

How can we create interest, tension, and contrast?

1. Build the verse and chorus using different grooves/rhythmic feel.
2. Use different chord progressions in the verse and in the chorus (also for the bridge if you have one).
3. Alter the melody in the different sections of the song.
4. If the verse is wordy, make the chorus sparse, or vice versa.
5. Make the words feel genuine, like the way we speak in conversation and everyday exchanges with people.

EXERCISE:

Choose some songs on your song list. Take a look at:

1. Form
2. The Title
3. Verses, Pre-Choruses (if any), Choruses, Bridges (if any)
4. Is there a pre-chorus? If so, how many measures?
5. Is there a bridge? If so, how does the writer differentiate the bridge from the rest of the sections? (lyrically? musically?)
6. How does the chorus differ from the verse?
7. Count how many measures are in each of the following sections: intro, verse, pre-chorus (if there is one), chorus, bridge (if there is one).
8. How does the melody differ in each of the sections? How do the chords progress and contrast between sections?