

BAND SKILLS 2.

Knowledge Map. Year 9

Key vocabulary / concepts	What knowledge is required:
Pop Chart Music	`Pop` is short for popular. This is music designed to sell to large amounts of people. It often follows any current trends and fashions. It has lyrics which are about the present time but often about basic human emotional issues like relationships or having fun.
Lyrics often use Poetry techniques	Sophisticated use of Syncopation, Rhythm, Rhyme, Alliteration, Simile, Metaphor, Assonance, Colloquialism/ slang, Simile, personification etc. Love, moods emotional and social issues are often subjects for the lyrics.
Structure	The songs often use a basic Verse Chorus structure but may have instrumental solos. Often the chords follow a basic sequence like Chord 1 or I Chord 6 or VI Chord 3 or III Chord 5 or V EG. I A minor (ACE) VI F major (FAC) C major III (CEG) G major V (GBD)
Ensemble skills	The musicians should listen and watch each other carefully to stay in time with the pulse. Eye contact and musical signals are used. A count in is used at the start to set the tempo. Good communication verbal and musical is essential!

BAND SKILLS RECAP

You will need to remember how to use the equipment correctly and safely.

SAFETY!

Be aware this equipment is plugged into the wall mains electricity supply.

Be careful of cables on the floor to avoid tripping over.

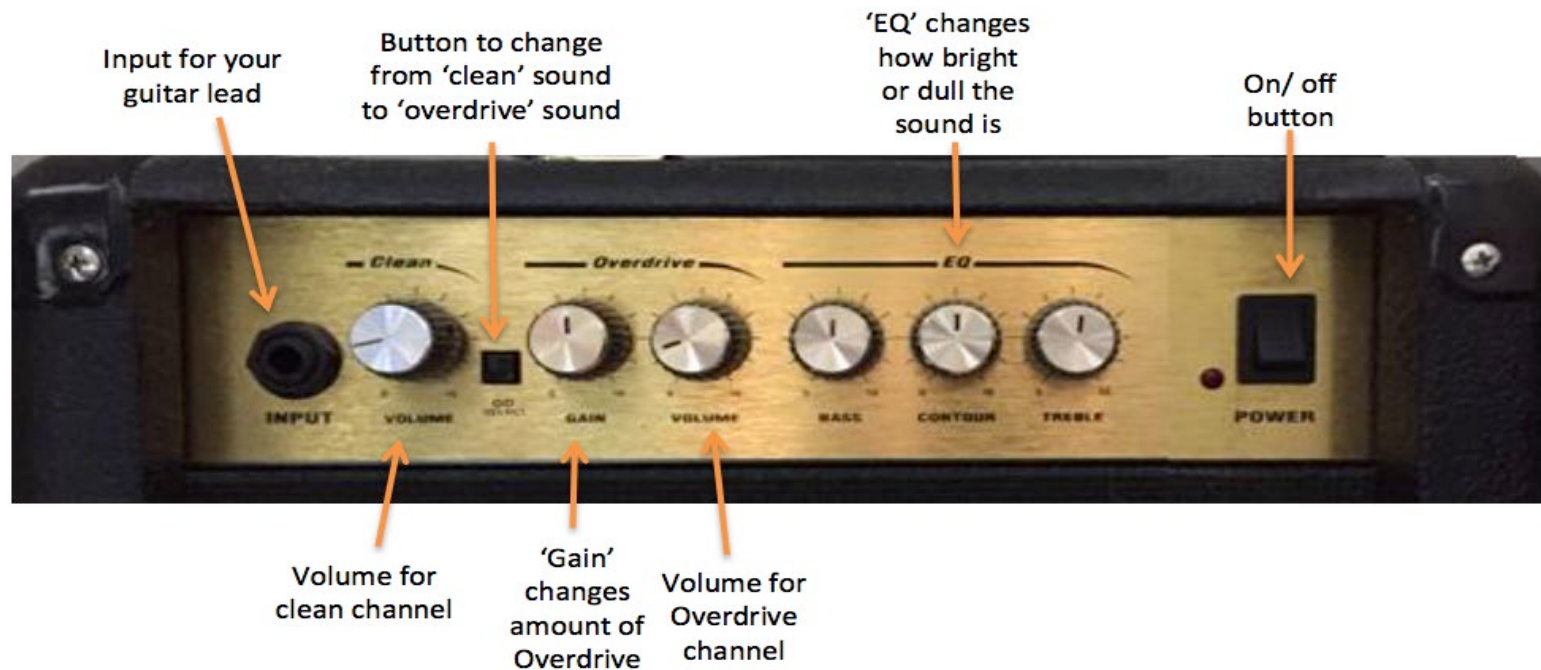
AMPLIFICATION

[Amps] Electric instruments plug into these units to make them louder.



