

OSTINATI

by
Jean Allison

Ostinato comes from the Italian language, and means “obstinate” or “persistent”. This word is used in music to describe any musical **figure** (a few notes) or **short phrase** (musical sentence) which is **repeated over and over again**. Working with an ostinato is a good approach to inventing your own simple accompaniment to a melody. The following tunes will give you the opportunity to both play ostinato and invent your own ostinato figures.

Chimes

Not too fast Jean Allison

Ostinato pattern

Here, an ostinato using quavers has been built. The quavers are grouped in fours (see bar 1) on the pattern of notes G D E D, and these are played throughout the piece. The sign = repeat the previous bar.

This piece sounds well using:

- (a) Soprano Glockenspiel with
(b) Alto Glockenspiel

or

- (a) Alto Metallophone or Xylophone with
(b) Alto Glockenspiel

Optional percussion patterns - use them to create clock effects like “ticks & tocks” or chimes.

Wood 1							
Wood 2							
Triangle							
Metal							

Repeat lines
as required