

Music Masters

**A is for:
Abba or Albinoni?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Abba



- ABBA were a Swedish pop supergroup formed in Stockholm in 1972 by Agnetha Fältskog, Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad. The group's name is made up of the first letters of their first names.
- They became one of the most commercially successful acts in the history of popular music, topping the charts worldwide from 1974 to 1982. Estimates of ABBA's total record sales are over 150 million!
- Their catchy tunes, emotional lyrics and eye-catching costumes made them a hit with fans then and now.
- You may already know their song *Mamma Mia*, but this week we have *Dancing Queen* from 1976.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFrGuyw1V8s>

Albinoni



- Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1751) was a composer from Venice in Italy. He is known as a Baroque composer, as he was producing music between the years of 1600 and 1750 and this is the name given to music of that period.
- He came from a wealthy family and as a child studied the violin and singing. At the time he was best known for his operas, which are theatre productions where music and singing are the most important things. Although he was very popular at the time, nearly all of his fifty operas have been lost as they weren't published at the time. However some of his instrumental work has survived.
- We are going to hear Albinoni's Adagio, although some people think he did not actually write all of it. It is used in many films and T.V show as as it a very emotional piece of music.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMbvcp480Y4>

Music Masters

B is for:

The Beatles or Beethoven?

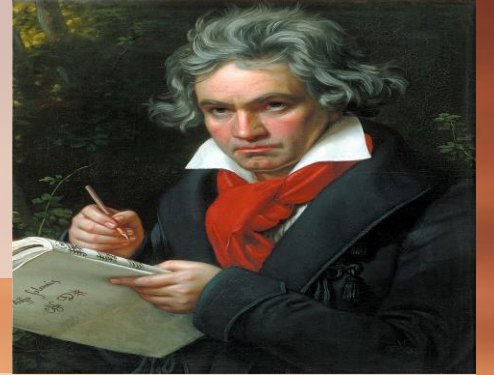
Who will be this week's Music Master?

The Beatles



- The Beatles were an English rock band formed in Liverpool in 1960. With a line-up comprising John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, they are regarded as the most influential band of all time. The group were very important in getting pop music to be recognised as a form of art that was equal to all the others.
- Young people especially loved them as they were exciting and very different to the music their parents listened to. They experimented with lots of different sounds such as classical music, Indian music and rock and roll which made each their songs fresh and original.
- This week we will listen to an early song called *Twist and Shout* from 1963, which drew on the Twist dance craze. Maybe your teacher will show you how to do it!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b-VAxGJdJeQ>

Beethoven



- Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827) was a German composer and pianist. He is considered to be one of the greatest composers of all time.
- His musical talent was obvious from when he was very young, so his father decided he would teach him. But he was strict and very harsh. Sometimes he would drag his five year old son out of bed in the middle of the night to practice the piano!
- By the age of forty four Beethoven was nearly totally deaf. Despite this, he was still able to compose wonderful music in his head. His life was not a happy one, as all of the ladies he loved would not marry him. He died at the age of fifty six from an unknown cause.
- Some of his music is light and beautiful whilst some is dark and dramatic. This week we are going dramatic with his Fifth Symphony written between 1804 and 1808.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4IRMYuE1hl

Music Masters

C is for:

The Country or Western?

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Cheat!

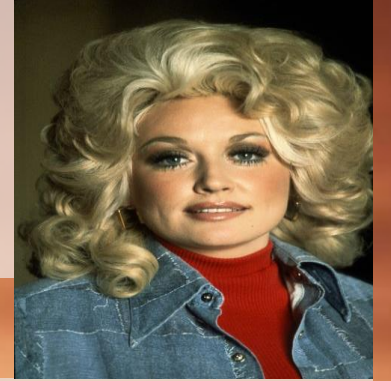


- This week is a bit of a cheat because the type of music we will listen to is called *Country and Western* and the choice will really be between two singers.
- Country music, also known as country and western or hillbilly music, is a genre of popular music that originated in the Southern United States in the early 1920s.

It takes its roots from American folk music and blues (traditional songs).

- It uses guitars, violins and harmonicas as instruments. The lyrics are often about how hard life is or problems that people face.

Dolly Parton



- Dolly Rebecca Parton (born in 1946) is an American singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, record producer, actress, author, businesswoman, and humanitarian, known for her work in country music.
- She came from an extremely poor family and some of her early songs were about what it was like to grow up in such poverty. She is now a very rich woman but has never forgotten her childhood. She now uses her wealth to help under-privileged children.
- Her more recent songs are upbeat and she has even starred in some popular films like *Nine to Five*. She is known for wearing big blonde wigs and sparkly costumes.
- This week we have her singing a duet with another country legend called Kenny Rogers. *This is Islands in the Stream* from 1982.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiwcOaaRo1Y>

Johnny Cash



- John R. "Johnny" Cash (1932 – 2003) was an American singer, songwriter, musician, actor, and author. He is one of the best-selling music artists of all time, having sold more than 90 million records worldwide.
- His music included country, rock and roll, rockabilly, blues, folk, and gospel. He was known for his calm deep voice, with train-like rhythms in the music. He was nicknamed the Man in Black as this was the colour he wore for most of his concerts.
- This week we have *Ring of Fire* from 1963, written by his wife June Carter. She was having some problems with him at the time!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=It7107ELQvY>

Music Masters

D is for:

Duets- Sonny & Cher or Danny & Sandy

Who will be this week's Music Master?

What is a duet?

- A duet is a piece of music for two performers in which the performers have equal importance. A duet can involve singers or people playing instruments. The performers take turns performing a solo section each, as well as playing or singing together.



