

# Purcell Glossary

Dynamics

Rhythm

Tonality

Structure



Melody Instrumentation Texture Harmony

Keyword	Definition/Explanation
<b>Henry Purcell.</b> <b>Baroque</b>	An English composer from the Baroque period- 1600-1750
<b>Year Composed</b>	1692
<b>Bass Viol</b>	A predecessor to the cello
<b>Soprano</b>	A high female vocal range
<b>Harpsichord</b>	A baroque keyboard instrument
<b>Ground Bass</b>	A repeated bass line. A classical version of a riff
<b>Ornamentation</b>	Ways of embellishing a melody e.g Trills, mordents.
<b>Syllabic</b>	When the melody has one syllable per note
<b>Melismatic</b>	When there is one syllable with multiple notes.
<b>Word Painting</b>	When the music reflects the lyrical content. E.g A descending melody on the word 'drop'
<b>Ternary Form</b>	A B A structure
<b>Melody dominated Homophony</b>	A texture where one melody is played over a chordal accompaniment
<b>4/4 Time Signature</b>	Simple quadruple time: 4 crotchet beats per bar.
<b>Dotted Rhythms</b>	Rhythms that include dotted notes.
<b>Quavers</b>	An 1/8 <sup>th</sup> note. The Ground bass is entirely quavers.
<b>Diatonic</b>	When music sticks to the key it's in
<b>Perfect Cadence</b>	V-I chords to end a phrase if you want it to sound resolved.
<b>Key signature</b>	The sharps/flats at the beginning of a piece to indicate the key This piece: <b>A minor</b>
<b>Chromatic</b>	When notes are used outside of the key you are in e.g the F# in the ground bass

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