

# Melodic Motion Guidelines

1. **Conjunct Motion is good!** Melody remains still or moves stepwise (creating a shape) – do have some leaps though otherwise it's boring! Note that the **rhythm is rather simplistic**, using only dotted crotchets, crotchets and quavers:

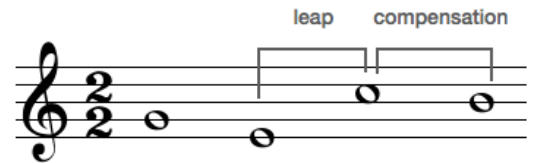


2. **Disjunct Motion is bad!** Continuous movement by more than a step doesn't sound like a melody!

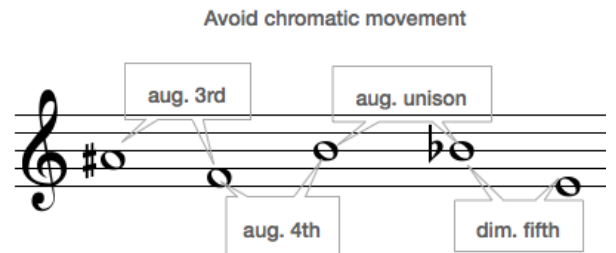


3. **Avoid making successive same-direction leaps unless they outline a triad.** If they can't be avoided they should at least total less than an octave.

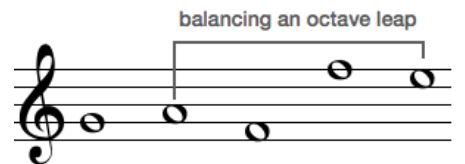
4. **Leaps greater than a 5th** should be compensated by stepwise movement in the opposite direction.



5. **Avoid moving by a chromatic interval** (i.e. any augmented or diminished interval).



6. **Leaps of an octave should be doubly balanced:** preceded and followed by notes within the octave.



7. **Avoid outlining a tritone in melody.** A tritone is outlined if the melodic line changes direction at the notes that form it.



8. Tendency Tones are notes that have tendency to resolve to another note. The **7<sup>th</sup> degree** has a tendency to resolve to the **1<sup>st</sup> degree** (except in a descending scale: 1-7-6-5). The **4<sup>th</sup> degree** has a tendency to resolve to the **3<sup>rd</sup> degree**, but not as strong as the 7<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup>.

Examples:

1. Good!



2. Not good:

