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# Brian May

Player Studies

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## Harmonies

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### What Is Harmony?

At its most basic (and funnily enough, most advanced) a harmony is simply two or more sounds played simultaneously. However, as we build up an understanding of playing harmonies, there are some key rules that we will want to follow. The first rule that Dion introduces in this lesson is that you will need to choose diatonic notes. Diatonic notes are simply the notes within a scale, and in this example, within the major scale. We use the G major scale in this example:

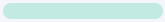

G A B C D E F# G

You can essentially create any melody you like using these notes, and then create another melody over the top using more notes from the major scale. As you can see in the video, Dion really tries to get this point engrained by trying every single melody he can think of over the top, using these 7 notes. The really essential aspect is that you get the rhythm the same in each melody, but apart from that, you can go to town! This is a great place to start, and if you have a looper this is a perfect excuse to use it!

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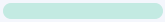

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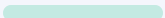

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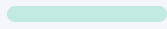

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### UNIT 4

#### Harmonies

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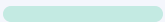

When we think of Brian May and Queen, one of the first things that comes to mind is harmony guitar parts! It's such a huge part of his sound, now it's time for you to learn how to do these harmony parts.

Lessons:

-  **What Is Harmony?**
-  **Interval Steps**
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