Nat 5 Music

Bass lines, Chords, Popular Styles

For Nat 5 music, you need to know a range of musical concepts under the following headings:

- **Styles**
- **Melody / Harmony**
- **Rhythm / Tempo**
- **Texture / Structure / Form**
- **Timbre**

See the back of this booklet for a concept dictionary

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Styles					
• Blues	☐	• African music	☐	• Aria	☐
• Jazz	☐	• Baroque	☐	• Bothy ballad	☐
• Latin American	☐	• Concerto	☐	• Celtic rock	☐
• Musical	☐	• Mouth music	☐	• Chorus	☐
• Pop	☐	• Opera	☐	• Classical	☐
• Rock	☐	• Ragtime	☐	• Gaelic psalm	☐
• Rock'n'roll	☐	• Rapping	☐	• Gospel	☐
• Scottish	☐	• Reggae	☐	• Indian	☐
		• Romantic	☐	• Minimalist	☐
		• Scots ballad	☐	• Pibroch	☐
		• Swing	☐	• Symphony	☐
				• Waulking song	☐

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Melody / Harmony					
• Ascending/Descending	☐	• Accidentals - *flats, sharps, naturals*	☐	• Atonal / Cluster	☐
• Chord	☐	• Broken chord/arpeggio	☐	• Chord progressions I-IV-V-VI in major keys	☐
• Chord change	☐	• Change of key	☐	• Chromatic	☐
• Discord	☐	• Chord progressions I-IV-V	☐	• Contrary motion	☐
• Improvisation	☐	• Drone	☐	• Countermelody	☐
• Leap	☐	• Major/minor tonality	☐	• Descant (voice)	☐
• Q&A	☐	• Octave	☐	• Glissando	☐
• Repetition	☐	• Ornament	☐	• Grace note	☐
• Sequence	☐	• Pedal	☐	• Imperfect/perfect cadences	☐
• Step	☐	• Pentatonic	☐	• Inverted pedal	☐
		• Scale	☐	• Key signatures - C, F, G major; A minor	☐
		• Scat singing	☐	• Modulation	☐
		• Semitone	☐	• Pitch bend	☐
		• Tone	☐	• Syllabic/melismatic	☐
		• Vamp	☐	• Tone/semitone	☐
				• Trill	☐
				• Whole-tone scale	☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Rhythm / Tempo					
• 2-3-4 beats per bar	☐	• A tempo	☐	• 1st and 2nd time bars	☐
• Adagio	☐	• Accelerando	☐	• Compound time (6/8 , 9/8, 12/8)	☐
• Allegro	☐	• Anacrusis	☐	• Cross-rhythms	☐
• Beat/pulse	☐	• Andante	☐	• Moderato	☐
• Drum fill	☐	• Compound time	☐	• Ritardando	☐
• March	☐	• Dotted rhythms	☐	• Rubato	☐
• On/off beat	☐	• Jig	☐		
• Pause	☐	• Rallentando	☐		
• Reel	☐	• Repeat signs	☐		
• Repetition	☐	• Scotch snap	☐		
• Slower/faster	☐	• Simple time (2-3-4)	☐		
• Waltz	☐	• Strathspey	☐		
• Accent / accented	☐	• Syncopation	☐		

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Timbre / Dynamics					
Woodwind	piccolo, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon. saxophone, recorder				☐
Brass	trumpet, french horn, trombone, tuba				☐
Strings	violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp				☐
Percussion	timpani, snare drum, bass drum, xylophone, glockenspiel, cymbals, triangle, tambourine, guiro, castanets, hi-hat cymbals, drum kit				☐
World / Scottish	bagpipes, clarsach, accordion, fiddle, bodhran, sitar, tabla, panpipes, steel drums, bongo drums				☐
Voices	soprano, mezzo soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, bass, backing vocals				☐
Keyboard	piano, organ, harpsichord				☐
Guitar	acoustic guitar, electric guitar				☐
Dynamics	*pp, p, mp, mf, f, ff, sfz, crescendo, diminuendo*				☐
• Folk group	☐	• brass band	☐	• A cappella	☐
• legato	☐	• distortion	☐	• arco	☐
• Scottish dance band	☐	• muted	☐	• con sordino	☐
• staccato	☐	• wind band	☐	• flutter tonguing	☐
• Steel band	☐			• pizzicato	☐
				• reverb	☐
				• rolls	☐

