



The Pumpkin Waltz

a composition activity using dice

Let's compose a waltz!

Items you will need: dice, a pencil, the waltz staff template page, your piano.

Follow the steps below to create your waltz:

1. Roll one of the dice and find the corresponding number in the measures below.
2. Copy these notes into the treble clef of the first measure on the waltz staff template page.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until your melody is complete.
4. Play your melody on the piano and choose either a i chord or a $V7$ chord from the key of D minor to play in the left hand for each measure. Then, write these chords in waltz-style (bottom note of the chord on beat 1, top two notes of the chord on beats 2 and 3) in the bass clef of each measure of the staff template page.
5. Complete your piece by adding dynamics and articulations of your choosing. You may also want to try the optional ideas at the bottom of the staff template page for fun!

1. 2. 3.

4. 5. 6.

The Pumpkin Waltz

Composed by _____

Two blank musical staves for measures 1 and 2. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 3/4 time signature.

Two blank musical staves for measures 3 and 4. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 3/4 time signature. A measure number '3' is written above the first staff.

Two blank musical staves for measures 5 and 6. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 3/4 time signature. A measure number '5' is written above the first staff.

Two musical staves for measures 7 and 8. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 3/4 time signature. A measure number '7' is written above the first staff. Measure 7 is blank. Measure 8 contains a whole note in the treble clef (B-flat) and a D minor chord in the bass clef (F, A-flat, B-flat). A double bar line is at the end of the piece.

Once your waltz is complete, have fun trying these ideas!

1. Create a special ending (Coda) for your waltz using notes from the D minor chord.
2. Try repeating your waltz, playing the right hand one octave higher.
3. Transpose your waltz to the keys of A minor and E minor.
4. Use the chords you have chosen and create a new melody using notes from the D minor scale.