

Elements of Music

(Definitions from California Visual and Performing Arts Framework,
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/documents/vpafamework.pdf>)

Elements of Music

Melody, harmony, rhythm, and form and the expressive elements of dynamics, tempo, and timbre (tone color).

Melody

An organized sequence of single notes.

Harmony

The simultaneous sounding of two or more tones.

Rhythm

The combinations of long and short, even or uneven sounds that convey a sense of movement in time.

Form

The organization and structure of a composition and the interrelationships of musical events within the overall structure.

Dynamics

Varying degrees of volume in the performance of music.

Tempo

The pace at which music moves according to the speed of the underlying beat.

Timbre

Tone color or quality of sound heard.