Sonny & Cher



- Sonny & Cher were an American rock duo of entertainers made up of husband-and-wife Sonny Bono and Cher Sarkisian in the 1960s and 1970s.
- In the 1970s, they had two top TV shows in the USA, *The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour* and *The Sonny & Cher Show*. The couple's career as a duo ended in 1975 following their divorce. In the decade they spent together, Sonny and Cher sold over 40 million records worldwide.
- Sonny gave up music for politics and Cher is still popular today with her music and in films.
- This week we have their most famous duet I Got You Babe from 1965.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BERd61bDY7k>

John Travolta and Olivia Newton John



- John Travolta is an American actor, singer and dancer. He rose to fame during the 1970s, appearing in television series and popular films.
- Olivia Newton John is an English-Australian singer, songwriter, actress and dancer. She is one of the world's best selling artistes with 100 million records sold world wide.
- In 1978 she teamed up with John Travolta in the film *Grease*, set in an American high school in the 1950's. He played Danny and she played Sandy. The film had many hit songs and is still popular today.
- This week we have *Summer Nights* from *Grease*.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucU5c9illlc>

Music Masters

**E is for:
ELO or Elgar?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

ELO



- The Electric Light Orchestra are an English rock band formed in Birmingham in 1970 by songwriters and multi-instrumentalists Jeff Lynne and Roy Wood with drummer Bev Bevan. Their music is a mixture of pop, classical arrangements and futuristic electronic sounds.
- As well as the usual instruments used in rock groups they also used violins and cellos that are usually found in an orchestra. The band still perform today with Jeff Lynne.
- This week we have *Mr Blue Sky* from 1977 one of the group's biggest hits.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQUIA8Hcv4s>

Elgar



- **Sir Edward William Elgar (1857 – 1934)** was an English composer from Worcestershire (just south of Birmingham). Among his best-known compositions are the *Enigma Variations* and the *Pomp and Circumstance Marches* and they are some of the most popular classical works in the world. He conducted the LSO (London Symphony Orchestra) and was appointed Master of the King's Music in 1924.
- He was one of the first composers to take the new technology of recorded music seriously. In his day records played on a gramophone and the sound came through a horn.
- This week we have Pomp and Circumstance March number 1, otherwise known as Land of Hope and Glory.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vvgl_2JRIUs



Music Masters

F is for:

Fiddle or Flute?

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Fiddle



- The violin, sometimes known as a fiddle, is a wooden stringed instrument . Most violins have a hollow wooden body with four strings. The player holds it under their chin and plays either by pulling a bow across them or plucking them with their fingers.
- The first violins were made in Italy in the 1500's and became very popular. Some early violins are still in use today and are worth millions of pounds. Better be careful no one accidentally sits on one of those when you put them down!
- They can be used in many different genres of music from classical to folk, jazz to country.
- This week we have Nigel Kennedy, a famous violinist, playing Vivaldi's Four Seasons with members of Palestine Strings.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDXBnS8mZ0E>

Flute



- The flute is a family of musical instruments in the woodwind group. Unlike most woodwind instruments with reeds, a flute produces its sound from the flow of air across an opening. A musician who plays the flute can be referred to as a flute player, flautist, flutist or even a fluter or flutenist!
- Flutes are probably the some of the oldest instruments as archaeological digs have found simple versions of the instrument that date back to around 35,000 years ago!
- Here we have Yeojin Han showing us some extraordinary playing from Mozart's Flute Concerto number 2.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKrO7lzx-nk>

Music Masters

G is for:

George Gershwin or George Ezra?

Who will be this week's Music Master?

George Gershwin



- George Gershwin (1898 – 1937) was an American composer and pianist whose compositions spanned both popular and classical genres. Among his best-known works are the orchestral compositions *Rhapsody in Blue*, *An American in Paris* and the songs *Swanee* and *Fascinating Rhythm*. He even wrote an opera called opera *Porgy and Bess*, containing the hit song *Summertime*. His brother Ira often wrote the words to his songs.
- He wasn't interested in music at all until he was ten years old when he heard his friend play the violin. He died when he was only thirty eight of a brain tumour. His music is still massively popular today.
- This week we have Judy Garland singing *I Got Rhythm* from the 1943 film *Girl Crazy*.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ2z-C8HdiA>

George Ezra



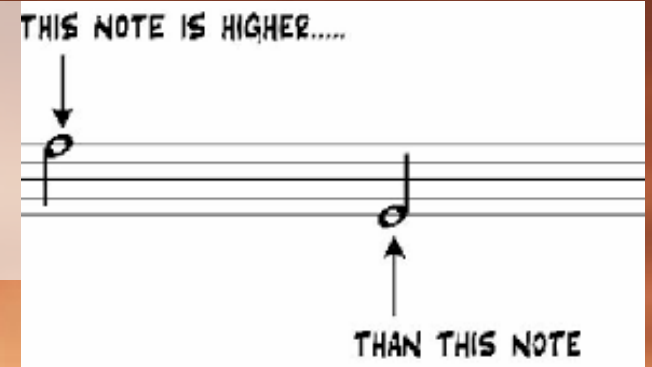
- George Ezra Barnett (born 1993) is an English singer, songwriter and guitarist. Ezra rose to prominence with the release of his hit single, *Budapest*, which reached number one in several countries. His debut studio album, *Wanted on Voyage*, was released in June 2014, reaching number one in the UK and the top ten in seven other countries.
- He comes from a very musical family. When he tours, he takes his sister Jessica and his brother Ethan with him. George has studied many different types of music.
- This week we have his hit *Shotgun*. It is a song about friendship.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_B3qkp4nO4

Music Masters

**H is for:
High or Low?**

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Pitch



- Pitch means how high or low music sounds to us.
- Musical notes are written on five lines called the staff. Where the notes are on the staff tells musicians which note to sing or play.
- Notes that are written at the top of the staff are high and ones at the bottom are low.
- People's singing voices are also different, depending on how high or low they can sing. A soprano is a high female voice, an alto is a low one. A tenor is a high male voice and a bass is a low one.

