



The Sonic Architect:

Crafting Masterful Instrumentals with Suno AI

By TowerIO LLC

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Chapter 1: Introduction to Suno AI for Instrumentalists

1.1 Unveiling Suno AI: Your AI Co-Composer for Instrumentals

Suno AI has emerged as a significant tool in the landscape of music creation, offering the ability to generate musical pieces without necessitating traditional musical skills, instruments, or specialized equipment.¹ At its core, Suno AI simplifies the music creation process through an intuitive interface, primarily functioning as a text-to-music generator that can compose entire songs, including instrumental arrangements.¹ This capability positions it as a powerful ally for anyone looking to produce original instrumental music, regardless of their prior experience.³

While Suno AI can produce music rapidly and serve as an excellent starting point for professional-quality compositions, it's beneficial to view it as an idea catalyst or a sophisticated brainstorming partner rather than an all-encompassing final solution, particularly for intricate instrumental works.¹ The current state of AI, while advanced, may sometimes require users to engage in further editing or layering, potentially outside of Suno, to achieve highly polished, professional-grade instrumental tracks. This understanding encourages a hybrid approach, where the AI's strengths in rapid ideation and generation are combined with human oversight and refinement, managing expectations and fostering a collaborative relationship between the creator and the tool.

1.2 Why Instrumentals? The Unique Power of Non-Vocal AI Music

Instrumental music holds a unique appeal and serves a multitude of purposes, from providing evocative background scores for films and videos to offering personal enjoyment and supporting content creation or marketing efforts.¹ This guide is dedicated exclusively to the art and science of crafting non-vocal music using Suno AI. The absence of lyrics shifts the entire expressive burden onto the musical elements themselves – melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, and structure – making the nuanced control offered by Suno AI particularly valuable for instrumental composers.

1.3 Navigating the Suno AI Interface: Simple vs. Custom Mode for Instrumental Creation

Suno AI provides users with two primary interfaces for music generation: Simple Mode (often referred to as Prompt Mode) and Custom Mode.¹ Simple Mode typically involves a single input field where the user describes their desired song, encompassing aspects like theme, mood, or genre.¹ While convenient for quick explorations, Custom Mode offers significantly greater control, which is paramount for detailed instrumental

work.²

In Custom Mode, users can access separate fields for "Style of Music," "Lyrics" (even when generating instrumentals), and "Title".³ This separation is crucial for the instrumental architect. The "Style of Music" field becomes the primary canvas for defining the sonic palette, while the "Lyrics" field, when the "Instrumental" toggle is active, transforms into a powerful tool for inputting structural tags, mood shifts, and specific instrumental cues.¹ Consequently, users serious about crafting detailed and nuanced instrumental pieces will find Custom Mode to be their principal workspace, allowing them to leverage Suno AI's full descriptive power for shaping non-vocal music.

1.4 Understanding Suno's "Chirp" Model: How It Hears Your Instrumental Prompts

Suno AI utilizes distinct underlying models for different aspects of music generation. The "Chirp" model is specifically responsible for managing and producing instrumental components, including musical arrangements and background sounds.² While documentation might also mention "Bark," which handles vocal elements, activating the "Instrumental" toggle within Suno AI directs the system to prioritize the "Chirp" model's output.²

The "Instrumental" toggle is a foundational command for any non-vocal creation. It acts as a clear directive to the AI, ensuring that all prompt information is interpreted through the lens of instrumental music generation.³ This means that even if a user describes a traditionally vocal genre in their prompt, Suno's "Chirp" model will endeavor to create an instrumental interpretation, offering a wide field for creative exploration. This clarification is important, as it allows users to confidently focus the "Chirp" model on their instrumental vision, irrespective of broader discussions about vocal generation in general Suno AI documentation.

Chapter 2: The Bedrock of Instrumental Sound: Core Prompting Principles

The creation of compelling instrumental music with Suno AI hinges on the art and science of prompt engineering. Understanding how to communicate musical ideas effectively to the AI is fundamental. This chapter delves into the core principles of prompting, focusing on the "Style of Music" field, the critical "Instrumental" toggle, and the strategic use of the "Lyrics" field for non-vocal compositions.

2.1 The Anatomy of an Instrumental Prompt: "Style of Music" Field Deep Dive

For instrumental music, the "Style of Music" field is the most critical input area. A well-crafted prompt in this field acts as the blueprint for the AI, guiding its choices in genre, instrumentation, mood, and texture.¹ Specificity is paramount; the more detailed and nuanced the description, the closer Suno AI can get to the user's creative vision.² Vague prompts in this field are a primary contributor to generic or unfocused instrumental outputs.⁹

2.1.1 Defining Genre and Sub-genre: From Broad Strokes to Niche Sounds

Specifying the genre is a foundational step. This can range from broad categories like "rock," "jazz," or "electronic" to more niche sub-genres such as "symphonic orchestra," "ambient electronica," "indie folk," or "synthwave".¹ Suno AI is also capable of blending genres, allowing for creative fusions like "Jazztronica" or "midwest emo + neosoul" if prompted correctly.⁶ The clarity of genre definition helps the AI select appropriate instrumental palettes, rhythmic frameworks, and harmonic languages.

2.1.2 Crafting Mood and Emotion: Evoking Feeling Without Words

Since instrumental music lacks lyrics to convey explicit meaning, mood and emotion descriptors are vital. Terms such as "melancholic," "upbeat," "serene," "dramatic," "triumphant," or "unsettling" guide the AI in shaping the piece's affective character.¹ These descriptors influence the AI's choices regarding tempo, modality (major/minor feel), harmonic complexity, and even instrumental articulation.⁸ An "emotional arc" can also be prompted, suggesting a journey through different feeling states.⁶

2.1.3 Specifying Key Instrumentation: Your Virtual Ensemble

Mentioning specific instruments is crucial for defining the timbre and texture of the instrumental. Suno AI responds well to prompts that emphasize instrument focus.¹ Examples include "synth pads," "acoustic guitar," "electric bass," "soaring strings," or "powerful brass".¹ However, it's advisable to be judicious: prompting too many instruments simultaneously or using plural forms (e.g., "trumpets" instead of

"trumpet") can sometimes lead to a cluttered sound or even distortion.¹⁴ The goal is to suggest a coherent ensemble that aligns with the desired genre and mood.

2.1.4 Setting the Pace: Tempo, Rhythm, and Groove

Tempo and rhythmic characteristics significantly impact an instrumental's energy and feel. Prompts can include general tempo indications like "slow," "medium," or "fast," or specific Beats Per Minute (BPM) values like "90 BPM".⁷ Rhythmic qualities can also be described, for instance, "upbeat rhythms," "polyrhythmic layers," "constantly shifting tempos," or "syncopated groove".⁶

2.1.5 Narrative and Storytelling Cues for Instrumental Journeys

Even without lyrics, instrumental music can tell a story or paint a scene. Providing a narrative context or describing an emotional journey within the "Style of Music" prompt can help Suno AI generate a more coherent and thematically developed piece.² For example, a prompt like "An epic orchestral piece for a fantasy adventure scene, depicting a perilous journey culminating in a heroic victory" provides the AI with a structural and emotional framework to guide its composition.

