

Classical Period 1750-1810

Characteristics of the Classical Period	
Short and clearly defined musical phrases with 2 or more contrasting themes	MELODY
Very defined and regular	RHYTHM
Mostly homophonic - one melody line with accompaniment made up using notes of the chord, or a texture where all parts keep in step with each other (often known as chordal style).	TEXTURE
Symphony orchestra - arranged in 4 sections Harpichord seldom used. Piano in use but not normally in orchestral music, except when it is a piano concerto. Choral music - sacred mass and oratorio Secular - opera and song Chamber music - trios, quartets, quintets etc.	TIMBRE
Greater range of dynamics, use of crescendos and diminuendos,	DYNAMICS
Sonata form, rondo form, fugue, minuet and trio form.	FORM
Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Paganini,	Composers