High



- Most music is a mixture of high and low pitch but sometimes pieces can be one or the other.
- This high piece is from the opera *The Magic Flute* written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. It was written in 1791 and is sung in German.
- The name of the piece translates from German as *Hell's Vengeance Boils in my Heart*. It is sung by a character called the Queen of the Night. Here she is telling her daughter that unless she kills her enemy, she will disown her. What a lovely lady! Here it is sung by the soprano Diana Damrau.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuBeBjqKSGQ>

Low



- For our low voice we have Paul Robeson. He was an American singer and actor who was known for his opposition to the Nazis and his support of Civil Rights. His parents had been slaves and he campaigned for equal rights for black people in America.
- Here he sings a song from the hit musical *Show Boat*. In it he plays Joe, a poor worker, who's job it is to load and unload boats going up and down the Mississippi river. The work is hard and poorly paid. He sings a song called *Ol' Man River* about his hard life.
- It became a hit song and was used by Paul Robeson to communicate the message against racism.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVEzygl83EM>

Music Masters

I is for:

Idina Menzel - Wicked or Frozen?

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Idina Menzel



- Musicals are very popular on film and in the theatre. They are stories that combine acting and songs.
- Idina Menzel (born in 1971) is an American actress, singer and songwriter. She has played many hit roles in musicals on Broadway (a group of theatres in New York).
- One of her most famous roles is as the witch Elphaba in *Wicked*, which is based on the *Wizard of Oz* story by Frank Baum.
- In this she sings *Defying Gravity*, about how she is going to break away and follow her own dreams.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsIDnwerQRA>

Is it Cold in Here?



- Singers can take on all different kinds of characters and can work in theatre and films, rock and pop, classical and choral. There is a type of singing for just about any voice. Sometimes you may never have seen a singer but you will have heard their voice.
- You may think that you have never heard Idina sing before. But if you have ever watched the Disney film *Frozen*, then you have!
- She plays Elsa, the Queen of Arendelle, who possesses magical ice powers.
- She sings the popular song *Let it Go!* Join in if you know the words! Come on now, don't pretend you don't know them!
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QVJZ_LVDIw

Music Masters

**J is for:
Jazz or Jamiroquai?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Jazz



- Jazz is a music genre that originated in the African-American communities of New Orleans, United States. It started in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- Most music has a lot of repetition in it, but jazz contains different rhythms in one song, notes that seem to swing and entertaining vocals that don't always follow the same pattern throughout the song.
- Here we have a performer called Fats Waller, who was a pianist, singer, violinist, composer and a comic actor. Was there nothing he couldn't do? This is one of his most famous songs called *Ain't Misbehavin'* from the film *Stormy Weather*.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSNPpssruFY>

Jamiroquai



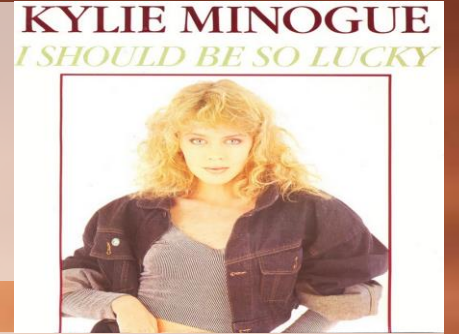
- Jamiroquai are an English band that play funk and modern jazz.
- They are led by the singer Jay Kay who is well known for his strange head wear.
- Their influences come from music of the 1970's, tunes from South America and Rock. Their sound has a real mix of styles and keeps to the more unpredictable style of jazz.
- Worldwide they have sold over 26 million albums.
- The song we will hear is from 1997 and is called *Virtual Insanity*.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Jkls37a2JE>

Music Masters

**K is for:
Kylie or The Kinks?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Kylie



- Kylie Minogue is an Australian actress and singer.
- She first made her name playing Charlene in the Australian soap *Neighbours* in 1986, but she began acting when she was only 10 years old.
- *Neighbours* became extremely popular and Kylie began to work with music producers and songwriters Stock, Aitkin and Waterman. They are one of the most successful teams in pop music and helped Kylie to sell over 70 million records worldwide.
- Here is her first big hit *I Should be So Lucky* from 1987
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_TvpBwSZDM

The Kinks



- The Kinks are an English rock band formed in north London in 1964 by brothers Ray and Dave Davies. They are regarded as one of the most influential rock bands of the 1960's.
- They were influenced by many different music types, but they also reflected the 'cool' British style of the time.
- Ray and Dave fell out, but have now reunited, making The Kinks the longest established of all British bands.
- They have sold more than 50 million records worldwide and entered The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.
- Here is their third single *You Really Got Me* from 1964. This became an international bestseller.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTTsY-oz6Go>

Music Masters

L is for:

Ladysmith Black Mambazo or Lady Gaga?

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Ladysmith Black Mambazo



- Ladysmith Black Mambazo were formed by Joseph Shabalala in 1960 in Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
- They are a male choral group that sings in the vocal styles of *isicathamiya* (meaning tiptoes or softly) and *mbube* (meaning lion or forceful). They have complex harmonies, with clicks, other noises, actions and dances.
- They rose to worldwide prominence as a result of singing with a famous American performer called Paul Simon on his 1986 album *Graceland*. They have won multiple awards, including four Grammy Awards and have come to represent the traditional Zulu musical culture of South Africa.
- This song, called *Homeless*, is from 1986. Do you think it is tiptoes or lion?

