

Seven steps to harmonic style

- 1 Decide how many beats you are going to have in a bar. Write a simple rhythm for eight bars based on the number of beats per bar.
- 2 Write one triad for each note you have marked.
- 3 Apply the two-part rule for inversions:
 - Never use the same inversion twice in a row.
 - Always go to the nearest available inversion.
- 4 Take the top line of the inverted triads and use this as the tune.
- 5 Add steps, jumps or repeated notes to this top line.
- 6 Add the second and third triad notes below the tune in their original rhythm. Stems for the tune notes should go upwards, and the stems for the triads go downwards.
- 7 Add the bass notes. These come from first notes of the original (root position) triads.