

Classical Composers for Dummies: Music History for the Musically Challenged

By Maggie Hogan

Supply list:

Your library

Timeline

Map

Index cards for See, Say, Stack

Four Main Periods:

Baroque – mid 1600's to mid 1700's

Classical – mid 1700's to early 1800's

Romantic – 1800's to early 1900's

20th century – well, 20th century

Baroque Period:

Vivaldi 1678-1741

Listen to:

- Gloria
- Concerto for Two Cellos in G minor

Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Listen to:

- Brandenburg Concertos
- Magnificat
- Unaccompanied Cello Suites

George Frideric Handel 1685-1759

Listen to:

- Messiah
- Water Music

Classical Period:

Joseph Haydn (HIE-din) 1732-1809

Listen to:

- Surprise Symphony (no. 94)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (MOAT-sart) 1756-1791

Listen to:

- Requiem
- Violin Concerto no. 5 in A major
- Piano Sonata in G major
- The Magic Flute

Beethoven (BAY-toe-ven) 1770-1827

Listen to:

- Any of his symphonies, particularly no. 5
- Piano Concerto no. 4 in G major
- Piano Sonata no. 14 in C-sharp minor

Franz Schubert (SHOE-bert) 1797-1828

Listen to:

- Symphony No. 8 – his unfinished symphony
- Symphonies no. 4, 5 and 9

Romantic Era:

Mendelssohn 1809-1847

Listen to:

- Elijah
- Piano Concerto no. 1 in G minor
- Octet for Strings in E-flat major – written when he was 16.

Chopin 1810-1849 (sho-PAN)

Listen to:

- Piano Concerto no. 1 in E minor
- 24 Preludes