[1986https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFQ1TSzdpRA&list=PL9D830989225D6A9C&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFQ1TSzdpRA&list=PL9D830989225D6A9C&index=5)

Lady Gaga



- Stefani Germanotta, known by her stage name Lady Gaga, is an American singer, songwriter, and actress. Born in New York in 1986, she is known for reinventing herself throughout her career with wild costumes and videos.
- She has sold 27 million albums worldwide and is rumoured to be extremely wealthy-with some estimates saying she is worth \$275 million! I wonder if she feels like giving some to us, after all she wouldn't miss the odd million!
- She is known for being very supportive of her fans and them being extremely loyal to her due to her positive messages.
- This song is from the Royal Variety Performance in 2016. It is called *Million Reasons*, obviously her favourite number! Here she is looking quite normal, and this is probably because the Royal Variety Performance is always attended by the Queen or a member of the royal family, so everyone has to be on their best behaviour!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8IUW9SKquY>

Music Masters

**M is for:
Mozart or Madness?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Mozart



- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756 in Salzburg, Austria. He had great fame and popularity during his life, but little money. He was so talented he could compose all types of music and he was a very hard worker. Some people have said he was a Rock Star of his day!
- His musical talent began early. At three he started to play a few notes, at four played short pieces, at five composed his own music. At six years old he went on his first European concert tour!
- His music is still popular today all over the world and he is considered to be one of the greatest classical composers of all time.
- It is said that he was poisoned by his great rival Antonio Salieri, who ended up in an insane asylum. However no one knows the real truth about Mozart's cause of death or what sent Salieri mad.
- It is hard to choose just one Mozart composition as he has a great number of famous pieces. This from *Eine Kleine Nactmusik (A Little Night Music)*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oy2zDJPlgwc>

Madness



- **Madness** are an English ska band from Camden Town, north London, who formed in 1976. One of the most prominent bands of the late 1970s and early 1980s, they continue to perform with six of the seven members of their original line-up. They were known for their comic performances and sense of fun.
- Ska is a music that originated in Jamaica in the 1960's. It has a strong rhythmic beat.
- The most successful period for the band was from 1980 to 1986, when Madness spent 214 weeks on the UK singles charts.
- This song called *Baggy Trousers* is from 1980 and tells of their badly behaved school days. Don't get any ideas!!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc3AovUZgvo>

Music Masters

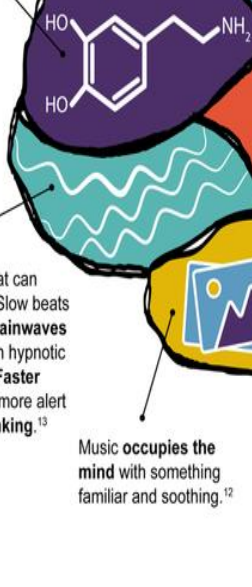
**N is for:
Noisy or Quiet?**

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Music and Mood

Your Brain On Music

Listening to music causes the brain to release dopamine, a feel-good chemical.⁶



Music with a strong beat can stimulate brainwaves. Slow beats encourage the **slow brainwaves** that are associated with hypnotic or meditative states. **Faster beats** may encourage more alert and **concentrated thinking**.¹³

Music alters patterns of pain, depression and disability.¹¹

Music acts as a **distractor**, focusing the attention away from negative stimuli to something pleasant and encouraging.⁷

Music has the **ability to alter breathing and heart rate**.⁸

Music also has the power to **improve your state of mind**. This helps keep things like depression and anxiety at bay.⁹

Music can help **reduce the perception of pain**.¹⁰

- Have you every listened to a piece of music that has altered your mood? A loud, fast song might have made you feel excited, a quiet song calmed you down or a funny song cheered you up?
- Music can give you strong memories of a certain time and place, help you concentrate or even feel better when you are sad.
- Music is amazing!

A little experiment..... Listen to these two pieces. How do they make you feel? Which do you like most?

- Loud and brash

Nirvana *Smells like Teen Spirit* 1991



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJuS3qM-aCw>

- Quiet and gentle

Enya *Caribbean Blue* 1991



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jl8iYAO90pE&list=PL6n_XTD5fjYF6qSKFyBHotzxxauf-xTmd&index=4

