



Layer 6

C B C C D B C E G G A F E D F E D C B A C C B

Layer 5

E D C E G G A G A C C B

Layer 4

C E G F E C E D C A C G A F D G

Layer 3

C B A G F E F G

Layer 2

E D C B A G A B

Layer 1 - Bass

C G A E F C F G

# Pachelbel Canon

Normally, when we read music, we start at the top of the page.

But Pachelbel started his piece at the bottom, with the Bass.

Each time the Bass part repeats, he adds another layer on top.



Start with layer 1, and then build your piece up. Layers 2 and 3 can be played at the same time!

The Bass layer **must** be played in your **left** hand...

All other layers are played in your **right** hand.

Begin on Blue, Progress to Purple, Push to Pink.

Remember, to use your knowledge of rhythm to help with the layers.

*Joh. Pachelbel.*



When two or more notes are played at the same time, it creates harmony. Not all note combinations sound nice, so composers use **chords** to make sure the sounds they play don't clash. Pachelbel made a chord progression (pattern of chords) when he wrote Canon.

See if you can play the chord progression to Canon on the Ukulele. Use the coloured stickers to help you. Remember, each chord is held for 2 beats. Make sure your chord transitions are smooth.



Current bands have taken Pachelbel's chord sequence and used it as the basis of their work. Firstly have a listen to Maroon 5's 'Memories'. Do you recognise the melody they're singing? Can you have a go at singing the chorus section over your Ukulele chords?



### Composition Task:

Using the idea Maroon 5 used, can you use Pachelbel's Chords or Bass line to come up with your own piece?

Use either the chords or the Bass as your starting point. You can use Keyboard, Ukulele or Voice (or a combination).

You can use one of Pachelbel's melody lines if you're writing your own lyrics, or you could come up with your own melody to fit over the Bass and Chords. If you don't want to sing, you could rap your lyrics.

Be ready to show your work to the rest of the group.



## Pachelbel



Johann Pachelbel was a German composer, teacher and organist born in 1653.

He wrote a large amount of sacred (religious) and secular (non-religious) music. He developed the chorale and fugue, and this earned his place as one of the key composers of the Baroque period.

Pachelbel's most famous work is the Canon in D. His music is less virtuosic (twiddly and flashy) than other Baroque composers, but he experimented with instrument combinations and clear melodies and harmonies.

*Joh. Pachelbel.*