



Songwriting Checklist

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Essentials

- Do you know which instruments you will use to write the song?
- Do you know the key of your song?

- Is it instrumental or does it have lyrics?
- Do you know what the song will be about? Love, Money, Getting Old, etc.

Everything Else

- Have you figured out the song's structure? AABA, ABABCB, etc.
- Is your song relatable?
- Does the intro build interest and excitement?

- Does the song build suspense?
- Does the song build excitement?
- Is there a climax to the song?

- Are the transitions between each part smooth and do they make sense?
- Is the chorus catchy and easy to remember?
- Is every part of the song absolutely necessary?

- Does the bridge give a different feel? Does it renew interest?
- Is the song long enough/too long? Most songs are at least 3 minutes long, but not too much longer than 4 min.
- Does the song fit into the genre you wanted it to fit?

- Does the song have an overall good feel?
- Does the song ask a question?
- Does it answer that question?

Most important of all

- Would you listen to your own song?
- If you heard it on the radio, would you be drawn to it?
- Is the song finished?