

- for a 2/4 march:



Melody

A good starting point can be to experiment with combinations of rhythms, first making them into phrases, before introducing any melodic ideas.

Choose the melodic material you will use - perhaps the 6 note scale of *Mairi's Wedding*, or the 9 note scale of the Highland bagpipes.

Sing or play over your ideas and work on the first part (part 1, or part A) of your tune. Keep playing it and making changes until you are happy with it.

For the remaining part(s) try to include phrases from the first part. A good place to do this is at the ends of some of the bars. Many Scottish tunes include some repetition within each part, and these repeated motifs help to give a particular tune its distinctive identity.

When your march tune is finished, write it down and record it; give it a title.

Accompaniment

Make an accompaniment for your tune by trying out one of the following:

- a chordal accompaniment for keyboard;
- a drone accompaniment played by one or more instruments (or voices);
- a percussion- based accompaniment to emphasise the rhythms of your march;
- a song text.