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Texture / Structure / Form					
• accompanied	☐	• Cadenza	☐	• Alberti bass	☐
• Harmony/chord	☐	• Canon	☐	• Binary/AB	☐
• Ostinato/riff	☐	• Imitation	☐	• Coda	☐
• Round	☐	• Middle 8	☐	• Contrapuntal	☐
• Solo	☐	• Ternary/ABA	☐	• Ground bass	☐
• unaccompanied	☐	• Theme and Variation	☐	• Homophonic	☐
• Unison/octave	☐	• Verse and Chorus	☐	• Polyphonic	☐
				• Rondo/ABACA (episode)	☐
				• Strophic	☐
				• Walking bass	☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Listen to and follow the score of Mozart's sonata in C. Look out for **melody / harmony** concepts and tick and that you notice using the grid below.

Nat 3		Nat 4		Nat 5	
Melody / Harmony					
• Ascending/Descending	☐	• Accidentals - *flats, sharps, naturals*	☐	• Atonal / Cluster	☐
• Chord	☐	• Broken chord/arpeggio	☐	• Chord progressions I-IV-V-VI in major keys	☐
• Chord change	☐	• Change of key	☐	• Chromatic	☐
• Discord	☐	• Chord progressions I-IV-V	☐	• Contrary motion	☐
• Improvisation	☐	• Drone	☐	• Countermelody	☐
• Leap	☐	• Major/minor tonality	☐	• Descant (voice)	☐
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• Sequence	☐	• Pedal	☐	• Imperfect/perfect cadences	☐
• Step	☐	• Pentatonic	☐	• Inverted pedal	☐
		• Scale	☐	• Key signatures - C, F, G major; A minor	☐
		• Scat singing	☐	• Modulation	☐
		• Semitone	☐	• Pitch bend	☐
		• Tone	☐	• Syllabic/melismatic	☐
		• Vamp	☐	• Tone/semitone	☐
				• Trill	☐
				• Whole-tone scale	☐



LIVEWORKSHEETS



Now see if there are any concepts in other categories that you can find & add them here:

Rhythm / Tempo	
Texture/Structure/Form	
Timbre / Dynamics	
Style	

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Bass lines & Chords

- ALBERTI BASS

Broken chords played by the left-hand outlining harmonies whilst the right hand plays the melody. Typically, the notes are presented in the order *lowest, highest, middle, highest.* The broken chord pattern helps to create a smooth, sustained, flowing sound on the piano or as an accompaniment pattern on other instruments. **Classical** composers (e.g. Haydn and Mozart) used this technique extensively. It gets its name from the composer, Domenico Alberti, who used it in his compositions.



Name these notes

An **ALBERTI BASS LINE** has the following musical features:



- It is an **ACCOMPANIMENT PATTERN**, often in the **BASS LINE**.
- It is based on the **ROOT, THIRD** and **FIFTH** notes of a **CHORD**.
- The notes of the **CHORD** are played in a specific order:

ROOT	FIFTH	THIRD	FIFTH
Lowest	*Highest*	*Middle*	*Highest*



- It's normally repeated but the notes change as the chord changes.
- There is normally a **MELODY** line (the main 'tune') on top of the **ALBERTI BASS LINE** giving a **HOMOPHONIC (MELODY AND ACCOMPANIMENT) TEXTURE**.
- Used by Classical composers, especially in solo piano music, such as Sonatas.

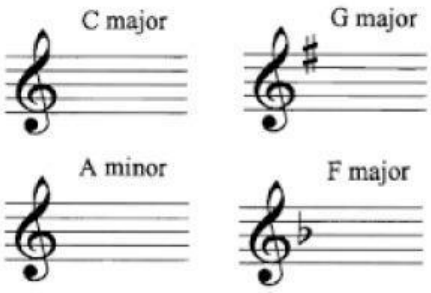
Key signatures/ Chords

A **key signature** tells you that certain notes have a # or b. For example, G major has F# notes.

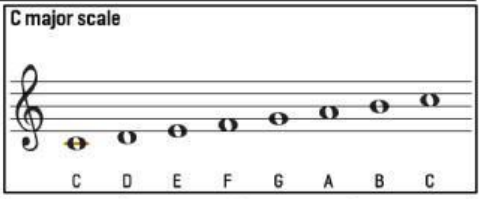
The **key signature** is written before the time signature.