The "Style of Music" field, therefore, is not merely a suggestion box but the primary directive for the AI's instrumental composition engine, "Chirp".² The richness and precision of this prompt directly correlate with the specificity and quality of the generated music.

2.2 The "Instrumental" Toggle: Its Role and Implications

The "Instrumental" toggle is a straightforward yet critical feature in Suno AI.³ Activating this toggle (turning it ON) is the definitive step to ensure that the AI generates a purely non-vocal piece of music.³ This command instructs Suno AI to bypass vocal generation (typically handled by its "Bark" model) and focus entirely on its "Chirp" model for instrumental sound production.²

An important implication of this toggle is its genre-agnostic nature. The "Instrumental" command operates independently of the genre specified in the "Style of Music" field. This means users can request an instrumental version of any genre, even those traditionally reliant on vocals, such as "Pop Ballad" or "Opera." While this offers immense creative freedom, users should be mindful that the AI might require more detailed melodic guidance for instruments when tackling genres where vocal melodies usually carry the primary thematic material.

2.3 Strategic Use of the "Lyrics" Field for Instrumental Control

One of the most powerful, and often underutilized, techniques for crafting sophisticated instrumentals in Suno AI is the strategic use of the "Lyrics" field, even when the "Instrumental" toggle is ON. This field transforms from a space for lyrical input into a timeline or an arrangement controller for instrumental music.¹

Users can populate this field with:

- **Structural Meta-Tags:** [Intro], [Verse], [Chorus], ,, [Outro], etc., to define the song's form.¹
- **Tempo and Mood Cues per Section:** Descriptors like [Verse: slow, melancholic] or [Chorus: upbeat, energetic] can guide sectional changes.
- **Specific Instrumental Events:** Tags like ,, `` , or even (gentle piano melody) can pinpoint moments for particular instrumental actions.¹
- **Sound Effects:** Parenthetical cues like (wind chimes) or (distant thunder) can be inserted to suggest atmospheric additions.¹

By sequentially placing these tags and cues in the "Lyrics" field, users are essentially creating a conductor's score or an arrangement map, guiding the AI through the temporal structure and key events of the instrumental piece. This method provides a significant degree of control over the composition's development, helping to overcome issues like aimless or repetitive instrumental passages by imposing a clear, intentional structure.⁹ Some users have reported that even a single space in the lyrics field can be sufficient when primarily relying on the "Style of Music" field for instrumental direction.⁷

The following table provides a consolidated checklist of core prompting components, their purpose in instrumental music, example snippets, and key considerations to aid in crafting effective prompts.

Table 2.1: Core Prompting Components for Instrumentals

Prompt Component	Purpose in Instrumental Music	Example Prompt Snippet	Key Considerations/Tips
Genre & Sub-genre (Style Field)	Defines the overall musical style, harmonic language, typical instrumentation, and rhythmic feel.	Cinematic Orchestral, Ambient Lo-fi, Progressive Metal Jazz Fusion	Be specific. Combine for unique blends. Primary genre first. ¹
Mood & Emotion (Style Field)	Sets the emotional tone, influencing melody, harmony, tempo, and dynamics.	melancholic, introspective, triumphant, heroic, serene, peaceful, dark, unsettling	Use vivid adjectives. Consider an emotional arc across the piece. ²
Key Instruments (Style Field)	Specifies the primary instruments to be featured, defining the core timbre.	soaring strings, piano lead, distorted electric guitar, heavy drums, synth pads, 808 bass	Focus on a coherent ensemble. Avoid too many instruments or plurals to prevent muddiness/distortion. ¹
Tempo & Rhythm (Style Field)	Dictates the pace and rhythmic character of the music.	slow tempo, 70 BPM, upbeat driving rhythm, syncopated groove, polyrhythmic textures	Can be general (e.g., "fast") or specific (BPM). Describe the feel. ⁶
Narrative/Story (Style Field)	Provides a conceptual framework, leading to more thematically coherent music.	soundtrack for a lonely desert journey, music for a tense chase scene	Helps AI create a sense of progression and purpose. ²
"Instrumental" Toggle	Ensures no vocals are generated, focusing AI on instrumental elements.	Toggle ON	Fundamental first step for all instrumental music. ³

Structural Tags (Lyrics Field)	Defines the sections of the song (e.g., Intro, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Solo, Outro).	[Intro][Verse 1][Chorus][Outro]	Essential for creating familiar song forms and controlling flow. ¹
Sectional Descriptors (Lyrics Field)	Modifies mood, tempo, or instrumentation for specific sections.	[Verse: quiet, sparse piano][Chorus: energetic, full band]	Allows for dynamic changes within the piece. ¹
Sound Effects (Lyrics Field)	Adds non-musical atmospheric elements.	(wind howling), (distant city sounds)	Use sparingly for specific effects. Format typically in parentheses. ¹

Chapter 3: Mastering Meta-Tags for Instrumental Structure and Flow

Meta-tags are short, bracketed commands placed within the "Style of Music" prompt or, more commonly for structural control in instrumentals, within the "Lyrics" field (even with the "Instrumental" toggle active). They serve as crucial signposts for Suno AI, guiding its understanding of song form, instrumental events, energy dynamics, and overall sophistication. Mastering these tags is key to transforming a simple idea into a well-structured and engaging instrumental piece.

3.1 Essential Structural Tags: [Intro], [Verse], [Chorus], `` , [Outro]

These are the foundational building blocks for creating recognizable musical forms, even in instrumental music.¹

- **[Intro]:** Marks the beginning of the piece, often setting the initial mood and perhaps introducing key thematic material or instruments in a sparser arrangement.¹
- **[Verse]:** Typically a section that develops musical ideas. In instrumentals, this might correspond to a section with a particular melodic theme or harmonic progression, perhaps with a consistent texture.¹
- **[Chorus]:** Represents the main, often most memorable or impactful section. In instrumentals, this could be where a primary theme is stated most forcefully, or where the arrangement reaches a higher energy level.¹
- **``:** Provides contrast to the verse and chorus sections. This might involve a change in key, tempo, instrumentation, or mood, offering a departure before a potential return to a main section.¹
- **[Outro]:** Signals the end of the piece, often providing a sense of resolution, perhaps by fading out, reprising an earlier theme, or introducing new, concluding material.¹

Using these tags sequentially in the "Lyrics" field helps Suno AI construct a coherent and conventional song structure, which is vital for instrumentals that need clear sectional differentiation to maintain listener engagement.

3.2 Dynamic Instrumental Sections: [Instrumental Interlude], ,, ,, ``

Beyond basic song structure, several tags allow for more detailed articulation of specific instrumental events and sections:

- ******:** This tag signals Suno AI to generate a short, repeated instrumental phrase or

motif.¹⁸ It is particularly effective when combined with a specific instrument, such as or . The tag can be placed in the "Style of Music" prompt to influence the overall composition or, more precisely, within the "Lyrics" field to dictate its exact placement in the arrangement.¹⁸ This tag is a valuable tool for establishing recurring themes or "hooks" in an instrumental piece, helping to combat the "aimless soloing" sometimes encountered by users.⁹ By strategically reusing a `` tag, one can guide the AI towards motivic development.

