


Step 2 – Writing your accompaniment

The accompaniment is defined as: *‘the musical part which provides the rhythmic and/or harmonic support for the melody or main themes of a song or instrumental piece’*

To create the first stage of our accompaniment we’re going to use the ‘tonic’ and ‘dominant’ notes from the A pentatonic scale.


The ‘Tonic’

The ‘tonic’ of a key is the first note. For example, in A minor the ‘tonic’ is A.



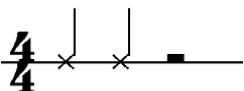
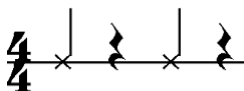
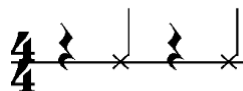

The ‘Dominant’

The ‘dominant’ of a key is the fifth note. For example, in A minor the ‘dominant’ is E.



Using the notes listed above choose two beats of the bar to accentuate. This will form the first stage of your accompaniment. You can choose to use either the tonic or the dominant as your note of choice, you may also choose to use both notes together or a combination of the two.

Beats you can accentuate to start your accompaniment

| 1 & 2 | 1 & 3 | 2 & 4 | 3 & 4 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  |

When you have decided on your first stage of accompaniment try combining it with your ostinato that you composed last lesson. Pair up with a friend and teach them your accompaniment whilst you play the ostinato and do the opposite for them. Manuscript has been provided again if you require it.



<https://ljmusiceducation.school.blog/2019/10/22/step-2-writing-an-accented-accompaniment/>