Education Support

American Dance

Charting Music

by Debbie Byrd

Most music is arranged in 16 beat phrases or 4 measures and 2 phrases or 32 counts usually makes one complete step. Directions: Locate the Introduction, all choruses, all verses, and the ending. Draw your outline using 8's and large lines across where music changes occur. (Example is shown below)

Example Outline:

8 INTRODUCTION
8

_____
8 VERSE 1
8
8
8

_____
8 VERSE 2
8
8
8

_____
8 CHORUS
8
8
8

_____
8 BRIDGE
8

_____
8 VERSE 3
8
8
8

_____
8 VERSE 4
8
8
8

_____
8 CHORUS - REPEAT
8
8
8

_____
8 ENDING
8
8
7

Listen to the music over and over again, then you can begin to make a few notes on your music outline pertaining to specific steps, movements, and formations which you could incorporate into your choreography