1. What is the makeup of songs in our dataset, in terms of genre?
2. What are the characteristics of each genre?
3. Which artists are more or less popular?
4. Are there any cross-genre artists?
5. What dates are covered in the dataset?
6. Does the release date of a song influence its popularity?
7. Do we see relationships between individual variables?
8. What variables influence popularity overall?
9. What variables influence popularity between each genre?
10. Do album ratings and song popularity have any correlation?

A wide variety of plots will be necessary to address the questions we have raised. Specifically:

* A histogram (geom\_histogram) would show the distribution of songs by genre (question 1).
* A boxplot (geom\_box) would be a good choice to show specific characteristics of songs by genre (question 2). A scatter plot could also work, and facetting could come in handy here as well as there are a number of characteristics to investigate. Using jitter to distinguish individual songs will really help with boxplots, given the large number of songs to be considered.
* A barplot (geom\_bar) would enable us to compare popularity among artists (question 3), but we will likely need to limit the number of artists in a single comparison because there are so many. Using coord\_flip to rotate the chart so that artist names can be read horizontally will be a big help. Another possibility would be to consider popularity by genre instead of by individual artist. This would reduce the number of bars to be displayed.
* A scatterplot (geom\_point) of popularity by release date would enable us to detect an obvious relationship (question 6). We could distinguish between genres by using a different color for each one.
* Correlation plots would work for questions 7 - 10. One option would be to use the ggcorrplot method from the package by the same name. Facetting could potentially help with question 9 by enabling us to compare multiple song characteristics simultaneously.

I don't envision needing any unique statistical transformations, but this may become necessary as we investigate further.