

# Dynamic Song Arranging

Crafting stirring moments that capture and engage

**Scripture:** Matthew 22:35-40, Psalm 150, Psalm 33:1-3

## Relational

We lead people, not music.

**Focus people on the Lord.**

**Plan set lists for the \_\_\_\_\_ (not just the musicians).**  
We help set the table so people can taste and see that He is good  
(Psalm 34:8).

Theme: is there a series, moment in the life of the church, etc.?

Tempo: consistent during the song, variety between songs

Key: variety between songs, keep vocal melody “between the C’s”

Horizontal/vertical: think about the progression

Familiarity

- New (3 weeks in a row when introducing)
- Gold
- Tired

**Listen: your \_\_\_\_\_ are your most important musical instrument.**

Listening is an important part of any conversation. Your ears are your most important musical instrument: listen to each other!

**3 T's: In \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_, good \_\_\_\_\_.**

**\_\_\_\_\_ rule:** if you are the only one playing, you make up 100 % of the sound. If there is a group, each player needs to make space for the other musicians. If it's a group of 4 people, you are now 25% of the sound.

# Dynamic

                     make music matter.  
**Become an arranger. Change something every 4 or 8 bars.**

## Moment- Transition- Moment

### Moments

We want to create clear moments *distinct* from one another. We want to alternate moments (not the same thing back to back).

### Transitions

We want to clearly telegraph where we are going next. We want to smoothly transition from moment to moment.

## Top 10 Moments

**Lead Line:** an instrument solos over a chord progression.

**Partial:** part of the band plays; some instruments are conspicuously absent for effect (bass out of verse, drums only, etc.).

**Half Time:** drummer hits snare on beat 3 to change the feel.

**Sustain:** notes are sustained longer, at a medium volume.

**Pulse:** notes are more rhythmic with certain notes emphasized; short sustain.

**Build:** the band builds in intensity.

**Full Out:** band plays full out at a higher volume.

**Fall Away:** band drops out after a big moment; just a guitar or keyboard is left playing.

**Breakdown:** repeated phrase that builds

**Voices Only:** congregation sings with all/most of the band not playing

# Top Five Transitions

**Hits:** the band emphasizes a rhythm for effect.

**Stops:** the band creates space before or after a moment.

**Fills:** the drummer telegraphs where we are going next.

## **Going up**

Drum build on snare and floor tom

Open the hi hats

Build on snare

Snare on beat 4

## **Going down**

Cymbal roll

Tom fill

**Short Build:** the band increases intensity over a short period.  
Band opens it up more, Bass slides an octave or drives 1/8 notes

**Stair Step:** the band gradually steps up or down to next degree of intensity.

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