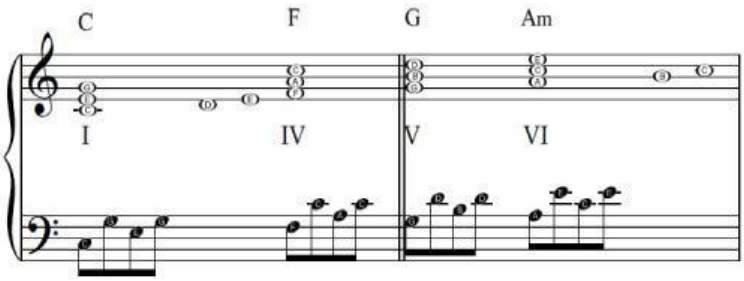


Here are the **key signatures** of some keys:



Each note of the scale can form a chord. The main chords in each key are built on the 1st, 4th, 5th & 6th degrees of the scale to form chords I, IV, V, VI





C	F	G	Am
I	IV	V	VI



Practise playing the chords using the single finger setting on your keyboard. Then try with the alberti bass patterns

Write in the notes that make up each of these chords in the boxes:



C	
F	

G	
Am	

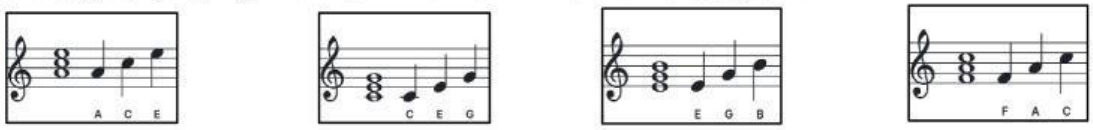
LIVEWORKSHEETS



Modern composers such as Einaudi have also used ALBERTI BASS patterns

- Listen to a short extract of *Experience* by Einaudi and answer the questions below. Notice that the same chord pattern is repeated.
- Have a go at playing the main theme with alberti bass pattern.

Chords used:





1. Which of the following Italian terms best describes the **TEMPO** of *Experience*?

☐ Adagio ☐ Moderato ☐ Allegro ☐ Accelerando

2. Another tempo term that would describe how the player is performing this is **RUBATO**. What does this mean and what effect does it have on the performance?