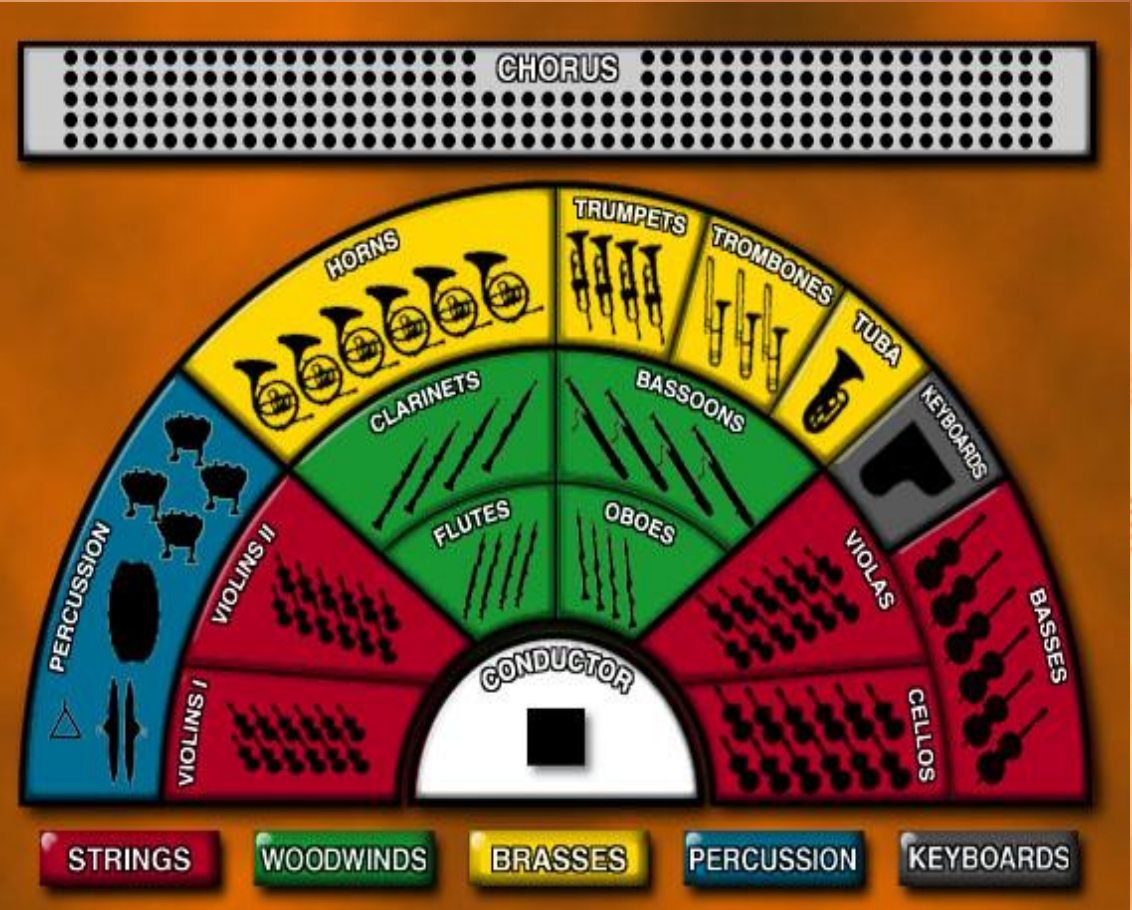
Music Masters

**O is for:
Orchestra or Band?**

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Orchestra

- An orchestra is a large group of people playing musical instruments, often playing classical music. It takes its name from a part of an Ancient Greek theatre.
- The orchestra comes in sections- strings, woodwind, brass and percussion. Sometimes a choir, or chorus, is positioned at the back if the music has some singing.



Famous Orchestras



- To make sure everyone keeps together, a person called a conductor stands at the front. They use their hands or a baton (a short wooden stick) to make sure everyone is playing correctly.
- There are lots of orchestras all over the world, but most major cities have important ones that play large concerts and make recordings of their music. The conductors of these major orchestras also become famous.
- Here is The Simon Bolivar Orchestra from Venezuela playing a piece called *Conga del Fuego* (*fiery dance*) by the Mexican composer Arturo Marquez. The conductor is called Gustavo Dudamel and orchestras have given him a nick-name. They call him *The Dude!*
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOAGAZIsieQ>

Bands



- A band is similar to an orchestra in that it is a group of musicians playing together. However they are smaller in number and play a wider range of music, including pop and rock.
- Some bands specialise in playing certain types of instruments. In Britain there is a history of brass bands, only playing brass instruments such as trumpets and trombones. They started in Victorian times when people who worked in mines, also called collieries, formed bands, practiced playing music and entered competitions against one another.
- Here is the Grimethorpe Colliery band playing the *William Tell Overture* by the Italian composer called Gioachino Rossini.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjpAM5YWeQU>

Music Masters

P is for:

Punk or Disco?

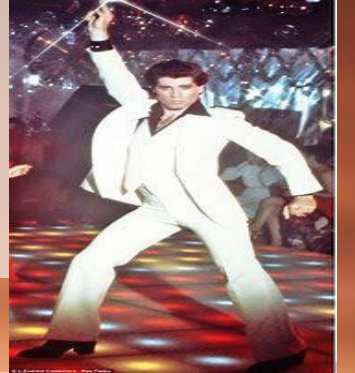
Which will be this week's Music Master?

Time



- Certain decades of time see different types of music develop and become popular.
- In the 1970's two very different kinds of music emerged.
- One was called Punk. People who called themselves Punks sometimes wore amazing clothing and hairstyles. Their music, called punk rock, was loud, rough and sometimes rude! They didn't want to follow the rules and they didn't care!
- Here is The Clash from 1979 with *I Fought The Law*.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AL8chWFuM-s>

I Just Want to Dance!



- Another choice of music was Disco. It came from America where there were clubs called discotheques, where people went to dance.
- The music was usually fast with a good beat that made it easy to dance to.
- It was made really popular in the 1976 film *Saturday Night Fever* starring John Travolta.
- Get your dancing trousers on as here are the Bee Gees with *You Should Be Dancing* taken from that film.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xI68A-rntlk>

Music Masters

**Q is for:
Queen or Prince?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

The Royal Family...?



- No, but this week we look at two fantastic singer -songwriters.
- Our first is Freddie Mercury from the British band Queen, who had an amazing voice and stage presence.
- The band formed in 1970 and they are one of the world's best selling music acts.
- They performed at the famous Live Aid Concert in 1985 where £150 million were raised to help feed people in the Ethiopian Famine.
- Here is Freddie performing *Radio Ga Ga* in front of 72,000 people in Wembley Stadium and an incredible 1.9 billion T.V viewers across the world!
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-0ygW-B_gI

Sorry, what's your name again?



