

Orange Award Composing: Choose a good backing rhythm for my piece

If you haven't composed a piece already, use the Red Award Composing sheet to help you

To add a backing rhythm to your piece, you need to work out what time your music is in.

Try this task first...

- ❖ Start by listening to one of the rhythms on your keyboard and then try to clap in time with the music
- ❖ When you can feel the pulse, count aloud at the same time, e.g. 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4
- ❖ If counting to 4 doesn't fit, try: 1 2 3 or 1 2

...then work out what time your piece is in, tapping or counting as you play.

If your piece matches the backing rhythm you listened to, e.g. they are both in 4, then have a go at playing along. If not, try counting along to some other backing rhythms until you find a match!

You could also have a go at adding a backing rhythm to a piece you have learned by using the time signature to help you.