

I want to be a . . . Composer

Initial Career Steps:

- If you aren't already educated in basic music theory, you need to be. Understanding the rudiments of music will aid you in the arrangement process as well as give you the ability to discuss and critically analyze your work. To learn more about music theory, you can hire a private music tutor or enroll in a music theory course at your local community college.
- Decide what emotions or images you want to convey with your music and develop a theme or main melodic phrase that will achieve that goal.
- Begin with a simple melody and improvise a few variations on this theme; it will be the driving force of your composition. Experiment with rhythms, pitches, and harmonies that will accompany this theme.
- Arrange your song in a way that communicates with your audience, but also keeps them interested in what you're trying to say.
- Pay attention to your creative intuition and record any spur of the moment ideas or melodies as they occur to you. Either carry a small recorder or journal to document these thoughts.

Local Resources:



-- Armstrong Community Music School:
<http://acmsaustin.org/>

-- Artist House Music:
<http://www.artisthousemusic.org/videos/becoming+a+composer+for+film+television+or+video+games>

-- The Composer's Site:
<http://www.composerssite.com/>