

# Three points to remember when transposing a melody

a) *The key signature*

*(what key is the melody in and what key do you need to transpose into to represent concert pitch)*

b) *The intervals when transposing*

*(if you are transposing down a major 2nd, the interval must be consistent all the way through the melody)*

c) *Accidentals*

*(when you are transposing a melody which contains # or b signs, remember to adjust the notes at concert pitch so that the intervals remain the same).*

*Below is a melody written for Eb Saxophone (the Alto Sax)*



*First look at the melody:*

i) *it is in the treble clef*

ii) *the F# in the key signature suggests either G Major or E Minor*

iii) *The note G appears a lot like a tonic, so we will assume the melody is in G Major.*

*If we are going to re-write this melody at concert pitch we need to change the key signature. The Saxophone in Eb transposes down a Major 6th, so the first step is to create a Major 6th interval between G Major and the new Key.*

*(remember you need to transpose down)*



*Major 6th interval*

*The new key becomes Bb Major*

*Once I have written in the new key signature, I can transpose all of the notes down a 6th.*



*Finally, we need to add the accidental. In the original melody the Bb implies that the note has been lowered, so we must do the same. Bb played at concert pitch would be written as Db. The melody below represents the finished transposition.*

