Melody Writing Made Easy

When writing a melody, it is very important to do two things:

- 1. Begin and end with notes from chord I.
- 2. Finish your melody with the tonic note.

Compose a beginning and ending to this melody in F major:



Now play the first two bars of the above melody on your instrument. Notice how it sounds unfinished? That's because it has chord V notes at the halfway point. This creates a a sense that the melody is still going.

Compose the second bar of this melody in G major. Use notes from chord V to create an 'unfinished' sound.



So, 3 good things to remember about melody writing are:

- ★ Begin with chord I
- ★ Halfway = unfinished (usually best with chord V)
- ★ Ending = chord I and finish on the tonic note

Complete this C major melody with a good beginning, middle and ending.



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