- ****: Used to highlight a particular instrument performing a featured melodic or improvisational part. Examples include, ,, or ``.¹⁵
- **[Instrumental Interlude] / [Melodic Interlude]**: These tags are used to create distinct sections that are purely instrumental, often serving as transitions or moments of musical exposition without a strong "solo" focus.¹⁹
- /: These tags instruct the AI to create a section where some or all melodic instruments drop out, often leaving the rhythm section (or just percussion) to carry the music for a few bars.¹⁹ This can be used for dynamic contrast or to set up a return to a fuller section.

3.3 Building Energy and Dynamics: , `[Crescendo]`,,, [Climax], ``

These tags are essential for sculpting the energy flow and dynamic contour of an instrumental piece, making it more engaging and less monotonous:

- ``: Instructs Suno AI to gradually increase energy, tension, or complexity. This can manifest as increasing drum complexity (e.g., faster hi-hats, layered percussion), rising filter sweeps, richer harmonic layers, or more intense emotional delivery from the instruments.¹⁷
- **[Crescendo]**: Similar to , this tag specifically requests a gradual increase in volume and/or intensity.²⁹ It can be effectively combined with instrument tags (e.g., `[Crescendo]`) to specify which elements should swell. It's advisable to follow a `[Crescendo]` with a peak moment like a `[Chorus]` or for maximum impact.²⁹
- ``: Marks a point of high-energy impact, often characterized by the full engagement of the beat, bass, and main melodic hook, particularly common in electronic and dance genres but adaptable to others.¹⁷
- **[Climax]**: Functions similarly to ``, indicating a peak moment of intensity or emotional culmination in the music.²³
- ****: Signals a section where the energy or density of the arrangement is significantly reduced, often by stripping away layers of instruments. This can create contrast, provide a breather, or set up a subsequent or ``.⁶

3.4 Advanced Modifiers: [Complex Progression], `` , [Epic] – Crafting

Sophistication

For users seeking to guide Suno AI towards more elaborate and nuanced instrumental compositions, advanced modifiers can be employed in conjunction with structural or instrumental tags:

- **[Complex Progression]**: This modifier encourages the AI to generate more intricate musical progressions, moving beyond standard chord structures or simple repetitive riffs. It is particularly well-suited for progressive genres like progressive rock, jazz fusion, or complex orchestral arrangements.¹⁸
- ********: When combined with `[Complex Progression]` to form, this pairing emphasizes shifts in intensity within the complex progression. This can result in more expressive instrumental passages with noticeable volume swells, changes in instrumental tone, and accentuated note articulations.¹⁸
- **[Epic]**: Adding [Epic] to a prompt, or combining it as [Epic Complex Progression], instructs Suno AI to expand the scale and grandeur of the arrangement. This often leads to the inclusion of lush orchestral layering, deep reverbs, soaring melodies, powerful percussion, and slow, dramatic build-ups, lending a cinematic or grandiose quality to the music.¹⁸

These modifiers can be thought of as "adverbs" that qualify the "verbs" (the main structural or instrumental tags). For instance, if is the instruction to "play a riff," then modifies *how* that riff is played, imbuing it with dynamic shifts and intricate changes. This suggests a layered approach to prompting: first establish the basic structure and instrumental events, then refine their character and execution with these powerful modifiers. Such a hierarchical prompting logic can guide the AI to produce more sophisticated and less static musical outputs.

The following table provides a comprehensive glossary of common and advanced meta-tags relevant to instrumental music creation in Suno AI.

Table 3.1: Comprehensive Meta-Tag Glossary for Instrumentals

Meta-Tag	Primary Function in Instrumentals	Placement (Field)	Example Usage in a Prompt	Notes/Tips for Effectiveness
[Intro]	Marks the beginning section, sets mood.	Lyrics	[Intro] soft ethereal pads	Often sparser instrumentation. ¹
[Verse]	Develops musical themes or ideas.	Lyrics	[Verse] melancholic piano melody	Can have consistent texture. ¹
[Chorus]	Main impactful section, often with a strong theme.	Lyrics	[Chorus] triumphant brass fanfare, full orchestra	Typically higher energy or fuller arrangement. ¹
``	Provides contrast to other sections.	Lyrics	shifts to minor key, solo cello	Good for changing mood or instrumentation. ¹
[Outro]	Concluding section, provides resolution or fade.	Lyrics	[Outro] fades out with repeating guitar riff	Can reprise earlier themes or introduce new closing material. ¹
[Instrumental Interlude]	A distinct instrumental section, often transitional.	Lyrics	[Instrumental Interlude] ambient synths and light percussion	Good for a breather or showcasing a different texture. ¹⁹
``	Features a specific instrument in a	Lyrics	``	E.g., .. ¹⁵

	lead/solo role.			
``	Introduces a short, repeated instrumental phrase.	Style of Music / Lyrics	Style: Funky Bass Riff Lyrics: ``	More effective with specific instrument, e.g., ``. ¹⁸
``	Features percussion instruments prominently, often with other instruments dropping out.	Lyrics	complex polyrhythms	Creates rhythmic focus and dynamic contrast. ²³
``	Gradually increases energy, tension, or complexity.	Lyrics	drums become more complex, synths rise	Leads effectively into a `` or [Climax]. ²¹
[Crescendo]	Gradual increase in volume and/or intensity.	Lyrics	[Crescendo] strings swell powerfully	Often used for dramatic effect. ²⁹
``	Marks a high-energy impact point, common in EDM but adaptable.	Lyrics	heavy bass and driving beat enter	Characterized by full engagement of rhythm and lead elements. ¹⁷
[Climax]	A peak moment of intensity or emotional culmination.	Lyrics	[Climax] full orchestra, soaring melody	Similar to `` but can be broader in application. ²³
``	Reduces energy/density, often by removing instrumental layers.	Lyrics	only sparse piano and atmospheric pads	Creates contrast, can set up a new ``. ⁶

[Complex Progression]	Encourages intricate musical progressions.	Style of Music / Lyrics	Style: Progressive Rock, Complex Progression	Good for non-standard chord changes and elaborate structures. ¹⁸
“	[Complex Progression] with emphasized shifts in intensity, volume, and articulation.	Style of Music / Lyrics	Style: Jazz Fusion, Dynamic Complex Progression	Creates more expressive and varied instrumental passages. ¹⁸
[Epic] / [Epic Complex Progression]	Expands arrangement scale, creating a grandiose, cinematic feel.	Style of Music / Lyrics	Style: Epic Orchestral, Epic Complex Progression Lyrics: [Chorus: Epic strings]	Often results in orchestral layering, deep reverbs, powerful build-ups. ¹⁸
“	Instructs a moment of silence.	Lyrics	or	Can be used for dramatic pauses or transitions. (User-inferred, common musical practice)
(sound effect)	Suggests a non-musical sound.	Lyrics	(wind chimes gently ringing)	Use parentheses for these. ¹

Chapter 4: Advanced Orchestration: Genre Blending and Sonic Palettes

Moving beyond single-genre instrumental pieces, Suno AI offers the capability to create unique hybrid soundscapes by blending primary and secondary genre influences. This chapter explores techniques for achieving effective genre fusions and for defining specific instrument roles and their prominence within the instrumental arrangement.

