



Scottish Music Revision Notes! **National 3/4/5 Level**



There are 4 areas to study:

INSTRUMENTS

GROUPS

DANCES

VOCAL

Instruments found in Scottish Music:



Accordion



Drum kit



**Bass Drum
&
Snare Drum**

Fiddle



Piano



Bagpipes

Guitar



**Tin
Whistle**



Clarsach



Singer



Bodhran

A **fiddle** and a **violin** are physically the SAME instrument. You call it a fiddle, when the style of music is folk/traditional instead of orchestral. The technique used by the player is also slightly different between an orchestral violinist and a traditional fiddler (the bowing technique and use of open strings)

When talking about a **guitar**, be specific if it's an acoustic guitar, electric guitar or bass guitar.

The **piano** often plays a **vamp** when playing in a Scottish Dance Band or Folk Group (bass note / chord accompaniment style.)

When listening to traditional / folk music, remember the **Clarsach** is not the same as the Harp. You will not normally hear a Harp play Scottish folk music, but you would hear a Clarsach play it.

Bagpipes have 3 drones - you cannot hear the bagpipes without the constant drone sound in the background.

Melody instruments include - accordion, fiddle, clarsach, singer, tin whistle and sometimes guitar.

Accompaniment instruments include - guitar and piano.

Percussion instruments include drum kit, bodhran, bass drum and snare drum.

Groups found in Scottish Music:

SCOTTISH GROUPS

SCOTTISH DANCE BAND

N3



Usually, Accordion, Fiddle,
Piano, Bass + Drum kit

FOLK GROUP

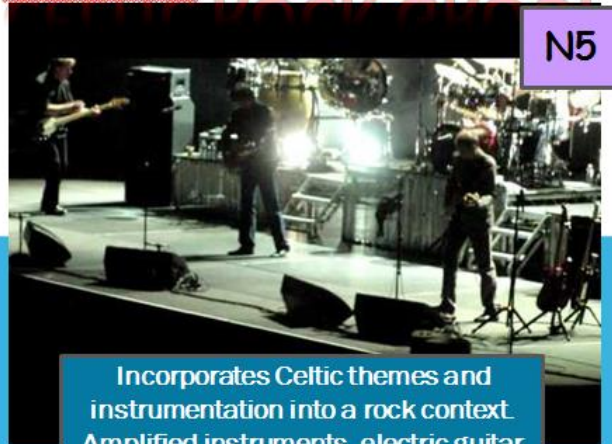
N3



Singer, guitarist, piano,
drum kit etc

CELTIC ROCK GROUP

N5



Incorporates Celtic themes and
instrumentation into a rock context.
Amplified instruments, electric guitar
etc

PIBROCH

N5



Solo pipe music, based
on theme & variations

Pipe Band



Bagpipes and
snare/bass/tenor drums

**Remember you can hear audio clips of all of these
on TEAMS, Youtube and www.ataea.co.uk**

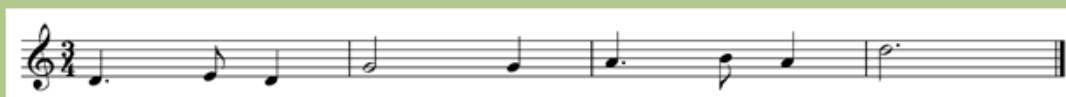
Scottish Dances Scottish Music:

SCOTTISH DANCES:

WALTZ



A slowish dance, with 3 beats in the bar



MARCH



A steady walking speed, moderato, 2 or 4 beats in the bar.



REEL



A fast dance with 2 or 4 beats in the bar.
"Running Reel" - lots of fast quavers.



STRATHSPEY



N4

A steady dance with 2 or 4 beats in the bar.
Dotted Rhythms and **Scotch Snaps**.

N4



JIG



A fast dance in **COMPOUND TIME**. You can say
"straw-be-rry"

N4

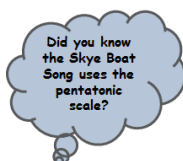


PENTATONIC SCALE

N4

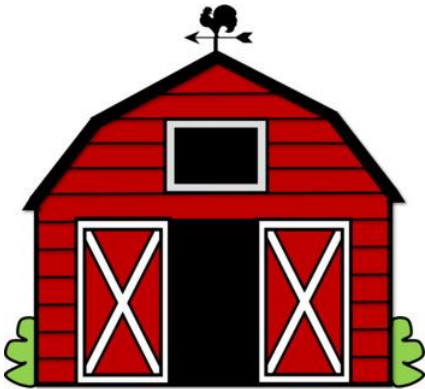


Five note scale found
in folk music all over the world
including Scotland.



**You have played
examples of these
dances in class – that
helps to learn what
they sound like too! 😊**

Scottish Vocal Music:



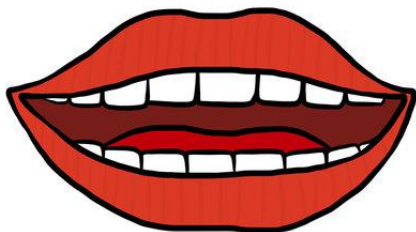
BOTHY BALLAD

- *Sung by male farm workers*
- *Broad Scots*
- *A Cappella (usually)*

- *Sung by male or female singer*
- *A Cappella or Accompanied*
- *Tells a story*
- *Verse repeating (STROPHIC)*
- *Historical/love/mythical theme*

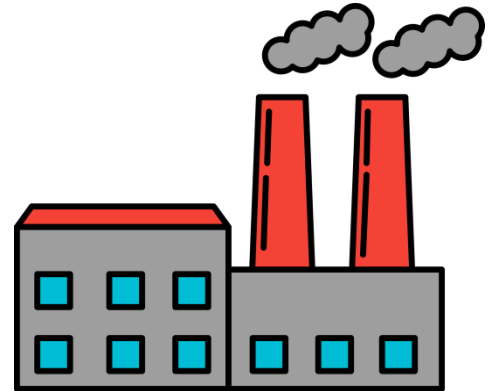


SCOTS BALLAD



MOUTH MUSIC

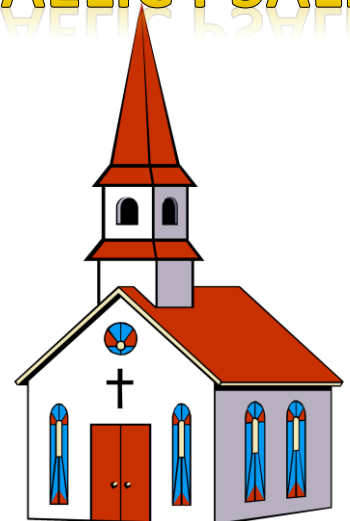
- *Male or female singer*
- *Gaelic*
- *A Cappella*
- *Sharp intake of breath*



WAULKING SONG

- *Sung by female factory workers*
- *Gaelic*
- *Hoo roo hee ree refrain*
- *Thud (cloth on table)*
- *A Cappella*

GAELIC PSALM



- *Precentor then congregation (mixed voices)*
- *A Cappella*
- *Gaelic*
- *Religious*