

# HOW TO CHART OUT THE SONG FORM



## Step 1

### WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO START WRITING YOUR CHART

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#### Materials and Tools

- Note Book
- Pencil #2 or a mechanical pencil.
- Metronome or drum machine
- Headphones
- Playback machine to listen to songs

Getting organized is very important. Spiral notebooks have always been my choice to keep the charts together. Use one spiral notebook per band. It is easy to keep track of all the spirals and take them with you to every rehearsal and gig. It is best to write out the charts in the order of the set list for the gig. Turning the pages in order is time saving. If a spiral is not available, a blank chart on page 18 is included in this book for copying.

Always use a pencil and bring one to rehearsal to make any changes to a section of the chart. Use a metronome or drum machine to measure tempo. For drummers, it will be expected that you know the tempo so you can count the band in. Use headphones to listening to the recordings. Listening to detail will make your chart more accurate.

When using a spiral notebook for your charts, you will have to draw and label a new chart on every page. Draw vertical lines across four lines to make sections to write in. At the beginning of the chart, label each section, Song Form, Bars and Drum Instruction. Copy the example below and draw as many sections that you will need as you listen to your recording. Now you are ready for step 2.

Song Form						
Bars						
Drum Instruction						