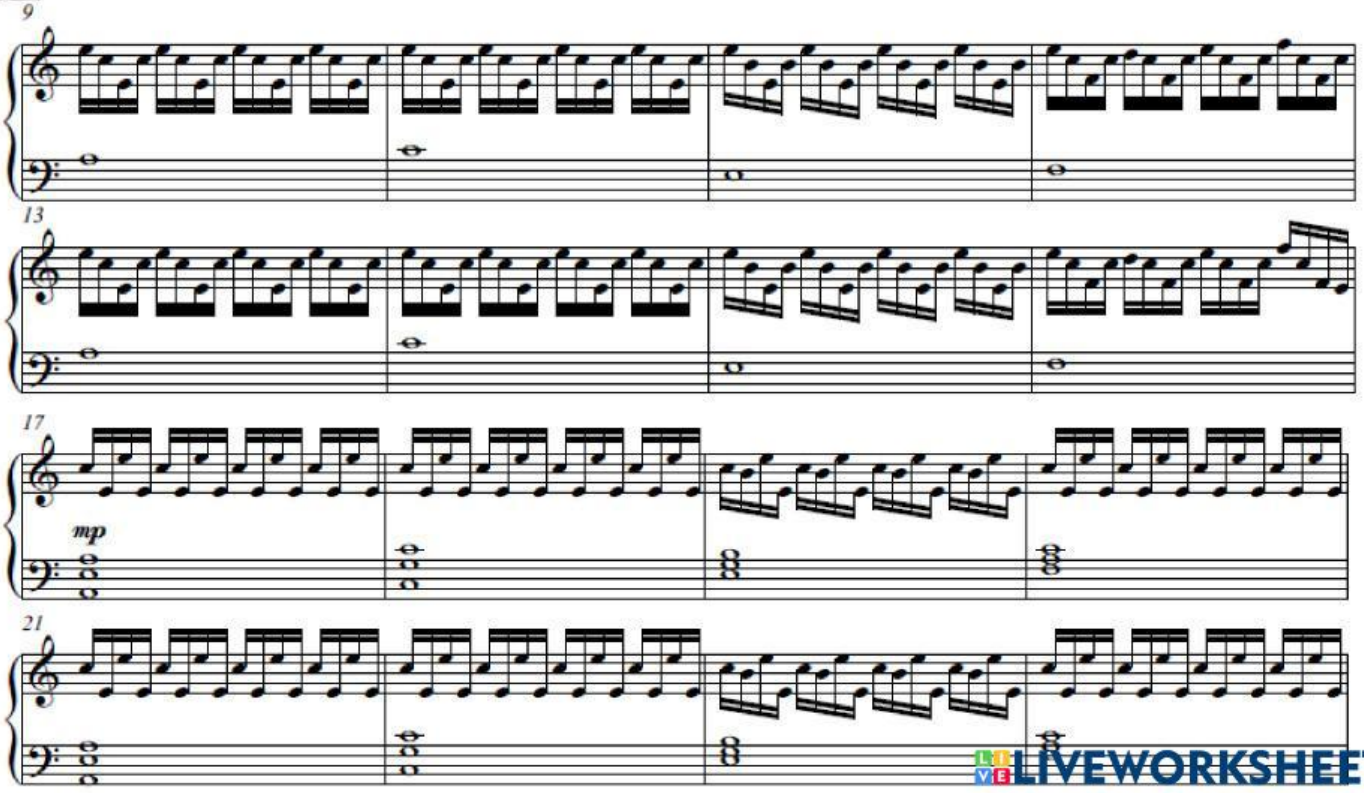
_____

3. Which of the following **TEXTURES** best describes *Experience*?



_____

Challenge: Try playing the next part of *Experience*, which has the same chord pattern.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Texture

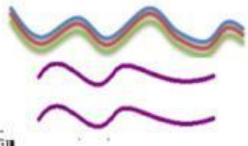
Music is built up of LAYERS.

The way these layers interweave creates different effects within the music.

Unison

"Uni" = "One"

Definition: One melody is performed by multiple voices or instruments simultaneously at the SAME pitch.
or in OCTAVES (ie same note but at a lower or higher octave)

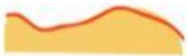




Homophonic

"homo" + "phonic" = "homophonic"
"same" + "sound" = "same sounds"

Definition: All parts moving together as chords or melody and chordal accompaniment.







Polyphonic

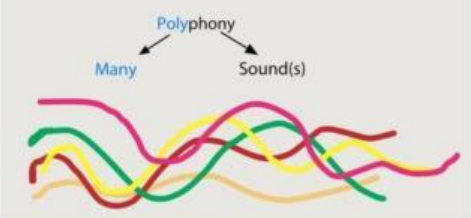
"poly" + "phonic" = "polyphonic"
"many" + "sound" = "many sounds"

Definition: Music that contains two or more melodic lines simultaneously.

The parts weave round each other and there can be lots of IMITATION.
Also known as
CONTRAPUNTAL



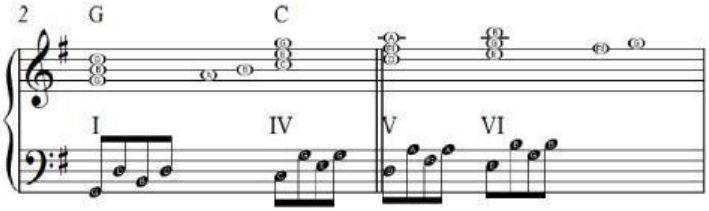




Try the following **Texture** quiz

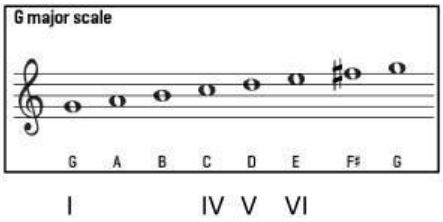
LIVEWORKSHEETS

In G major, chord I is G, chord IV is C, chord V is D, chord VI is Em



If there is a **key signature**, it is written at the beginning of every stave.

The time signature is written only on the first stave.



