios /
Arpeggiation
(Broken
Chords)

Chord
Inversions

SIDE STREETS

DYNAMICS

f
forte &
fortissimo
ff

mf mezzo
forte &
mezzo
piano *mp*

p
piano &
pianissimo
pp

Crescendo &
Decrescendo

TEXTURE

Monophony

Homophony

Polyphony

Heterophony

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 5

Eighth Note Rests



More Advanced Syncopation

Eighth Note Triplets



Swing/Shuffle Rhythm

Minor & Major 6ths/7ths

Major & Minor Scale Formula

Seventh Chords (harmonized major scale with 7th chords)

Relative Minor (harmonized minor scale with triads and 7th chords)

12-Bar Blues

Fermata



Tenuto

SIDE STREETS

ARTICULATION

Staccato

Legato/Slur

Accent/Sforzando

Trill

Mordent

Grace Note

Tremolo

Vibrato

Ghost Note

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 6

Sixteenth
Notes



Dotted Eighth Notes
(and other 1/16th
note rhythms)



Pentatonic
Scales
(formula)

Circle of
Fifths

Harmonic
Minor Scale
(and
harmonization)

Chord
Extensions

Lead
Sheets

SIDE STREETS

Descriptive Timbres

bright

dark

warm

rich

thin

harsh

smooth

nasal

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 7

12/8 Time
Signature

5/4 Time
Signature

Compound
Time
Signatures

Modes (play
& name
notes &
intervals)

Secondary
Dominants

Borrowed
Chords

Modulation

AMERICAN / "Western" MUSIC GENRES

Examples

Classical

Blues

Jazz

Country
& Folk

Pop

Rock &
Roll /
Rock

R&B /
Soul /
Gospel

Funk

Hip-Hop

Electronic

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

ENJOY THE MUSICAL JOURNEY

LEVEL 8

Quarter
Note
Triplets

Sixteenth
Note
Triplets

Polyrhythms

Cross-
Rhythms

Polymeters

Tuplets

Phasing

Melodic
Minor
Scale

chords/modes
of melodic
minor

Altered
Dominants

Symmetrical
Chords/Scales

WORLD MUSIC FAMILIES

Examples

Latin & Afro-
Caribbean

West African
Traditions

Indian
Raga

Middle
Eastern
Maqam

Indonesian
Gamelan

East Asian
Traditions

Celtic &
European
Folk

Global
Fusions

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC

CREATIVE CROSSROADS

*WHERE YOU TAKE THE WHEEL
AND MAKE MUSIC YOUR OWN*

Improvisation

Composition

Songwriting

Arrangement /
Orchestration

Music
Production

Film
Scoring

Creative
Technology
/ Synthesis

SIDE STREETS

*THE MUSICIAN'S
TOOLBOX*

Ear
Training

Sight-Reading

Transcription

Interpretation

Genre
Adaptation

Collaboration

Music
Analysis

ON THE ROAD
MUSIC