

# Performance Level Guidelines

## Musical Elements

	Rhythm and Groove	Musicality	Vocalization
<b>1</b>	The performance exhibits no clear, consistent meter or tempo in the rhythm section with no unity between percussion and bass.	The performance exhibits no clear musical plan. Dynamic choices seem completely random, articulation is choppy or ploddy, and phrasing is inappropriate and disjointed.	The performance exhibits no appropriate or unified vocalizations. Syllables, background vocals, and echos are muddy and ineffective.
<b>2</b>	The performance exhibits very little clarity of meter and tempo, and the rhythm section is rarely unified. The groove and sounds are inappropriate for the song.	The performance exhibits rare moments of seemingly planned dynamics and phrasing. Articulation is rarely unified and appropriate.	The performance exhibits rare instances of appropriate and unified vocalizations. Syllables, background vocals, and echos are frequently messy and mostly detract from the performance
<b>3</b>	The performance exhibits some clarity of meter and tempo, and the rhythm section is seldom unified, however the groove and sounds are inappropriate (too complex, too simple) for the song.	The performance seldomly exhibits dynamic contrast and proper articulation. Phrasing is usually poor and ineffective.	The performance seldomly exhibits instances of appropriate and unified vocalizations. Syllables, background vocals, and echos are inconsistent and often detract from the performance.
<b>4</b>	The performance exhibits a meter and tempo that are not poor but still mostly unsatisfactory. Complexity is somewhat appropriate but inconsistent. Rhythm section is occasionally unified.	The performance exhibits occasional dynamic contrast and proper articulation. Phrasing is occasionally effective and appropriate, but still very inconsistently so.	The performance exhibits occasionally appropriate and unified vocalizations. Syllables, background vocals, and echos are sometimes clear but have little creativity and are still often distractions.
<b>5</b>	The performance exhibits a satisfactory and steady meter and tempo. Groove complexity is appropriate, and the rhythm section is somewhat unified.	The performance exhibits frequent dynamic contrast and some appropriate articulation, however they seem unnatural and appear to be forced. Phrasing is inconsistent. "Forgettable performance".	The performance exhibits vocalizations that are somewhat appropriate and unified. Syllables, background vocals, and echos have some creativity but are often unbalanced and lack energy.
<b>6</b>	The performance exhibits an appropriate and interesting groove that stays mostly "in the pocket". The rhythm section is often unified.	The performance exhibits mostly appropriate dynamic contrast and articulation, however they seem slightly unnatural and forced. Phrasing is clearly planned but somewhat inconsistent.	The performance exhibits mostly appropriate vocalizations that are often unified and balanced. Syllables and backgrounds are somewhat creative but with inconsistent energy.

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7	The performance exhibits a great groove that is appropriate and mostly consistent. As the song changes the groove changes with it, but there are still occasional distractions and disunity.	The performance exhibits a clear dynamic plan and clear articulation choices that are very appropriate, but still have occasional errors and distractions. Phrasing is quite good and fairly consistent.	The performance exhibits frequently unified and balanced vocalizations. Syllables and backgrounds are mostly creative and energetic, frequently imitating instrument sounds, but inconsistently.
8	The performance exhibits a consistent groove with great unity in the rhythm section. Complexity is inventive, engaging, but still appropriate.	The performance exhibits an interesting dynamic plan and articulation choices that are very appropriate and frequently unified. Phrasing is great, and very engaging.	The performance exhibits consistently unified and balanced vocalizations. Syllables and backgrounds are very creative and energetic, and instrument sound imitations are clear and mostly consistent.
9	The performance exhibits a mastery of skill and technique and is almost always unified. The groove and sounds change with the song appropriately, with clean transitions.	The performance exhibits exciting dynamic plan and articulations that are consistently appropriate. Phrasing is almost always natural and artistic, and extremely engaging.	The performance exhibits exciting and engaging vocalizations. Syllables and backgrounds are consistently creative and energetic. Instrument sounds add interest and fun to the performance.
10	The performance exhibits an exceptional groove which is completely appropriate to the song in all its sections, perfectly unified between percussion and bass, feeling completely effortless and natural.	The performance exhibits an exceptional dynamic plan that develops with the song. The articulations are perfect and totally unified. Phrasing is completely natural, artistic, and musically fulfilling.	The performance exhibits exceptional vocalizations. Syllables, backgrounds, and echos are flawlessly integrated into the song and bring the whole piece together into one cohesive, enthralling performance.



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