4.1 Techniques for Primary and Secondary Genre Influences (e.g., "Main Genre X with elements of Y")

Suno AI can interpret prompts that combine multiple genres or stylistic elements.⁶ The key to successful genre blending lies in providing clear and specific cues that guide the AI on how to integrate these diverse influences.

- **Clear Specification:** Use commas to separate distinct genre descriptors, moods, or instrumental elements in the "Style of Music" field.² For example, a prompt like "Jazztronica, Groovy, Electric piano, Urban nightlife, Jazz and electronica fusion" clearly indicates a primary blend.⁶
- **Defining Dominance and Flavor:** When blending, the order of mention and the weight of associated keywords can influence the outcome. It is generally effective to state the intended primary genre first, followed by terms that introduce the secondary influence. For example, "Cinematic Orchestral piece with elements of ambient electronic music" suggests orchestral as the base, with ambient electronic textures as a secondary layer.¹ Similarly, "Midwest emo + neosoul" implies a fusion where both genres contribute significantly.¹¹
- **Instrumental Cues for Blending:** The most effective way to signal a genre blend is often through specifying instruments characteristic of each genre. For instance, to blend hard rock with funk, one might prompt: "Hard Rock, driving distorted guitars, powerful drums, *with a funky electric bassline and wah-wah guitar accents.*" The italicized portion introduces the funk elements through its typical instrumentation.
- **Mood and Production Styles:** Sometimes, a genre's influence can be introduced via its characteristic mood or production style. For example, "Lo-fi Hip Hop with a *jazzy saxophone melody and vintage tape hiss.*"

Successful genre blending in Suno AI is less about simply listing multiple genres and more about strategically guiding the AI on *how* these genres should interact. This is often achieved by associating specific instruments, rhythmic feels, moods, or production techniques with each desired genre influence, allowing the AI to weave

them into a cohesive, albeit hybrid, instrumental piece.

4.2 Defining Instrument Roles and Prominence (e.g., "Lead Synth," "Rhythm Guitar," "Driving Bassline," "Accent Brass")

To create a well-arranged instrumental where different parts have clear functions, it's crucial to guide Suno AI on the roles and prominence of various instruments. While Suno AI does not offer direct mixing controls like volume faders or panning within the prompt, users can imply these characteristics through descriptive language.¹

- **Lead Instruments:** To designate an instrument for a primary melodic role, use terms like "lead," "solo," or describe its melodic function. Examples: "smooth saxophone lead"², "piano-driven ballad with uplifting melodies"¹, or "main melodic theme played by oboe."
- **Rhythm Section:** The foundation of many instrumental pieces can be defined by specifying its components and their character. Examples: "strong bassline"¹, "driving electric bassline," "crisp drums with syncopated hi-hats," "gentle piano accompaniment".²
- **Backing/Harmonic Instruments:** Instruments providing harmonic support or textural fill can be described accordingly. Examples: "warm analog pads providing a lush bed," "rhythm acoustic guitar strumming softly," "background string swells."
- **Accent Instruments:** Instruments that provide short, impactful interjections or highlights can be prompted. Examples: "punchy horn stabs (trumpet, saxophone)," "occasional flute flourishes," "accent brass fanfares."
- **Prominence through Adjectives and Action Verbs:** The perceived prominence of an instrument is often conveyed through strong adjectives and action-oriented descriptions. Terms like "prominent," "soaring," "driving," "heavy," or "dominant" suggest a more forward role. Conversely, "subtle," "background," "gentle," "ethereal," or "understated" imply a less prominent role. Action verbs can also help, for instance, "saxophone *weaves* a haunting melody," "bass *anchors* the groove," "strings *provide a lush carpet* of sound."
- **Instrument Focus:** General prompts like "instrument focus on piano" or "heavy organ emphasis" can also guide the AI's attention.¹

Crafting these descriptions is an art. It involves using evocative language to steer the AI's arrangement decisions, compensating for the absence of direct mixing controls within the prompting interface itself. This allows the "Sonic Architect" to shape the instrumental landscape with considerable nuance.

The following table provides examples of prompt structures for various genre blends.

Table 4.1: Genre Blending Prompt Examples for Instrumentals

Desired Blend	Primary Genre Keywords	Secondary Influence Keywords (Instruments, Rhythms, Moods)	Full Example Prompt Snippet (Style of Music field)
Cinematic Rock	Epic Rock Ballad, Stadium Drums, Powerful Electric Guitar Solos	Symphonic Background, Orchestral Swells, Cinematic Percussion	Epic Rock Ballad, Powerful Electric Guitar Solos, Stadium Drums, Symphonic Background, Orchestral Swells, Cinematic Percussion, dramatic, uplifting
Ambient Jazz	Smooth Jazz, Mellow Double Bass, Gentle Piano Accompaniment	Ambient Soundscape, Ethereal Synth Pads, Slow Tempo, Spacious Reverb	Ambient Smooth Jazz, Ethereal Synth Pads, Mellow Double Bass, Gentle Piano Accompaniment, Slow Tempo, Spacious Reverb, introspective
Folk-Electronica (Folktronica)	Acoustic Folk, Fingerstyle Guitar, Warm Harmonica	Subtle Electronic Beats, Minimalist Synth Textures, Ambient Pads, Glitchy Percussion accents	Acoustic Folk-Electronica, Fingerstyle Guitar, Warm Harmonica, Subtle Electronic Beats, Minimalist Synth Textures, Ambient Pads, introspective, hopeful
Dark Classical Metal	Symphonic Metal, Distorted Guitars, Double-Kick Drums	Dark Classical Orchestration, Minor Key, Ominous Choir, Dissonant Strings, Pipe Organ	Dark Symphonic Metal, Operatic, Distorted Guitars, Double-Kick Drums, Dark Classical Orchestration, Minor Key, Ominous Choir, Dissonant Strings,

			Pipe Organ
Lo-fi Chill Hop	Lo-fi Hip Hop, Boom Bap Drums, Vinyl Crackle	Jazzy Electric Piano Chords, Mellow Saxophone Licks, Relaxed Groove	Lo-fi Chill Hop, Jazzy Electric Piano Chords, Mellow Saxophone Licks, Boom Bap Drums, Vinyl Crackle, Relaxed Groove, nostalgic, 80 BPM

Chapter 5: Sound Design: Sculpting Sonic Textures and Atmospheres

Beyond genre, instrumentation, and structure, the specific sonic character—the textures, effects, and overall production style—plays a vital role in defining an instrumental's identity. Suno AI allows for a degree of control over these elements through descriptive keywords and phrases, enabling the creation of rich and immersive sound worlds.

