

diatonic	first note
triad	cadence
harmony	melodic

What is Tonic in Music

In music, the tonic is the _____ (or scale degree) of the _____. The tonic also refers to the final resolution tone or the tonal center that appears in the last _____ in tonal music whether it's classical, traditional, or popular music.

The term tonic in music can also describe the tonic _____ (chord) or the tonic function.

Explaining the Tonic

Time to explain what I just said in the section above in a simpler way. So, the tonic is basically the **note or pitch that clues you** in about the construction of a _____ arrangement and helps you understand a song's form as well as the _____ of a piece.

For most musicians, the tonic is the North on their musical compass — the one thing they're certain of and can always come back to when lost.

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What is Tonic in Music

In music, the tonic is the **first note** (or scale degree) of the diatonic scale. The tonic also refers to the final resolution tone or the tonal center that appears in the last cadence in tonal music whether it's classical, traditional, or popular music.

The term tonic in music can also describe the tonic triad (chord) or the tonic function.

Explaining the Tonic

Time to explain what I just said in the section above in a simpler way. So, the tonic is basically the **note or pitch that clues you** in about the construction of a melodic arrangement and helps you understand a song's form as well as the **harmony** of a piece.

For most musicians, the tonic is the North on their musical compass — the one thing they're certain of and can always come back to when lost.

As I said earlier, the tonic is the initial note or scale degree of the diatonic scale. For example, if the key is A-flat major, then the tonic is A-flat. If you're in C major, then the tonic is C. You can conclude from these examples that **scales get their names from their tonics**.

By now, you can probably tell that the tonic, in any key, is the primary note. So it'll make sense when I tell you that there's another name for the tonic: the keynote.