

Vocal Skills Ladder

Range:

- Our Vocal range is the number of notes that we can reach with our voices, from the lowest up to the highest. By working out what our vocal range is, we have more awareness of where our chest voice and head voice is; where we need to use mixed voice, where is best to belt or use falsetto.
- Knowing your vocal range can also help to find new songs that cater for your range, and can establish whether you are a soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, or bass singer.
- Working out your range:

How High? - with a piano, beginning with middle C, sing each note, ascending with a 'la' vowel and at a comfortable speed. As you ascend, make a note of which note is at the top of your chest voice and can sing before flipping into head voice. Keep ascending from here until you reach the highest note that you can sing clearly, as this is the top of your range.

How Low? - with a piano, and beginning with middle C, sing each note, descending with a 'la' vowel and at a comfortable speed. As you descend, really concentrate on applying enough breath support, and sing with as much projection as possible. Make a note of the lowest note that you can sing clearly, as this is the lowest note in your range.

(Without a piano, try this exercise to find your highest and lowest notes and determine your range: <https://youtu.be/9lejHKpfHso>)

Suggested songs that cover various ranges include "Wake Me Up" - Avicii, "Marry You" - Bruno Mars, "Feeling Good" - Muse, "Skinny Love" - Birdy & "Feel Good Inc" - Gorillaz.