5.1 Requesting Specific Sonic Textures

Sonic textures refer to the timbral quality and perceived feel of the sounds within the music. Prompting for specific textures can guide Suno AI in selecting and processing instrument sounds to achieve a desired character.

- **Warmth and Analog Feel:** Keywords like "warm analog pads," "analog warmth," "vintage tape warmth" can evoke a richer, often softer, and more classic sound.⁶
- **Crispness and Digital Clarity:** Terms such as "crisp digital percussion," "crisp and clean production," "sharp textures," or "bright synth leads" can lead to a more modern, precise, and clear sound.⁶
- **Ethereal and Atmospheric Qualities:** To create spacious and dreamlike sounds, use phrases like "ethereal soundscapes," "floating pad textures," "ambient synth pads," "reverb-drenched," or "wind chime effects".⁶
- **Gritty and Raw Textures:** For a more aggressive or unpolished sound, keywords like "gritty textures," "distorted," or "raw" can be effective.¹⁴
- **Other Textural Descriptors:** "Layered synth pads" for density¹³, "vinyl crackle" or "ambient vinyl crackles" for a lo-fi or nostalgic feel.¹³

These texture keywords often bridge the gap between instrument specification and overall production style, guiding the AI not just on *what* instrument to use, but on the *character* of its sound. For example, "warm analog pads"³¹ is more descriptive than just "pads," leading to a more intentional sound palette.

5.2 Prompting Audio Effects: Reverb, Delay, Distortion, Filters

Common audio effects can be suggested in prompts to add depth, space, and character to instrumental tracks.

- **Reverb:** This is one of the most commonly prompted effects. Use terms like "reverb-drenched," "spacious reverb-heavy production," "deep reverbs," or even specific types like "room tone reverb" or "cave echo".⁶ While ``¹⁷ is for vocals, its

existence implies the AI understands the concept, which can be applied to instruments through descriptive language.

- **Delay:** Phrases like "subtle delay," "deep delay echo," or "spacey delay FX" can be used.¹⁷ ``¹⁷ also exists.
- **Distortion:** Often associated with guitars, but applicable to other sounds. Use "distorted electric guitar riffs," `` , or "distortion lead electric guitar".¹⁴ If distortion is undesirable, it can be explicitly excluded using "exclude styles" tags (see Chapter 8).
- **Filters:** Filter sweeps (sound rising or falling in pitch/brightness) or specific filter applications can be requested with terms like "filter sweeps" or "filtered synth chords".²⁶
- **Other Effects:** "Glitch effects" for experimental electronic sounds⁶, or "tape stop effect".³¹

5.3 Achieving Production Styles: Vintage, Modern, Polished, Raw, Lo-Fi

Overall production aesthetics define the final sonic finish of an instrumental piece. These are macro-level instructions that can influence many subtle aspects of the sound simultaneously.

- **Vintage:** To evoke older recording styles, use keywords like "vintage tape warmth," "1960s influence," "1980s influence," "analog warmth," or reference recording techniques of a specific era.⁶
- **Modern/Polished:** For a contemporary, clean, and high-fidelity sound, use terms like "crisp and clean production," "modern polished sound," "hyper-modern production," "Dolby Atmos mix," "high-fidelity," "high-definition audio," or "wide stereo".⁶
- **Raw:** For a less processed, more direct, and energetic sound, use descriptors like "raw, unfiltered sound," "garage rock sound," or "live off-the-floor feel".³⁴
- **Lo-Fi:** A popular aesthetic characterized by imperfections. Use "lo-fi," "lo-fi chill beat," "background vinyl crackles," "tape hiss," or "slightly distorted".¹⁰

It's often effective to state the desired production style early in the "Style of Music" prompt to set the general sonic direction. This can then be further refined with more specific keywords for instrumental textures and individual effects. This hierarchical approach—Production Style > Sonic Texture > Specific Effect—allows for more efficient and effective sound design prompting.

The following table provides a quick reference for keywords related to production styles and audio effects.

Table 5.1: Keywords for Production Styles and Audio Effects in Instrumentals

Desired Sound Characteristic	Suggested Prompt Keywords/Tags	Example Usage (in Style of Music field)
Vintage Warmth	vintage, analog warmth, tape saturation, 1960s sound, 1970s rock production, 80s synth	Vintage soul instrumental, warm tape saturation, upright piano, muted trumpet
Modern Polish	modern, polished, crisp, clean production, high-fidelity, wide stereo image	Modern cinematic electronic, polished synths, crisp percussion, wide stereo
Raw Energy	raw, energetic, gritty, unfiltered, garage sound, live feel	Raw garage rock instrumental, gritty overdriven guitars, pounding drums
Lo-Fi Haze	lo-fi, chillhop, vinyl crackle, tape hiss, warped, muffled drums, dusty samples	Lo-fi ambient, vinyl crackle, warm electric piano, gentle rain sounds
Spacious Reverb	reverb-drenched, spacious reverb, ethereal reverb, cathedral reverb, long decay	Ambient guitar soundscape, reverb-drenched, slow shimmering pads
Echoing Delay	delay, echoes, ping-pong delay, tape echo, dub delay, rhythmic delay	Psychedelic rock instrumental, swirling phasers, prominent tape echo on guitar
Heavy Distortion	distortion, fuzz, overdrive, crunchy, industrial distortion, heavy metal guitar tone	Industrial metal instrumental, heavy distorted guitars, aggressive synth bass
Filtered Sounds	filter sweep, low-pass filter, high-pass filter, wah-wah, filtered synths	Electronic dance track, rising filter sweep on synths before drop
Ethereal/Atmospheric	ethereal, atmospheric, airy, dreamy, celestial, shimmering pads	Ethereal ambient piece, atmospheric synth textures, slow evolving drones

Chapter 6: Controlling Musical Elements with Precision

Achieving truly masterful instrumentals with Suno AI requires guiding the AI not just on broad styles and moods, but also on specific musical components like melody, harmony, rhythm, and dynamics. This chapter explores techniques to exert finer control over these elements, aiming for compositions that are memorable, well-structured, and musically engaging.

6.1 Melody and Hooks: Prompting for Memorable Instrumental Lines

A common challenge noted by users is that Suno AI's instrumentals can sometimes feature "aimless fiddling" or generic-sounding solos rather than strong, memorable melodies or hooks.⁹ This often occurs because, in the absence of vocals, the AI may not automatically assign a clear melodic focus to a specific instrument. To counteract this, the "Sonic Architect" must proactively guide Suno towards creating thematic and "catchy" instrumental lines.

- **Descriptive Language:** Use evocative words in the "Style of Music" field to request melodic prominence, such as "memorable melody," "catchy instrumental hook," "soaring lead line," "uplifting melodies," or "a strong thematic motif".¹
- **Assign Melodic Role to an Instrument:** Clearly specify which instrument should carry the main melody. For instance, "an inspiring, emotional piano-driven ballad with uplifting melodies" explicitly assigns the melodic role to the piano.¹ Other examples: "lead saxophone playing a bluesy theme," "violin carries the main melody."
- **Use [Hook] or [Catchy Hook] Tags:** Even for instrumentals, placing tags like [Hook] or [Catchy Hook] in the "Lyrics" field at desired points can signal the AI to generate a memorable, repetitive musical phrase there.²³
- **Narrative and Emotional Cues for Melody:** Prompting a melody to convey a specific emotion or narrative element can lead to more purposeful melodic content, e.g., "a melody that conveys longing and hope," or "a triumphant fanfare theme for the hero's return."

