

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

LINKS

New Deal for Musicians has no responsibility for or control of the following sites. The inclusion of any site does not necessarily imply New Deal for Musicians approval of the site. To access any of the sites please type in the address into a browser or search using keywords from the name of the link.
www.dfes.gov.uk/ukonlinecentres Find Internet access that's close to you.

HELPFUL LINKS ABOUT WORKING AS A WRITER OR COMPOSER

- ☐ **www.prsfoundation.co.uk**
Performing Right Society Foundation
PRS based charity to encourage, promote and sustain new music. Funding available.
- ☐ **www.bbc.co.uk**
Radio 2 'sold on song site';
Radio 1 One Music site;
There are many BBC resources which are helpful!
- ☐ **www.britishacademy.com**
British Academy of Composers and Songwriters.
Trade association for the UK songwriting and composing community.
Excellent site, lots of resources including information on songwriting competitions.
- ☐ **www.musesmuse.com**
Great site for songwriters – information, links, networking and recommended products to help you.
- ☐ **www.pcam.co.uk**
Society for Producers and Composers of Applied Music
UK trade association for producers and composers of music for advertising, television and film
- ☐ **www.bmr.org**
British Music Rights
Promotes the interests of composers, songwriters and publishers
- ☐ **www.alchemyaudiolab.com**
Music, sound design and post - production services. See how the professionals do it.

HELPFUL LINKS ABOUT MUSIC THEORY

- ☐ **www.musictheory.net**
On - line training and notes in music theory, notes, rhythm, chords.
- ☐ **www.musicianuniversity.com**
Online Music Courses – music theory, songwriting, instrumental lessons – for a fee (based in USA dollars)
- ☐ **www.microtools.de/guitarcodex/**
Free application for desktop - teaches you chords / scales on the guitar.
- ☐ **http://hatbox.lib.virginia.edu/text/gtrchord/**
This site allows you to search for guitar chords and lets you download midi files so you can hear the chords it finds
- ☐ **www.songplayer.com**
Online music tuition
- ☐ **www.theguitarguy.com**
Chord for many popular songs
- ☐ **www.insidethemusic.co.uk**
Interactive resourses for musicians.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

- ☐ 88 songwriting wrongs and how to right them
Pat and Pete Luboff
Publisher : Writer's Digest Books
ISBN : 0898795087
- ☐ Songwriting and the creative process
Steve Gillette
Publisher : Sing Out! Publications
ISBN : 1881322033
- ☐ Popular Music Theory Syllabus
Cammilla Sheldon, Tony Skinner
London College of Music.
- ☐ Music Theory in Practice
Music theory workbooks grades 1-8
Eric Taylor (grades 1-5)
Peter Aston (grades 6-8)
Publisher : Associated Board of the Royal School of Music
- ☐ How to Write Songs on Guitar : A Guitar Playing and Song Writing Course
Rikky Rooksby
Publisher : Backbeat UK
ISBN : 0879306114
- ☐ The Songwriter's Idea Book
Sheila Davis
Publisher : Omnibus Press
ISBN : 0898795192
- ☐ Songwriting Sourcebook
Rikky Rooksby
Publisher : Backbeat UK
ISBN : 0879307498
- ☐ Rhyming dictionaries - various
Publisher : Penguin, Oxford University Press, Chambers all produce their own versions.
- ☐ Essential Guide to Lyric Form and Structure: Tools and Techniques for Writing Better Lyrics
Pat Pattison
Publisher : Music Sales Limited
ISBN : 0793511801
- ☐ Songwriting (Usborne Learn to Play)
N. Hooper
Publisher : Usborne Publishing Ltd
ISBN : 0746030460

MORE TASKS

- 1 Writing under the influence! Use your example of an analysed song to create a piece of music of your own that has a similar structure, tempo, features etc.
- 2 Play your music to friends and colleagues and ask for their opinions.
- 3 Experimenting (1)
How you start a composition will dictate much of its character. Try starting in a completely different way, so if you usually put down a drum groove, start with a chord sequence, if you usually start with a riff, start with a sample.
- 4 Experimenting (2)
When you generate a basic musical idea, try to give it a quirky element. So if you've come up with a chord sequence, add an unusual chord; if you've got an 8 bar section, make it 9 bars; if you have a constant groove, vary it every couple of bars and puts some breaks in.
- 5 Re-create. A really good way of getting inside a piece of music is to recreate it yourself, either in a live room with other musicians or in a computer sequencer like Cubase. Import the audio, match up the tempo and play along!
- 6 Choose two songs in different styles and analyse their chord sequences as I, IV, V, etc.
- 7 Write a riff, hook or motif: these are all small musical ideas which can be developed. Now vary this in one or more of the following ways:
- Play it backwards
- Change the rhythm
- Play it in sequence, changing the start note everytime you play it, but keeping the shape of the idea.
- 8 Learn as much as possible about music theory – it WILL help your songwriting. Study the 'Music Theory in Practice' or 'Popular Music Theory' books listed on the previous page. Answer the following questions:
- How do you form a diminished chord?
- How do you form a major 7th chord?
- How do you form a sus 4 chord?
- What is chord substitution?