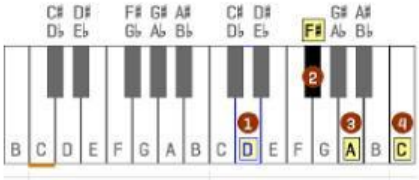
REMEMBER - Each note of the scale can form a chord. The main chords in each key are built on the 1st, 4th, 5th & 6th degrees of the scale to form chords I, IV, V, VI

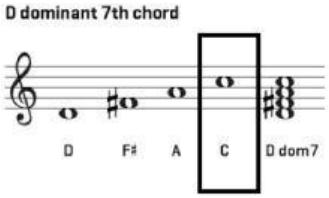
Write in the notes that make up these chords in the boxes below.

G	
C	

D	
Em	

An extra 7th can be added especially to chord V to create a V7.







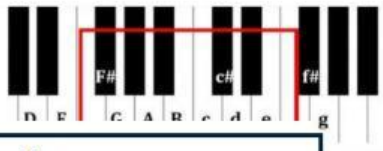
Constructing and Performing Alberti Bass Line Patterns

The score below shows the opening of another piece of music from the Classical period by the composer Thomas Attwood: *Sonatina in G Major*, which uses an **ALBERTI BASS LINE** (in the **BASS CLEF**) using **CHORD I**, **CHORD IV**, **CHORD V**, **CHORD V7** and **CHORD VI**. Fill in the missing **ALBERTI BASS LINE** patterns using chords **CHORD IV**, **CHORD V** and **CHORD VI**, then try performing the piece.

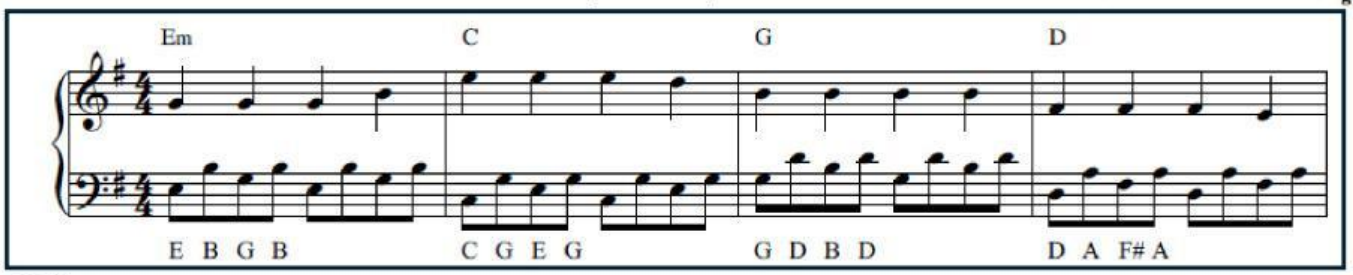


LIVEWORKSHEETS

Learn to play the boxed melody and alberti bass on a keyboard/ piano / guitar of 'Faded' by Alan Walker.

