



STUDENT ASSIGNMENT SHEET

Composing a Melody in D Dorian

Assignment:

Write a simple melody like a folk tune or lullaby. The melody is to be eight measures long in 4/4 time, and will begin and end on the same middle D. You are to use only the *white* keys (D Dorian mode).

Procedure:

1. Open a new file: File > New.
2. Name the file “D Melody __” (your initials).
3. Add a software instrument track.
4. Choose a standard flute or violin instrument.
5. Set the metronome at 85–95.
6. The melody is to be eight complete measures long. You can record in short 1- or 2-measure segments.
7. You *must* record as close to the click as possible.
8. Begin and end on the same middle D.
9. Use only the white keys.
10. Keep it simple and follow these guidelines:
 - a. Record one note at a time. Do not press two keys together.
 - b. Use only one or two notes per beat (quarter notes and eighth notes).
 - c. Use stepwise motion, one note next to the other.
 - d. After a leap (skipping of a few notes), continue in stepwise motion.
 - e. The fifth measure (halfway point or B section) can start on D (root or home tone) or the higher A (5th above).
 - f. Repeat one- or two-measure small ideas. You can copy and paste after you have quantized the measure or measures.
 - g. Quantize after you record and before you record anything else.