

# Music Mania

## Idea Starter

Sometimes a creative idea can pop into your head by way of your ears.....



Here are three ways you can use music to help you brainstorm for the ultimate, out-of-the-box idea or solution to a problem.

### **OPTION #1 Use music to relax you.**

- Listen to music that helps you relax.
- Think pleasant thoughts ☺
- Let your mind wander.....for at least five minutes.
- Then, start listing possible ideas to your challenge WITHOUT JUDGING THEM, just 'puke' them onto the paper.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
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8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

### **OPTION #2 Listen to music that changes.**

- Listen to the song and try to imagine what the music is trying to tell you, **what do you picture in your head.**
- Listen to the song again and focus your attention on any **changes in mood, speed, sound level, etc. Think about what that could mean.**
- As you listen for these things, list your thoughts.
- Use these thoughts to inspire ideas for your design.

For example:

1. A loud crash = thunder
2. The light pings of the piano =rain
3. The change from soft to loud =danger was coming

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**OPTION #3 Listen to the words of songs.**

- Listen to one or more songs that have interesting lyrics.

- As you listen, write down word, phrases, or complete sentences that intrigue you.
- Use these words to inspire ideas for your design.

For example:

1. "in the middle of the night"
2. "drives me wild"
3. "you know even though the river is wide"

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**"Good Riddance (Time Of Your Life)"**

Another turning point, a fork stuck in the road  
Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go  
So make the best of this test, and don't ask why  
It's not a question, but a lesson learned in time

It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right,  
I hope you had the time of your life.

So take the photographs, and still frames in your mind  
Hang it on a shelf in good health and good time  
Tattoos of memories and dead skin on trial  
For what it's worth it was worth all the while

It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right,  
I hope you had the time of your life.

It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right,  
I hope you had the time of your life.

It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right,  
I hope you had the time of your life.

Choose three or more items from the lists above and describe how you could create an original/creative picture that includes your homework topic:

For example:

1. **The light pings of the piano =rain** might make you think of relaxing or sad or lots and lots of water...hmmmm, how could you make that interesting to look at?
2. **With the lyric, "in the middle of the night"**= might make you think of nighttime creatures or animals or things that happen in the middle of the night....

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Adapted from "Brain Boosters for Business Advantage: Ticklers, Grab Bags, Blue Skies, and Other Bionic Ideas" by Arthur VanGundy.