

# With A Little Help From My Friends

**Rhythm & Metre** 4/4 time signature, andante tempo, syncopated rhythms throughout, shuffle rhythm on drums, triplets in piano chords, tied notes in verse melody

**Harmony (chords) & Tonality (key)** Verse only uses chords I (E), V (B), ii (F#m) played in crotchets. The harmonic rhythm creates a sense of balance  
E major, harmonised vocals (in 3rds and 5<sup>ths</sup>) sung by Lennon and McCartney  
(Other keys: A major, Bb major, G major)

**Texture** Homophonic (melody and accompaniment), antiphonal (bridge), riff (bass guitar),

**Dynamics** Electric guitar, bass guitar, vocals, drum kit (drum fill before verse 2), cowbell, tambourine, *mp/mf* dynamics, cross-fade used

**Structure** 'Strophic' Pop song structure (verse, chorus form) Including an Intro and an Outro.

**Melody** Highest note = B  
Lowest note = E  
Stepwise melody with a limited note range makes it easy to sing  
Conjunct vocal melodies, limited melodic range (1 octave C-C), sung by Ringo Starr  
Sequential melody creates balance

# Let's look closely at the **Structure**

Intro (bar 1-4)

Chorus 2 (bar 29 - 34 '1)

Middle 8 / Bridge 2 (bar 34 - 42)

Verse 1 (bar 5 -11)

Middle 8 / Bridge 1 (bar 34 - 42)

Chorus 4 (bar 50 -55)

Chorus 1 (bar 12-20)

Verse 3 (bar 43 - 49)

Outro (bar 56 - 58)

Verse 2 (bar 21 - 28)

Chorus 3 (bar 50 -55)

## Verse 1: **Rhythm and Metre**

Tied notes in the melody creates **syncopation** which contrasts with the shuffle rhythm

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "What would you think if I sang out of tune, would you stand up and walk out on me?". The melody features tied notes between the first and second measures, and between the third and fourth measures, creating syncopation. The accompaniment consists of chords: E, B, F#m, B, and E. The bass line has a shuffle rhythm.

# Structure

**Intro:** backing vocals 'Billy Shears'

**Verse 1:** Ringo solo

**Chorus:** Ringo solo with backing vocals joining in on the third repeat. Harmony joining in at bar 15.

**Verse 2:** Ringo alternating questions (antiphonal between parts) with the backing vocals

**Chorus 2:** in vocal harmony throughout, 6 bars instead of 8

**Bridge 1:** backing vocals asking questions with Ringo answering

**Verse 3:** backing vocals asking questions with Ringo answering

**Chorus 3:** in vocal harmony throughout, six bars instead of 8

**Bridge 2**

**Chorus 4:** in vocal harmony throughout, this time 3 bars leading to...

**Outro:** same 3 ascending chords (C, D E) as the intro