

## Writing From The Hook

### 5 Tips To Kick Off Your Next Songwriting Session

“Writing from the hook” is a songwriting technique where the composition begins with the catchiest part of the song. Hooks are often found in the chorus, but a great song will often have multiple hooks placed strategically throughout the song’s arrangement.

#### **1. Short, Memorable and Repeatable**

- Can be spoken or sung
- Occupy a predictable number of beats/bars
- \*Tip\* Write catchy lyrics by borrowing from popular phrases

#### **2. 3 - 5 Unique Notes**

- Usually consisting of diatonic scale steps
- Often utilizes the pentatonic scale
- \*Tip\* Count the number of unique notes in popular music that inspires you!

#### **3. Rhythmically Interesting**

- Incorporate syncopation
- Clever but not complicated
- Disrupts predictability

#### **4. Utilize Space**

- There is a clearly defined ending to the hook
- A chance to breathe and start it over again
- \*Tip\* Use the hook as an opportunity to change the cadence of your lyric/melody

#### **5. Grab the Listener’s Attention**

- Exploit the element of surprise
- Sudden changes in vocal register and large intervallic leaps
- \*Tip\* Use a mix of short/percussive and long-vowel words