Effectively, the user must fill the "vocal melody vacuum" that can occur in instrumental generations. By explicitly "casting" an instrument in the lead melodic role and describing the desired character of that melody (catchy, thematic, emotional), users can steer the AI away from generic noodling and towards more structured and memorable instrumental themes.

6.2 Harmony and Counterpoint: Techniques for Interwoven Melodies and Basic

Contrapuntal Ideas

Adding harmonic richness and interactive melodic lines can significantly elevate an instrumental piece. While generating true, classically defined counterpoint is an advanced musical task that may be beyond Suno AI's current consistent capabilities, users can prompt for harmonically complex textures and interwoven instrumental lines.

- **Keywords for Harmonic Complexity:** In the "Style of Music" field, include terms like "complex harmony," "layered harmonies," "rich chord voicings," "dissonant chords," "unresolved harmonies," or even "intricate counterpoints" to encourage more sophisticated harmonic language.⁶
- **Specify Interacting Instrumental Layers:** Describe multiple instruments and their intended harmonic or melodic relationship. For example: "smooth saxophone lead with gentle piano accompaniment providing rich jazz chords" ², or "lead flute playing a flowing melody, with a cello providing a melancholic counter-melody, supported by arpeggiated harp."
- **Utilize Observed Tags (Experimental):** Some user-generated examples have shown tags like [Interwoven Harmonies] or [Melodic Overlays] within the "Lyrics" field structure.⁴⁴ While their official status or consistent efficacy isn't fully documented, experimentation with such tags, placed at relevant structural points, might yield interesting results.
- **Layering Instrument Combinations:** Prompting for specific combinations known for creating rich textures, such as "Strings + Acoustic Guitar for natural resonance and warmth" or "Piano + Atmospheric Pads for cinematic depth," can guide the AI towards more complex harmonic outputs.²¹

It's important to manage expectations regarding "counterpoint." Instead of expecting strict adherence to traditional contrapuntal rules, it's more effective to guide Suno AI by specifying distinct instrumental layers, their melodic characteristics, and how they should interact (e.g., "harmonizing," "interweaving," "call and response"). This approach aims to achieve a *feeling* of counterpoint or interwoven melodic activity through careful orchestration via prompts.

6.3 Rhythm and Tempo: Beyond Basic BPM – Prompting for Specific Grooves and Rhythmic Complexity

The rhythmic foundation is crucial to an instrumental's style and energy. Suno AI allows for control over both tempo and more nuanced rhythmic characteristics.

- **Tempo Specification:** Users can specify tempo broadly (e.g., "slow," "mid-tempo," "fast") or with precise BPM values (e.g., "120 BPM," "75 BPM") in the

"Style of Music" field.⁷

- **Groove Descriptors:** To achieve specific rhythmic feels, use descriptive keywords such as "groovy," "funky," "laid-back groove," "driving rhythm section," "steady four-on-the-floor beat," or "swing rhythm".⁶
- **Rhythmic Complexity and Variation:** For more intricate rhythms, experiment with terms like "syncopated melodies," "offbeat rhythm," "polyrhythmic layers," "constantly shifting tempos," "complex time signatures," "triplets in duple meter," or "trap hi-hats – fast rolls".⁶
- **Instrument-Specific Rhythms:** It's also possible to assign rhythmic characteristics to specific instruments, for example, "syncopated bassline" or "acoustic guitar playing a percussive strumming pattern."

6.4 Dynamics: Controlling Instrumental Density and Complexity Across Sections (Sparse vs. Dense Arrangements)

Varying instrumental density—the number of active layers and instruments—is key to creating dynamic and engaging instrumental music. This prevents monotony and helps define the emotional arc of a piece.

- **Prompting for Sparseness:** To achieve sparser sections, request fewer instruments or use keywords like "minimalist," "solo piano," "acoustic guitar only," "stripped down," or "sparse arrangement".¹ For example, in the "Lyrics" field: [Verse: solo piano, melancholic].
- **Prompting for Density:** For fuller, busier sections, specify more instruments or use terms like "full band," "full orchestra," "orchestral swells," "layered percussion," or "dense texture".¹³ For example: [Chorus: full orchestra, triumphant, soaring strings, powerful brass, timpani].
- **Section-Specific Instrumentation:** The most effective method for controlling density is to vary the instrumental requests for different sections using structural tags in the "Lyrics" field. This allows the user to "conduct" the orchestration, bringing instruments in and out as desired. For example, an intro might feature [Intro: ethereal pads, single flute melody], a verse might add [Verse: adds acoustic guitar and light percussion], and a chorus might erupt with [Chorus: full string section, brass fanfare, powerful drums].
- **Using and Tags:** Tags like inherently suggest an increase in density and complexity, while often signifies a point of maximum density or impact.¹⁷ Conversely, a `` tag usually implies a reduction in density.

This approach reinforces the concept of the "Lyrics" field acting as a conductor's score for instrumentals. Users must proactively "write out" the orchestration changes for different sections to achieve dynamic variation in density. Simply listing many

instruments in the "Style of Music" field will likely result in them attempting to play throughout, leading to a static and potentially muddy texture.

6.5 Key, Scales, and Modes: Prompting for Specific Tonality (and Suno's Current Capabilities/Limitations)

For musicians seeking more precise control over the harmonic language of their instrumentals, Suno AI offers some capabilities for specifying key and tempo, though its understanding of more complex scales and modes is an area of ongoing development and experimentation.

- **Key Specification:** Users can specify musical keys such as "C major," "A minor," or "D minor" in the "Style of Music" field.¹⁰ The `suno.custom-generate-music` function, an underlying component, explicitly lists "key" and "mode" (major/minor) as parameters, suggesting this level of control is intended.⁵⁰
- **Tempo (BPM):** As discussed previously, specific BPM values can be included in prompts.⁷
- **Scales and Modes Beyond Major/Minor:** The reliability of Suno AI in interpreting direct prompts for specific scales (e.g., "blues scale," "pentatonic minor") or modes (e.g., "Dorian mode," "Lydian mode," "Mixolydian mode") is less consistently documented and appears to be more experimental.¹³ Some users report trying terms like "Dorian mode" or "melodic minor" with varied success.⁵² Interestingly, "pentatonic arpeggios" are sometimes noted as an *unwanted* default behavior in certain rock generations, suggesting the AI has some internal representation of this scale.⁵⁴
- **Techniques for Influencing Tonality:**
 - **Direct Naming (Experimental):** Users can try directly naming the desired scale or mode in the "Style of Music" prompt (e.g., "Jazz improvisation in F Dorian mode"). Results should be carefully evaluated.
 - **Genre as a Proxy:** A more reliable approach to achieve a specific modal or scalar flavor is often to prompt for a *genre* or *style* that heavily utilizes that particular tonality. For example, for a Lydian sound, one might prompt "Lydian film score" or "Smooth Jazz with a Lydian feel." For blues scale usage, "Delta Blues instrumental with prominent blues scale guitar licks" would be more effective than just "blues scale." Suno v4.5 is noted to follow genre conventions more closely, which can aid in this.⁵⁶
 - **Descriptive Language:** Combining genre with descriptive terms can also help, e.g., "mystical, ethereal, Lydian mode melody."

