

Making Music

Today you are going to use MakeCode to produce your own music composition. The tutorial will teach you basics, you can then explore the different options to produce your own unique piece of music.

Visit https://makecode.microbit.org/#editor to open the MakeCode website

Most of the blocks that you will use today can be found in the **Music** section:



As you can see, all of the blocks related to making music are also red in colour. There are a number of built-in tunes. Drag the *start melody* block into the *on start* block.

```
start melody dadadum ▼ repeating once ▼
```

Your block should now look like this:

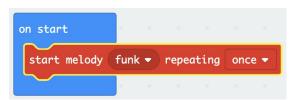


If you then click on start it will play the **dadadum** melody. You can change the melody by clicking on the drop down next to **dadadum**. You will then see a number of built-in tunes.





You can select a tune by simply clicking on it. I have chosen **funk**.



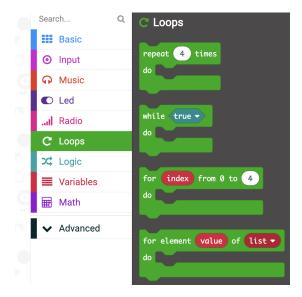
If you want it to play continuously in the background you need to click on the once dropdown and select **forever in the background**. This will then loop over and over.



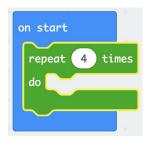


Creating your own composition

It is possible to create your own unique composition using MakeCode. This time you are going to use a loop which can be found in the **Loops** section of commands.



You can then drag the *repeat 4 times* block and place it inside the *on start* block.



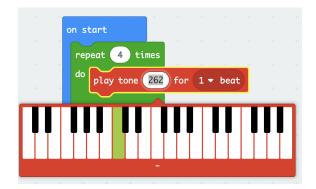
All of the blocks that are placed inside the loop block will then repeat four times.

From the music category drag the *play tone Middle C for 1 beat* block and place it inside the loop.





To play a different note click on the **Middle C** and a keyboard will appear from which you can select the note.



You can then repeat this process, dragging different blocks until you have all of the notes that you want to use.





To change the tempo of the music you can drag across the **set tempo** block and place it at the top of the loop. By default, the tempo is set to 120 beats per minute.



You can then change the tempo to 200 and you will notice that the music plays at a much higher speed.



Stretch Task

Your challenge is to use the music blocks and loops to produce your own piece of music. You should experiment will all of the different blocks until you produce a unique piece of music that you are happy with!