

# Chapter 11: Minor Scales

## Composition: A Musical Scene

Theory Focus: Minor Keys & Scales

Composition Focus: Working with Motifs, Drones, Instrumentation



### Composition

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Follow these steps to create your musical scene:

1. Find a one-paragraph excerpt that describes a scene in a story with some dramatic action. You will be creating your music to go with the story. Then you'll be reading the prose out loud as a narration to go with your music.



2. Follow this 5-step structure to create your music.

#### My Musical Scene Structure

1. Intro	<i>Drone Only</i>
2. Set the Stage	<i>Motif &amp; Variation</i>
3. Build	<i>Motif Extended</i>
4. Dramatic Action	<i>Run</i>
5. End	<i>Sustained Tonic</i>

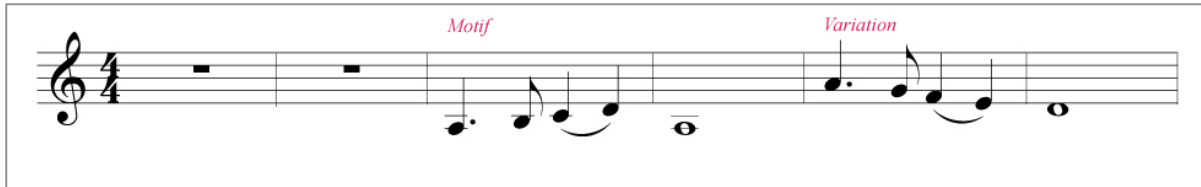
3. Start a score in 'a minor', 4/4 time and choose your instruments for your drone and main melody.

4. **Intro:** Add your drone starting in measure one.

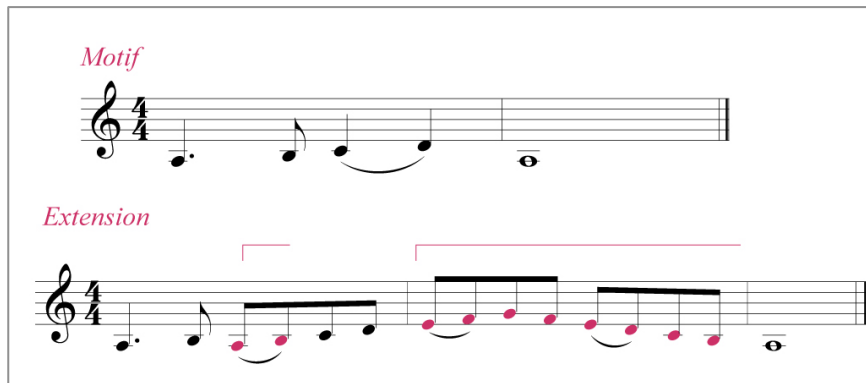
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5. **Set the Stage:** Add your motif beginning in measure 3 and develop it to include one of the following variations.

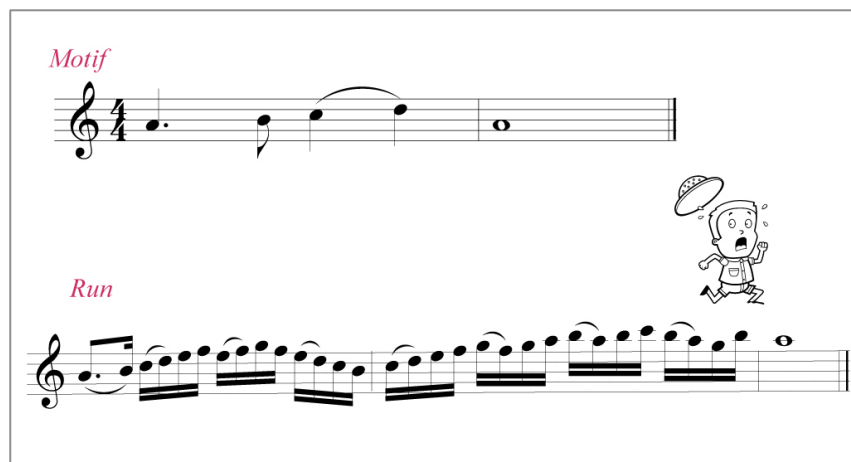
- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| a) Sequence   | d) Inversion            |
| b) Retrograde | e) Sequenced Inversion  |
| c) Repetition | f) Retrograde Inversion |



6. **Build:** Build your melodic phrases by extending them with extra notes.



7. **Dramatic Action:** Make use of runs to enhance your dramatic action.



8. **End:** End your melody on the tonic note.

9. Add extras, where you see fit, to highlight an action or character.

10. Read your prose accompanied by your music and make adjustments.