The AI is more likely to have strong, trained associations between established genres and their typical harmonic/melodic content than with abstract music theory terms

presented out of context. Therefore, while direct scale/mode prompting is worth experimenting with, users should prioritize genre and stylistic descriptors to guide tonality. Iteration and careful listening are essential to determine if the desired harmonic flavor has been successfully achieved.

Chapter 7: The Iterative Workflow: Building and Refining Your Instrumental Masterpiece

Creating a compelling instrumental with Suno AI is rarely a one-shot process. It's an iterative journey of generation, evaluation, and refinement. Suno AI provides several features that support this workflow, allowing users to build upon initial ideas, extend compositions, and fine-tune sections to achieve their artistic vision. The introduction of features in v4.5, such as an increased maximum song length of up to 8 minutes while maintaining coherence, has further enhanced these capabilities.⁵⁶

7.1 Starting Strong: Generating Your Initial Instrumental Base

The foundation of any extended instrumental piece in Suno AI is the initial generation, typically a segment of around two minutes.² The quality and character of this first segment are crucial, as it sets the tone and provides the musical DNA for subsequent extensions. Therefore, investing time in crafting a well-defined initial prompt, as detailed in Chapter 2, covering genre, mood, key instrumentation, and desired textures, is paramount.² This strong start makes the process of extending and refining the piece more manageable and effective.

7.2 The "Continue From This Song" & "Extend" Features: Crafting Longer Works

Once a satisfactory initial segment is generated, Suno AI's "Continue From This Song" and "Extend" functionalities become central to developing longer instrumental works.¹

- **Accessing the Feature:** Typically found via a three-dot menu (...) on an existing track, selecting "Continue From This Song" or "Extend" allows the user to generate a new segment that builds upon the selected track.⁵⁸
- **Setting the Continuation Point:** Users can often define where the new music will pick up from the end of the existing clip, or by selecting a specific point within it.⁵⁸ Finding a natural transition point in the original clip, such as the end of a phrase or section, is key for seamless continuation.⁵⁸
- **Extension Length:** Each extension is typically limited in duration.⁵⁸ Thus, a longer piece is constructed by stitching together multiple extended segments.

7.2.1 Strategies for Layering New Instrumental Ideas in Extensions

When using the "Extend" feature, users are not limited to simply continuing the existing musical material verbatim. The prompt for the extension can be modified to introduce new instrumental layers or ideas.

- **Modifying the "Style of Music" Prompt:** For the new segment, the "Style of Music" field can be altered to request additional instruments or change the

character of existing ones. For example, if the initial segment was "Calm piano and strings," the prompt for the extension could be "Continue calm piano, add gentle flute melody, strings become pizzicato."

- **Using the "Lyrics" Field for New Cues:** Similarly, the "Lyrics" field (with structural tags) can be used to introduce new instrumental events or solos in the extended section (e.g., ``).⁶²

7.2.2 Changing Instrumentation, Mood, or Density in Subsequent Sections

Extensions are also an opportunity to evolve the piece by changing instrumentation, mood, or instrumental density.

- **Descriptive Notes for Extension:** When initiating an extension, users can often provide a descriptive note or modify the prompt to guide the AI.⁶¹ For example, one could prompt for a shift from to an extended.¹²
- **Iterative Prompt Refinement:** Each extension should be treated as a new generation that is contextually aware of the preceding music. The prompt for an extension should thoughtfully evolve from the previous one, reiterating elements to be maintained for coherence while clearly specifying desired changes.

7.2.3 Maintaining Coherence (Key, Tempo, Style) Across Extensions

A significant challenge in extending pieces is maintaining musical coherence across sections, especially regarding key, tempo, and overall style. Suno AI v4.5 has reportedly made improvements in maintaining coherence for longer songs.⁵⁶

- **Reinforce Core Elements:** To aid coherence, it's advisable to repeat core genre, style, key, and BPM keywords in the prompt for each new extension, especially if no change is desired in those aspects.¹² For example, if the original was "Ambient, C minor, 70 BPM," the extension prompt should reiterate these if they are to be preserved.
- **Explicit Instructions:** If the AI tends to drift in key or tempo, explicitly stating "maintain key," "maintain tempo," or repeating the original key/BPM in the extension prompt might help.
- **Strategic Transition Points:** Choosing musically logical points in the existing track to initiate an extension can greatly facilitate a smoother and more coherent transition.⁵⁸

Mastering the "Extend" feature involves skillful re-prompting for each new segment. It's about guiding the AI through a longer musical form, section by section, carefully balancing the need for consistency with the desire for variation and development. This

iterative process allows the "Sonic Architect" to sculpt the piece over time.

7.3 Using "Replace Section," "Crop," and "Fade Out" for Fine-Tuning

Recent updates to Suno AI (notably around v4.5) have introduced more granular editing tools that allow for in-track refinement ¹¹:

- **Replace Section:** This powerful feature allows users to select a specific portion of a song (e.g., a few bars, a verse, an instrumental break) and have the AI regenerate just that part, without altering the rest of the track.⁵⁹ Users can often specify whether to keep the original duration and can even use an "Instrumental Mode" within this feature if, for instance, unwanted vocal elements had appeared and need to be replaced with purely instrumental content.⁶¹ This is ideal for making small tweaks, correcting errors, or trying alternative musical ideas for a specific segment.
- **Crop:** This tool enables users to trim unwanted beginnings or endings from their tracks, or to extract a specific portion of a longer generation.⁵⁹ This is useful for cleaning up generated audio or creating shorter snippets.
- **Fade Out:** To avoid abrupt endings, the Fade Out feature allows for the application of a smooth, professional-sounding decrease in volume at the end of a track.⁵⁸ Users can typically select the point from which the fade should begin.

These editing tools provide a significant step towards in-platform refinement, reducing the immediate need to export to a DAW for minor adjustments.

7.4 Prompt Chaining and Layering Prompts: Building Complex Arrangements Piece by Piece (Conceptual)

While Suno AI does not offer "prompt chaining" in the sense of one prompt's textual output directly feeding into another's input, nor does it provide true multitrack layering within a single generation pass like a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW), a conceptual approach to layering can be achieved through iterative use of the "Extend" feature.²

This advanced workflow involves:

1. **Generating a Foundational Layer:** Start by prompting for a base instrumental layer. This might be a sparse rhythmic bed with ambient pads, or just the core rhythm section (drums and bass).⁴⁵ For example: "Style of Music: Minimalist techno groove, 808 kick, subtle hi-hats, deep sub bass, 125 BPM, A minor. Lyrics: ''"
2. **Iterative Extension for "Pseudo-Layering":** Use the "Extend" feature on this

foundational track. In the prompt for the extension, focus on adding new instrumental layers or melodic ideas *on top of* the implied existing texture. For example, after generating the rhythm bed, the extension prompt could be: "Style of Music: Add evolving analog synth pads and a melancholic lead synth melody, A minor, 125 BPM, maintain existing techno groove. Lyrics: [Lead Melody Verse 1]"

3. **Further Extensions for More Layers:** This process can be repeated. A subsequent extension could focus on adding percussive details, counter-melodies, or atmospheric effects, always referencing the desired relationship to the previously established layers in the prompt.