- Prince Nelson Rogers, or Prince, was an American singer-songwriter. He could play almost any musical instrument and could sing extremely high notes.
- He wore flamboyant clothes and high heeled shoes as he was only small (5 feet 2 inches to be precise).
- Not only did he perform his own songs, he wrote and produced music for other people. Tiny but talented! He actually changed his name to a symbol and became 'The artist formerly known as Prince'!
- It is estimated that he sold over 130 million songs worldwide in his lifetime. Here he is singing *Kiss* live in 1999. Watch out for the symbol!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkrT9u7ms1c>

Music Masters

**R is for:
Raga or Bhangra?**

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Raga



- Raga is Indian classical music.
- Indian musicians learn to play raga (patterns of notes) by imitating and memorising. The music is passed on from teacher to student by oral tradition. This means it is passed down from one person to another without being written down.
- It usually starts off calmly and slowly and builds.
- Often the musicians improvise as they go along. This means that they make up the tune they are playing, as they are playing it. Now that's skill!
- You can have ragas for all types of things such as the evening or for healing- this one played by Amjad Ali Khan, Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash, is for peace.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dv5hdYNiPLU>

Bhangra



- Bhangra was originally a type of dance music from the Punjab region of India and Pakistan. Workers in the fields would sing songs to the rhythm of the dhol drum. These songs were used to celebrate annual events, such as the harvest, and many of the song movements refer to field workers collecting the crops.
- Today it has been mixed with lots of different types of music and has become popular all over the world because it is so lively and fun.
- Bringing us right up to date is a hip hop-bhangra dance off from Canada. The music is a Bhangra remix of *God's Plan* by Canadian rapper Drake. Exhausting!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXvld8HfM-c>

Music Masters

S is for:

Spandau Ballet or Duran Duran?

Who will be this week's Music Master?

New Romantics



- This week's Music Masters is especially for Mrs Jackson who LOVES Spandau Ballet. No need to ask her which one she will vote for!!
- The New Romantic style started in the late 1970s and early 1980's. It emerged from the nightclub scene in London and Birmingham.
- The New Romantic movement was characterised by flamboyant, eccentric fashion inspired by clothes shops such as Kahn and Bell in Birmingham and PX in London. Spandau Ballet from London and Duran Duran from Birmingham were two of the most popular groups.
- Boy George and his group Culture Club also achieved chart success. He actually lived in Walsall, opposite Asda in the town centre!



Spandau Ballet



Duran Duran



Culture Club

Spandau Ballet



- Spandau Ballet were an English band formed in Islington, London, in 1979. They became one of the most successful groups of the New Romantic era of British pop, selling 25 million albums and having 23 hit singles worldwide. The band have had eight UK top 10 albums, including three greatest hits compilations and an album of re-recorded material.
- The band's line-up featured Gary Kemp on guitar, synthesiser and backing vocals, his brother Martin Kemp on bass, vocalist Tony Hadley, saxophonist Steve Norman and drummer John Keeble. Gary Kemp was also the band's songwriter.
- Here is their 1983 hit *Gold*. It reached number 2 in the charts.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntG50eXbBtc>

Duran Duran



- Duran Duran are an English band formed in Birmingham in 1978. The band were one of the most successful acts of the 1980s. They achieved 14 singles in the top 10 of the UK Singles Chart and have sold over 100 million records worldwide.
- The group was formed by keyboardist Nick Rhodes and bassist John Taylor, drummer Roger Taylor, guitarist Andy Taylor and lead singer Simon Le Bon. None of the Taylors are actually related!
- Here is their 1982 hit *Hungry Like The Wolf*. It reached number 5 in the charts.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJL-ICzEXgI>

Music Masters

T is for:

Tammi Terrell or The Temptations?

Who will be this week's Music Master?

T is for Motown. Pardon?

- No, I haven't forgotten the alphabet.
- **Motown Records** was an American record label founded by Berry Gordy Jr. in 1959 in Detroit, USA.
- Its name, a blend of *motor* and *town*, became a nickname for Detroit because Ford had an enormous car factory in the city.
- At the time black people in America were struggling for equal rights. Some people had a great prejudice against black singers and musicians.
- Berry Gordy signed incredibly talented black performers to his company. They became popular all over the world, including America and showed that black music was of at least equal quality to anything else.
- Motown has produced so many amazing acts- The Supremes, Smokey, Robinson, Stevie Wonder, Martha and the Vandellas..... And so many more than you could choose virtually any letter of the alphabet to represent it. But let's go with T!

Tammi Terrell



- Tammi Terrell was one of Motown's star singers.
- When she was very young, she tried to get into the music business, but wasn't very successful.
- To ensure her future, she enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania and started a course studying medicine, but still singing in small concerts and clubs part time.
- It was at one of these small concerts that Berry Gordy heard her voice and decided to sign her to his Motown label.
- In 1967 she recorded a duet with another Motown singer called Marvin Gaye. This was called '*Ain't No Mountain High Enough*' and became their first smash hit. They became great friends and sang many more duets together. Today we shall hear their breakthrough song.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IC5PL0XImjw>

The Temptations



- The Temptations were an American vocal group who released a series of successful singles and albums with Motown during the 1960s and 1970s.
- The band members are known for their dances, harmonies and dress style. Having sold tens of millions of albums, the Temptations are among the most successful groups in popular music.
- They had a number of different band members but there is said to be 'The Classic Five' who made up the group when they had their greatest hits. They were David Ruffin, Melvin Franklin, Paul Williams, Otis Williams, and Eddie Kendricks.
- Their songs are still popular. Otis Williams still performs today with a new line up.
- Here is one of their biggest hits *My Girl* from 1964.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_CSjcm-z1w

Music Masters

**U is for:
UFO or The Dr. Who?**

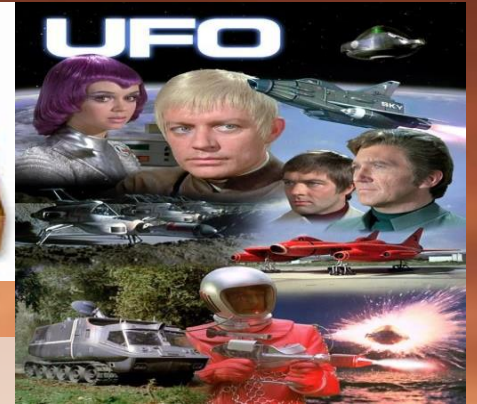
Who will be this week's Music Master?

