

# New Wave

Late 1970s to early 80s

- New Wave is a term used to describe the music in the few years after Punk (1978 onwards).
- It can also be known as Post-Punk. It retains the hard-edged sound and aggression of punk, but with a more melodic focus.
- It uses **synthesisers, drums, electric guitar with at least some distortion, and electric bass**.
- As a guitar-based form of rock music it tends to have a homophonic texture. Its feel can be somewhat loose and ragged in common with its punk origins.
- Vocal pronunciation may be exaggerated.

## Key innovator:

- Blondie
- The Police
- New Order

## Key attributes:

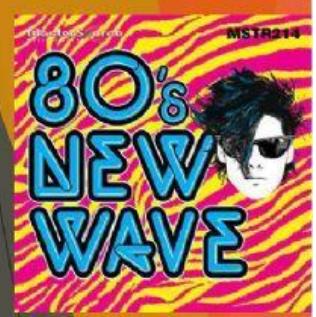
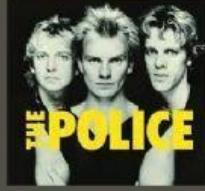
- Simple chord structure
- Simple vocal melody
- Prominent bass line
- High pitched vocals
- Agitated, choppy rhythms

## Key Technology:

- Strong use of Synthesiser
- Distortion on electric guitar
  - Phaser effects

## Influences

- Punk
- Hard rock
- Reggae
- Funk



LIVE WORKSHEETS

# New wave Listening

- ▶ Elvis Costello- *Pump it up* (1978)
- ▶ Blondie- *Heart of glass* (1978)

## Key Technology:

- Strong use of Synthesiser
- Distortion on electric guitar
- Phaser effects

- ▶ The Police- *Message in a bottle* (1979)

- ▶ One way or another (1978)

## Key attributes:

- Simple chord structure
- Simple vocal melody
- Prominent bass line
- High pitched vocals
- Agitated, choppy rhythms

- ▶ Talking heads - *Psycho Killer* (1979)

# Bass Guitar - Tech Developments

How it developed	Key features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The first commercially successful bass was the Fender Precision Bass, introduced in <u>1951</u> by Leo Fender.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pick-ups on the bass transform the vibrations of the strings into electrical energy that can then be sent to an amplifier.</li><li>The metal strings have magnetic properties and so interact with the pick-ups.</li><li>This magnetic action creates the electric current that will be amplified to make sound.</li><li>The electrical output must then be amplified.</li></ul>

# Electric Guitar - Tech Developments

How it developed	Key features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Fender Broadcaster/Telecaster was the first successfully commercial solid-body electric guitar.</li><li>• It was released in <b>1950</b>.</li><li>• <b>Leo Fender</b> designed the guitar.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An electric guitar uses magnetic pickups to convert the vibration of the strings into electrical signals.</li><li>• The electrical output must then be amplified.</li></ul>

# Indie Music

mostly 1990s but up to present day

- 'Indie' (derived from 'independent') was originally used to describe artists/bands who chose not to sign for any of the major record companies. As a result of keeping their independence, these artists/bands were free to produce what they wanted when they wanted.
- Indie music is hugely diverse, meaning that there are a wide variety of styles/influences in. It is generally characterised by **catchy lead guitars, energetic drum beats and wordy lyrics**
- 'Indie' has close ties with 'Alternative Rock' music which included bands such as *Oasis, Nirvana and R.E.M*

## Key innovator:

- **The Smiths**
- **Happy Mondays**
- **Franz Ferdinand**

## Key attributes:

- Ostinato/ riff
- driving rhythm section
- unpolished vocals
- Electric guitar is main harmonic instrument

## Instrumentation

- **Vocals (usually male)**
- **Backing Vocals**
- **Two guitarists - Lead and Rhythm**
- **Keyboards**
- **Bass**
- **Drums**

## Key Technology:

- electric guitar as main harmony instrument
  - Low fi recording
- Distortion/ overdrive on guitar
- Voice in middle of the mix

# Indie Listening

The Smiths - *What difference does it make?* (1983)

New Order - *Blue Monday* (1983)

Happy Mondays- *Bellyaches* (1990)

Blur- *Leisure*(1991)

## Key attributes:

- Ostinato/ riff
- driving rhythm section
- unpolished vocals
- Electric guitar is main harmonic instrument

## Key Technology:

- electric guitar as main harmony instrument
  - Low fi recording
- Distortion/ overdrive on guitar
- Voice in middle of the mix