You will need to *look carefully!* at the control knobs and input`s so you plug into the correct socket.
the volume to a nice balanced level (not too loud /not too quiet]

You should alter



Controls on the amplifier

Most of these controls are found on all amplifiers. (read the labels on the controls it will explain)

Volume (Master Volume) - Loudness

Gain/ Drive - Technically signal level, can add distortion or amount of fuzz, to the sound.

EQ/ Equalization - How we affect the treble, mid and bass

- **Bass** - Low frequencies, deepness, boominess, etc
- **Middle** - in between low and high. Boosting can make your sound more prominent or clearer (great for solos), reducing can fill out your sound, making your amp sound bigger ?
 - **Treble** - High frequencies, brightness

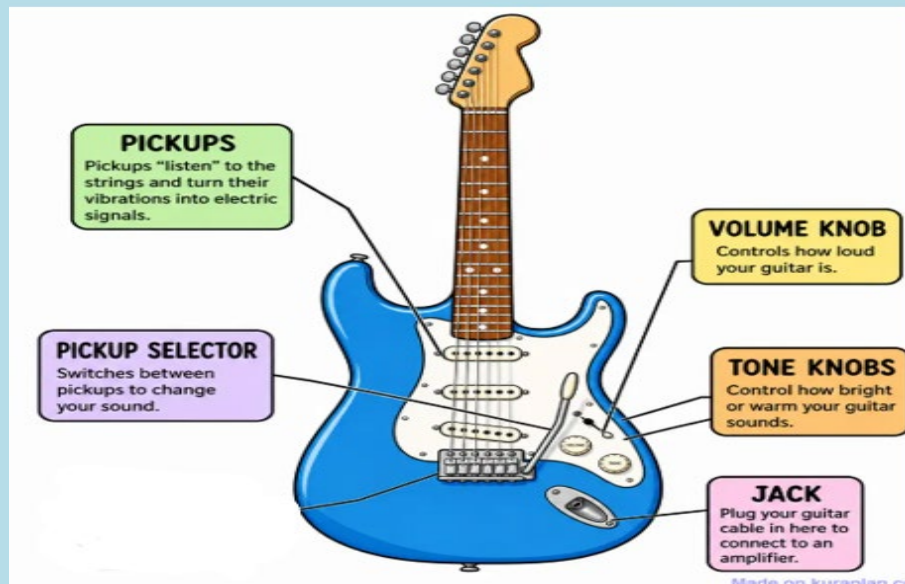
INSTRUMENT CABLES/LEADS

- You will need to plug your instrument into the amplifier using a wire or cable.
- The main type of cable has two ends plug called a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch Jacks this cable is commonly known as a **JACK to JACK**



- NOTICE HOW THIS CABLE IS **NICELY COILED!** Not too tight and with NO TANGLES! -
[You should learn how to coil a lead/cable correctly]

ELECTRIC GUITAR & BASS



MICROPHONES

Once your band has got the song working well (in time and in tune) THEN you can add vocals.

To be able to hear vocals above electric instruments you will need a microphone.

You will need a different cable for a microphone called an **XLR cable**

This one is an XLR to JACK



The XLR safely clips into the microphone



SAFETY!

CAREFULLY PLUG YOUR MIC` IN AND TURN UP VOLUME SLOWLY TO AVOID FEEDBACK SQUEAL WHICH CAN BE LOUD AND HURT YOUR EARS [This is called `FEEDBACK`]

Learn to do this set up technique properly .. it is a Band Skill

Be careful of cables on the floor to avoid tripping over.

SET UP and SOUND BALANCE

You should try to be very **quick, professional and efficient** when **setting up AND packing up** your equipment. This will give you more time to rehearse.

SET UP YOUR CHAIR AND MUSIC STAND FIRST

It is important that you think about how loud each instrument is. This is a Band skill

Q. can you hear each instrumental part clearly?

Drummers make sure you do not play too loudly / Singers: Learn good Microphone technique

ROLES

Be clear who is doing what.

It is a good idea to nominate a **LEADER to co-ordinate** rehearsals

DRUMMER- Count in. Keep the tempo steady. (add fills/pushes and rolls to emphasise parts)

BASS- keep your part steady **work closely with the drummer**

GUITAR / KEYBOARDS know your **chord changes** well. Perhaps **add a MELODY or RIFF**

VOCALS- The **band should follow you to support you.** Try to add feeling to the lyrics.
You can use soft and loud dynamics to aid this.