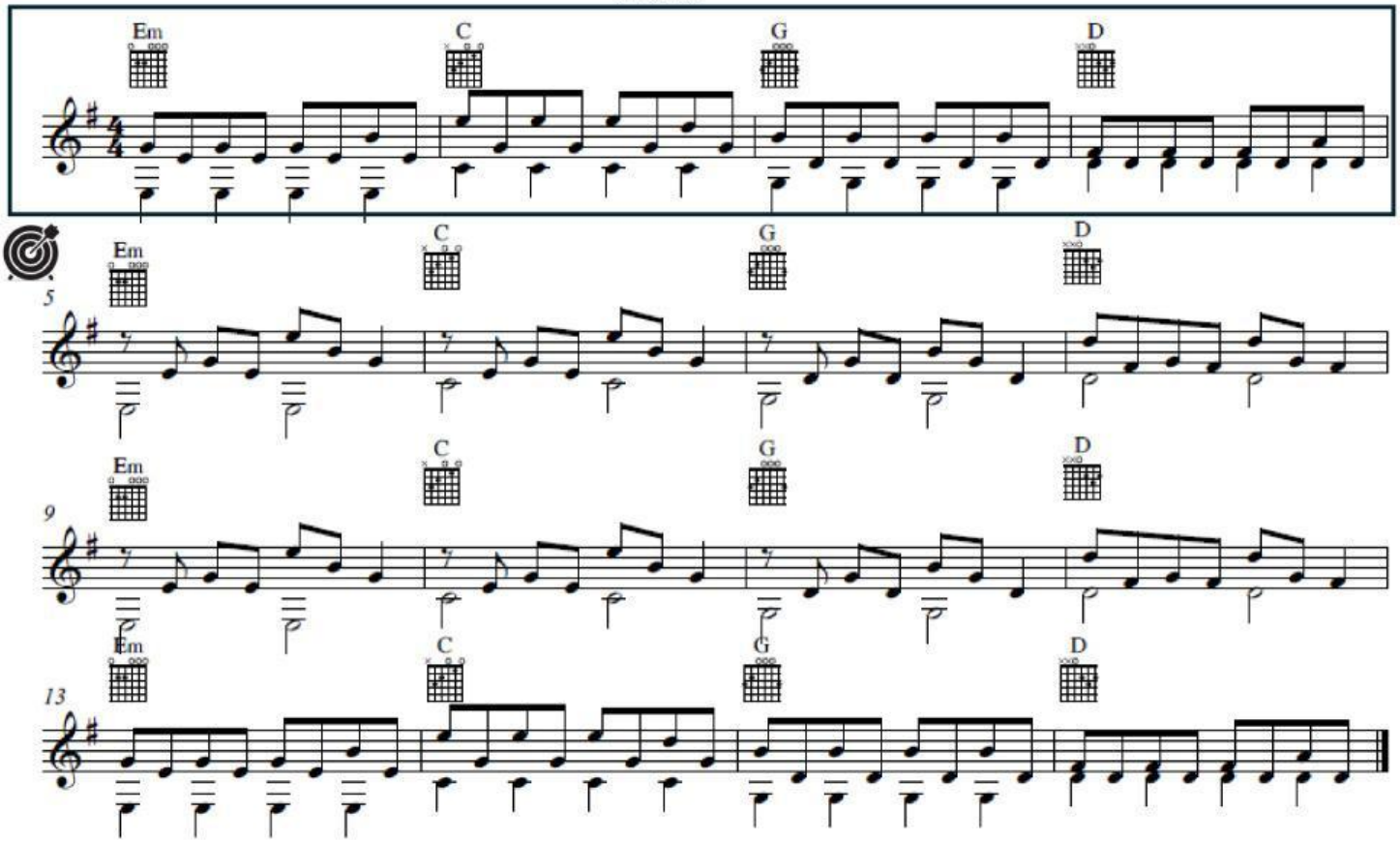


Keyboard/ piano



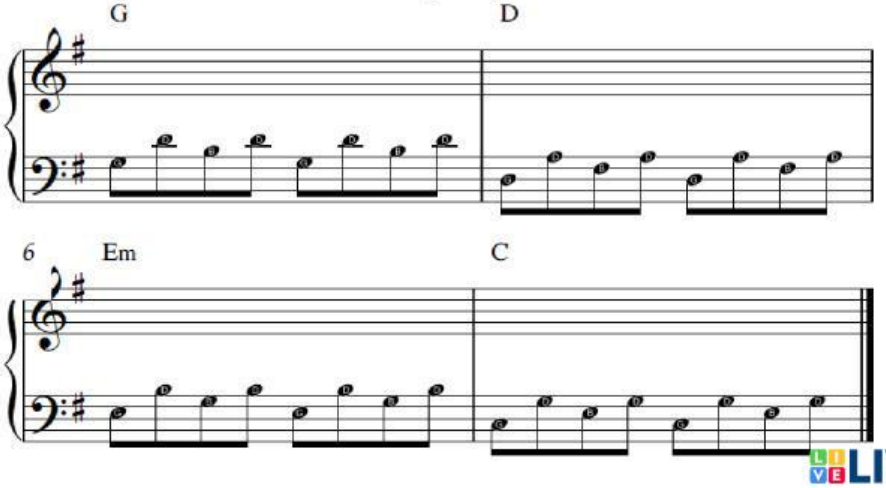
Challenge: Have a go at the fuller piano version on the next page.

Guitar



Composing Task

- Practise playing the chords of this <u>different progression</u>– use the single finger setting on your keyboard and then try the alberti bass pattern.
- Try writing a simple tune above the alberti bass (see below), making sure that the notes fit the chord. Remember the Faded tune is very simple but effective!



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Keyboard/ piano extension version of *Faded*



LIVEWORKSHEETS