

## Listen Up!

Christopher Eccleston introduces

### 'Ride of the Valkyries'

by Richard Wagner

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p034s31d>



Watch the full performance of Wagner's  
'Ride of the Valkyries'  
by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03bvjx7>

## Explore

### What is a LEITMOTIF?



### 60 second guide to the leitmotif From The Musicologist

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5YejJX\\_Ccs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5YejJX_Ccs)

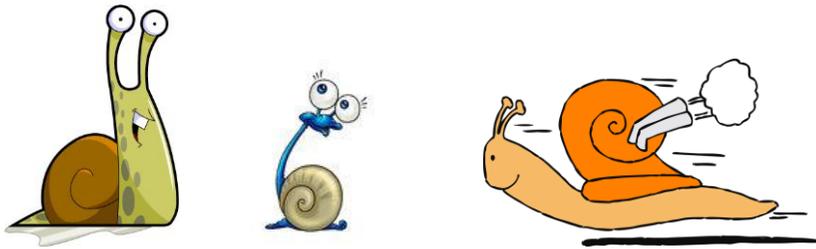
10 best Star Wars Leitmotifs - From The Musicologist

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjNeK0xhFlI>

### Key Word:

**leitmotif** – a recurrent theme tune throughout a musical composition, associated with a **particular person/character**, idea, or situation.

## Create your own **leitmotif** to suit a character.



1. Choose a character (you can invent your own)
2. Decide whether your **character** is **big/small**, **good/bad**, **cowardly/brave**, **bouncy/slow** etc.
3. **Play around with different Instrumental sounds and pitches** to find the best sound for your **character**.
4. You can alter your **leitmotif** by changing:
  - Pitch** (high/low sounds)
  - Tempo** (fast/slow sounds)
  - Dynamics** (loud/quiet)
  - Texture** (smooth long/short spikey sounds)
5. When you are happy with your **LEITMOTIF** record it (there might be someone in your household who is techy)

1. Why not create more **characters** each with their own leitmotif?
2. You might like to create a **leitmotif** for each character/person in your household? OR the characters that pass your window every day?
3. You could retell a short story and compose **leitmotifs** for each character. Playing their motif as they appear in the story.

### Playing with sounds:

You can make sounds with items from your house.  
You can use your voice to make sounds.  
You can use music from your playlists to add background.

If you have a synthesizer/keyboard - lucky you - use it 😊  
If you don't, find one on-line. Here are some examples

<https://midi.city/>  
<https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/Song-Maker/>  
<https://intro.novationmusic.com/retro-grain>

### QUICK QUIZ

Guess the Movie Theme - From The TopSpot  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeFrFunDnqC>



Some of these movies are quite old so older people in your house might have a chance of beating you 😊