

Key concepts

- In Indian music a 'rag' (literal meaning is 'colouring') is used to create tunes.
- Bollywood is a genre increasing in popularity.
- Bollywood musical ideas are frequently used within modern western music by artists such as Will. I. Am.
- Many musicians can improvise musically.
- Some musicians prefer to improvise along to a 'drone'.
- A drone is usually played on a keyboard or glockenspiel.
- A 'tal' is an important element of Indian music.
- African drums, such as bongos or djembes can make three different sounds by using different parts of the hand on different parts of the drum.

Key Vocabulary

raag	A melodic framework for improvisation.
Bollywood	Musical film industry based in Bombay.
genre	A style or category of music.
improvise	Create and perform spontaneously.
drone	where a note or chord is continuously sounded throughout most of a piece.
solo	A performance by a single person.
ensemble	A group of performers.
tabla	An Indian percussion instrument.
tal	A rhythmic beat in Indian music.
Bongo drum	An African percussion instrument.
Djembe	An African percussion instrument.

Drums from the Indian and African sub-continent

A Tabla



The tabla is a percussion instrument originating from the Indian subcontinent, consisting of a pair of drums, used in traditional, classical, popular and folk music.

Bongo Drums



Bongos are an Afro-Cuban percussion instrument consisting of a pair of small open-bottomed drums of different sizes.

Djembe Drum



A djembe or jembe is a rope-tuned skin-covered goblet drum played with bare hands, originally from West Africa.

Things to do at home

What do you know about Bollywood Music?
Can you identify any Bollywood influences in music you know?
One example is 'Jai Ho' by The Pussycat Dolls.

