

# Year 4: Adapting and transposing motifs (Romans)

## Musical style: Motifs

Using Roman mosaics to explore musical motifs.



## Vocabulary

- Motif** A short repeated pattern of notes.
- Ostinato** A repeating musical pattern.
- Riff** A short repeated phrase in pop music and jazz.
- Rhythm** A pattern of long and short sounds (and silences) within a piece of music.
- Backing track** A recorded musical accompaniment.
- Transpose** Move a whole tune or piece of music up or down in key by starting it on a different note.

### Sharp notes

Notes that sound a semitone higher than notes that appear on the lines and spaces of a musical staff.

### Flat notes

Notes that sound a semitone lower than notes that appear on the lines and spaces of a musical staff.

**Notation** The way that music is written so that others can play it.

**Graphic score**  
A way of writing music down using pictures or symbols, rather than standard music notation.

**Letter notation**  
Writing the notes in a melody using letters.

**Rhythmic notation**  
A way of writing musical notes so that the duration of each note is clear.

**Did you know?** The sharp and flat keys are the black keys on a piano and the top row of keys on a glockenspiel.

**# Sharp keys**  
A sharp indicates a higher pitch in the music.

**b Flat keys**  
A flat indicates a lower pitch in the music.