TV Theme Tunes



- Television theme tunes are probably the pieces of music that we hear most regularly in our lives.
- They are often very short pieces of music but they have to be catchy and memorable so that we can identify the program without even seeing it. Think about the *East Enders* theme, or *Coronation Street*. We know which programme they are linked to virtually immediately when we hear the music.
- Sometimes the music goes on to be a big hit in its own right. Sometimes the music is actually better than the show! Music can also reflect the time in which it was made, or when the show is set.
- Science fiction had always been a popular genre on film, TV and in literature. But in 1957 Russia sent a satellite into space called Sputnik 1 and so the Space Age started. In 1969 the Americans put the first man on the Moon and so space really captured people's imaginations. Today you will hear two sci- fi themes, one of which you may know.

UFO



- The music needed for sci-fi shows had to follow all the usual theme tune rules, but also had to reflect a futuristic feel, often using new electronic instruments such as *synthesizers*. These looked like keyboards but could make many different sounds that traditional musical instruments couldn't.
- Gerry and Sylvia Anderson had a number of hit shows at the time, some using puppet animation like *Thunderbirds* or *Captain Scarlet*. *UFO*, which started in 1970 with real actors, saw SHADO (Supreme Headquarters Alien Defence Organization) protecting the Earth from evil aliens. It imagined what life and technology would be like in 1980.
- Ultimately it wasn't very popular. Viewers couldn't decide if the show was for adults or children and so it was cancelled. However, like many of the Anderson's shows, it had a really catchy theme tune that is still remembered today, even though the show itself has been largely forgotten.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qDy4OMAKgY>

Anyone need a Doctor?



- *Doctor Who* is a British television programme produced by the BBC since 1963. It tells of the adventures of a Time Lord called the Doctor, exploring time and space in a space ship called the TARDIS. Its exterior looks like a blue British police box, which was a common sight in Britain in 1963 when the series was first shown.
- The Doctor Who theme music is a piece of music written by Australian composer Ron Grainer and realised by Delia Derbyshire at the BBC Radiophonic Workshop. Created in 1963, it was one of the first electronic music signature tunes for television. No musical instruments were used, but it was put together from different sounds made by electronic machinery.
- The show ran until 1989, when due to its falling popularity, it was cancelled. However it was brought back in 2005 and has run ever since. Although the actors who have portrayed the Doctor have changed thirteen times, the instantly recognisable theme tune has remained, with slight remixes from time to time.
- Here is the original used on the show from 1963 to 1969.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75V4CIJZME4>

Music Masters

**V is for:
Vivaldi or Verdi?**

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Parliamo Italiano! (Let's Speak Italian!)



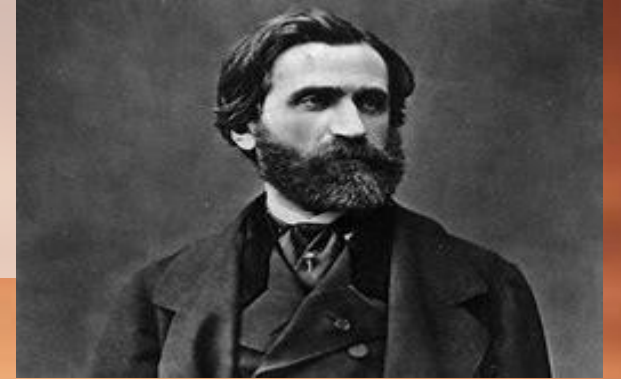
- This week we will look at two great Italian masters of classical music, Vivaldi and Verdi.
- Italy has had a big influence on European classical music and has produced many great composers.
- It was an Italian called Guido of Arezzo who, in around the year 1000, first wrote down musical notation as we now recognise it.
- Instructions written on music are often written in Italian, such as *andante* (moderately slow), *allegro* (quick) or *pianissimo* (very softly).
- Types of classical music also have Italian names such as *opera* (a work telling a story using singers), *sonata* (where a soloist playing an instrument is most important), and *concerto* (where a soloist is accompanied by an orchestra).

Vivaldi



- Antonio Lucio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741) was an Italian composer, violinist, teacher, and Roman Catholic priest. He was born in Venice in Italy.
- He composed many instrumental concertos, for the violin and a variety of other musical instruments, choral works and more than forty operas. His best-known work is a series of violin concertos known as *The Four Seasons*.
- Many of his compositions were written for the all-female music orchestra of the Ospedale della Pietà, a home for abandoned children. Vivaldi had worked there as a Catholic priest.
- Fun Facts About Vivaldi Number 1: There was an earthquake in Venice on the day he was born.
- Fun Facts About Vivaldi Number 2: His nickname was ‘The Red Priest’ because he actually had ginger hair. Not that you can see it under his trendy white wig!
- Fun Facts About Vivaldi Number 3: Listening to his music can actually make you smarter! Scientists did an experiment and people’s response times were quicker when they listened to the *Spring* section of *The Four Seasons*. Perhaps you could play it during Times Tables Rock Stars and see what happens!
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mFWQgxXM_b8

Verdi



- Giuseppe Verdi (1813 – 1901) was an Italian opera composer. He was born in a small village called Le Roncole which is located between the two important cities of Milan and Verona. Milan is home to the famous theatre called *La Scala*, who gave Verdi his big break into opera by producing his first work, and giving him a contract for three more. He became the opera rock star of his day.
- He was not from a rich family but it was clear that he had great musical talent from when he was a young boy. A rich local man called Antonio Barezzi decided to support him financially. Verdi even lived in his house, and eventually married his daughter.
- Verdi wrote twenty seven operas, which were popular all over the world because they are packed with action and drama, as well as amazing music. Many are still performed today, and each summer at the Roman amphitheatre in Verona, a Verdi opera is still staged for a packed audience.
- This is from his opera *La Traviata*, a tragic love story. This number is all about how great it is to have a good time and go to parties!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgPP3YOMo-s>

Music Masters

X is for:

Xylophone or Glockenspiel?

