

Max's Musical Rhythm Journal

Learning objective: To identify, compose, and record rhythmic patterns using standard musical notation and terminology.

Join Max the monkey to explore the world of rhythm! Use this template to create your own musical patterns. First, think about the pulse of your piece, then use the boxes to write out your beats using crotchets, quavers, and rests. Finally, explain how your rhythm makes the listener feel.

Word bank: Pulse · Tempo · Crotchet · Quaver · Minim · Rest · Beat · Bar · Time signature

1. Rhythm Discovery: What is the 'pulse' of your music? Describe the speed (tempo) you have chosen and why you think it fits your chosen style. (3 marks)

2. Composition Plan: Write down a 4-beat rhythm pattern using musical note names (e.g., Crotchet, Quaver-Quaver, Crotchet, Rest). (3 marks)

3. Beat Breakdown: If a crotchet costs 1 beat, how many beats would a minim and two quavers combined be worth? Show your maths working out. (3 marks)

4. Rhythmic Feel: Describe the mood your rhythm creates. Does it sound like a fast, energetic dance or a slow, calm walk? Why? (3 marks)

5. Performance Reflection: If you were to add a percussion instrument to your rhythm, which would you choose and how would you play it to keep the beat steady? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try performing your rhythm for a partner. Can they clap it back to you perfectly? If you want an extra challenge, try adding a different rhythmic pattern for your left and right hands to play at the same time!