

Sonata Form

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When writing music the composer must plan their work as carefully as an architect would design a building. The finished work must have continuity, balance, and shape, or form. But whereas architecture is concerned with a balance in space, music is a balance in time. In music, we use the word **FORM** to describe the way in which a composer achieves this balance by arranging and setting in order the musical ideas - the way in which we design and build our music.



Sonata Form is a type of musical form used in the Classical period in the first movement of a Sonata, symphony or concerto.

Most music has a form of some kind.
Pop songs have a structure - Verse, Chorus, Verse etc.
Some have linking passages.

Sonata Form is in three main sections.

EXPOSITION:	Where the composer presents the tunes they are going to use. 1st and 2nd themes with a bridge passage between them.
DEVELOPMENT:	Where the music of the Exposition is put to different keys, or it changes, developed, in some way.
RECAPITULATION:	Where the composer repeats the music of the Exposition in a slightly different way. Very often the composer adds a 'coda' to round off the movement.