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Which one is which?



- The **xylophone** (from the Greek meaning "sound off wood") is a musical instrument in the percussion family that consists of wooden bars struck by small beaters.
- Percussion instruments are those that are hit, shaken, scraped or beaten against one another to make a noise.
- Like the glockenspiel, the xylophone is made up of a set of tuned bars that are keyed low to high.
- Here is the xylophone in a piece from the *Carnival of the Animals* by French composer Camille Saints-Saëns. This part is called *Fossils*. He imagined dinosaur bones coming to life in a museum .Why do you think the xylophone was used?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcAJpsWWuIY>

How do you tell?



- A glockenspiel is a similar instrument but the bars are made of metal. The name means *set of bells* in German.
- It plays high, clear notes that sound like bells and are popular in all types of music, not just classical.
- Here we have Saints-Saëns again. This is *Danse Macabre* which tells another imaginary story. When the clock strikes midnight the skeletons in the graveyard get up and have dance around! It is a real xylophone/glockenspiel face off! But which sound do you prefer?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNMzBnuBC6Y>

Music Masters

Y is for:

Yeh, Yeh or No, No, No?

Which will be this week's Music Master?

Could you repeat that please?

- Have you ever noticed that music has repeated patterns of notes and that songs have repeated words or phrases? Is it because the writers were lazy and couldn't be bothered to think of anything else? Of course not!
- In music a groups of notes or a short melody that is repeated is called an *ostinato*. In rock music or jazz it is sometimes called a *vamp* or a *riff*. It can be repeated for just one section of the music or all the way through.
- A *chorus* is a group of words and phrases often repeated in a song.
- Both *ostinatos* and *choruses* are important because they give music identity, structure and rhythm. They are the parts that we remember most because of the repetition and hopefully help us to like that piece of music. They are the bits we can hum or sing even if we can't remember the rest of the piece. They also carry the main meaning of the music. Sometimes these things are called *the hook*, as they are what grabs us about the music. Sometimes we describe a piece of music as *catchy* too.

Georgie Fame



- Georgie Fame (real name Clive Powell, born in Lancashire, England in 1943) is an English rhythm and blues and jazz singer and keyboard player. Fame, who had a string of 1960s hits, is still performing today.
- Fame is the only British music act to have achieved three number one hits with his only Top 10 chart entries: *Yeh, Yeh* in 1964, *Get Away* in 1966 and *The Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde* in 1967. Every one was a winner!
- Today we shall hear *Yeh, Yeh*, performed on the top rated pop show of the time called *Ready, Steady, Go!* See if you can spot any ostinatos and repeated phrases. Do you think this song might be easy to remember? Do you think it is catchy?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdrdN1PFa-U>

Dawn Penn



- Reggae is the most famous of a whole group of Jamaican musical genres such as *Rocksteady* and *Ska*. It originated on the island of Jamaica in the Caribbean. When Jamaican people moved to Britain in the 1950's and 1960's they brought their music with them and it became widely popular.
- The music has regular, repetitive beats called *skanks* that are played by a rhythm guitarist. The bass drum hits on the second and fourth beat of each bar. These are called *the drop*. Reggae bands also use a bass guitar, a keyboard or organ, trumpets and saxophones.
- Dawn Penn (born in 1952 in Kingston, Jamaica) is a Jamaican reggae singer. She first had a hit with *You Don't Love Me* in 1967. But it was remixed in 1994 and became a worldwide hit. We will hear the remix. Listen out for repeated rhythms and phrases
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0mNPKNAQI4c>

Music Masters

Z is for:

The Zutons or Amy Winehouse?

Who will be this week's Music Master?

Z is for..... Cover?

- In popular music, a cover, or cover version is a new performance or recording of a song by someone different to the original artist or composer.
- Singers and bands record covers for a variety of reasons. Sometimes it is because they really admire the music of another composer or singer and do it as a tribute to them.
- Sometimes they might want to update an older song and give it a more modern twist.
- Older songs are also already familiar to audiences and so the song becomes popular more quickly. So if you are a band, you can increase your chances of having a hit.
- Sometimes though, cover versions are not as good as the originals and the audience dislikes them. However sometimes they are actually better than the original. It is the risk that performers run when doing a cover version.
- Today you will decide between two different versions of the same song, the original and the cover version. Which will you prefer?

The Original by The Zutons



- The Zutons were an English band formed in Liverpool in 2001. They disbanded in 2009 but got back together in 2018 when they recorded a new album. The following year they completed a concert tour.
- Valerie was a song from their second album *Tired of Hanging Around* released in 2006. The song took the lead singer Dave McCabe about twenty minutes to write whilst he was in a taxi going to visit his mother!
- It was moderately successful. It peaked at number six in the UK Singles Chart. Of all the songs released in 2006, it ranked number sixty eight.
- What do you think of it?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3xpmfJp0Xc>

A New Version.....



- English musicians Mark Ronson and Amy Winehouse covered *Valerie* for Ronson's second studio album *Version* from 2007.
- When Amy was invited to sing on the album, she didn't know which song to sing. Then she remembered the song *Valerie* by The Zutons which she really liked. Mark wasn't sure about her choice though. "I wasn't sure how it would work, but she went into the studio and tried it. I loved it," he said.
- The cover version was considerably more successful than the original. It peaked at number 2 on the UK Singles Chart, where it spent 19 consecutive weeks inside the top 20. With sales of 329,490, it became the UK's ninth biggest-selling single of 2007.
- Here Amy performs it live at the Glastonbury Festival in 2007. Will you prefer it to the original?
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeVUvA_BOzs