This is not true multi-track layering, as each extension results in a new stereo mix generated by the AI, which is re-interpreting the cumulative musical information. However, by carefully crafting the prompt for each sequential extension to be additive and complementary to what has come before, users can *simulate* the effect of building up an arrangement layer by layer. This advanced workflow demands significant skill in prompt continuity, a good understanding of how Suno AI might interpret additive instructions, and patience for iteration. It represents the closest one can currently get to "building up an arrangement" from discrete instrumental parts directly within Suno AI's paradigm without resorting to exporting stems for external layering in a DAW.⁶⁵

Chapter 8: Troubleshooting and Refining Your Instrumentals

Even with careful prompting, generating instrumental music with Suno AI can sometimes present challenges. Users may encounter generic-sounding melodies, rhythmic inconsistencies, unwanted audio artifacts like distortion, or structural issues where the AI doesn't fully adhere to tagged sections. This chapter addresses these common pitfalls and offers advanced strategies for troubleshooting and refining instrumental outputs.

8.1 Common Challenges: Generic Melodies, Rhythmic Inconsistencies, Unwanted Distortion, Structural Issues

Understanding the common hurdles is the first step to overcoming them:

- **Generic Melodies and Aimless Soloing:** A frequent observation is that instrumentals can lack memorable themes, devolving into what users describe as "aimless fiddling" or "high school jam session" noodling, especially when compared to the more structured melodies often found in AI-generated vocal music.⁹ This typically stems from insufficient guidance on melodic roles and thematic development.
- **Rhythmic Inconsistencies:** Tempos may drift, or rhythmic feels might not align with the intended groove. Polyrhythmic requests or complex rhythmic shifts can sometimes be misinterpreted.
- **Unwanted Distortion and Artifacts:** Distortion is a notable issue, particularly with prompts involving electric guitars, multiple electric instruments, dense arrangements, or excessive reverb.¹⁴ Using plural instrument names (e.g., "guitars") can also contribute to a "warbling" or distorted sound.¹⁴
- **Structural Issues:** The AI may occasionally skip tagged sections (like an [Intro] or ``) or not fully differentiate between them, leading to a less coherent structure.⁵⁵
- **Inconsistent Output or Prompt Ignoring:** Sometimes, Suno AI may seem to ignore changes in prompts or produce results that are inconsistent with the instructions provided.¹⁰

8.2 Advanced Strategies for Overcoming Common Pitfalls

Several advanced prompting and workflow strategies can help mitigate these issues:

- **Simplify Complex Prompts:** If the output is chaotic, or if structural tags seem to be ignored, the prompt might be overly complicated or contain conflicting instructions. Removing unnecessary meta-tags, simplifying genre blends, or focusing on fewer core elements per generation can lead to clearer results.¹⁰
- **Increase Specificity for Bland Outputs:** Conversely, if the instrumental sounds

too generic or bland, the prompt likely lacks sufficient detail. Adding more specific information about the desired mood, unique instrumentation, defining melodic characteristics, rhythmic feel, and narrative theme can significantly improve the output's focus and originality.²

- **Embrace Iteration and Systematic Testing:** Music generation with AI is an iterative process. Don't expect perfect results on the first try. Make small, systematic adjustments to prompts—changing one or two keywords at a time—and compare the outputs to understand how Suno AI responds to different phrasing.²
- **Experiment with Synonyms and Varied Descriptions:** If a particular keyword isn't yielding the desired effect, try using synonyms or rephrasing the description. The AI might interpret slightly different language in a more favorable way.¹⁰
- **Provide Contextual Background:** As mentioned in Chapter 2, giving the AI a narrative context or storyline, even for an instrumental, can help it generate more thematically coherent and purposeful music.²
- **The "Trash and Re-Enter" Fix for Sticky Prompts:** If Suno AI appears to be "stuck" on a previous idea and ignores new prompt changes, a community-suggested fix is to completely delete the existing prompt text from the input field (using the trash icon if available, or manually deleting) and then re-enter the new prompt from scratch. This can sometimes clear cached interpretations and force the AI to process the new instructions freshly.⁶⁸

8.3 Tips for Reducing Distortion and Improving Audio Quality

Audio quality, particularly the avoidance of distortion, is a key concern. Proactive prompting choices can significantly reduce the likelihood of undesirable artifacts:

- **Prioritize Acoustic Instruments:** Acoustic instruments like acoustic guitars, piano, strings, flute, and saxophone generally produce cleaner, less distorted sounds in Suno AI compared to their electric counterparts.¹⁴ Electric guitars, in particular, are often cited as being prone to a "strange distorted warbling sound".¹⁴
- **Use Singular Instrument Names:** Prompt "trumpet" instead of "trumpets," or "guitar" instead of "guitars." Requesting an entire band or section of the same instrument increases the chance of a cluttered and distorted output.¹⁴
- **Limit the Number of Instruments:** Fewer instruments in a prompt generally lead to a cleaner sound and make it easier to identify any problematic elements if distortion does occur.¹⁴ This relates to controlling instrumental density (Chapter 6.4).
- **Utilize "Exclude Styles" Tags:** For Pro and Premier users, the "Exclude Styles"

feature is a powerful tool.⁵ To proactively combat distortion and other unwanted sonic characteristics, add terms like echo, reverb, choir, distortion, crunch, static, buzzing, whispering, mumbling to the excluded styles list.¹⁴ This instructs the AI to avoid generating these elements.

- **Stemming and Remastering (If Necessary):** Suno's built-in stemming capabilities have improved, allowing users to separate instrumental tracks.¹⁴ If distortion occurs, one can try stemming the track and then using Suno's "Remaster" feature on the instrumental stem.¹⁴ However, if distortion is severe, re-generating the section with a modified prompt is often more effective than multiple remastering attempts.¹⁴ For more advanced stem separation, external tools like UVR5 (with models like Kim Vocal 2 for isolating vocals if they accidentally appear) can be used, though this falls outside direct Suno AI operation.¹⁴
- **Regenerate Affected Sections:** If distortion is localized to a specific part of the song, use the "Replace Section" feature (Chapter 7.3) to highlight and regenerate only that problematic segment.¹⁴
- **Consider Production Style Prompts for Clarity:** Prompts requesting "hyper-modern production," "high-fidelity audio," or "clean mix" might also contribute to a clearer overall sound, though they won't necessarily fix instrument-specific distortion if the initial instrumental request is too complex for the AI to render cleanly.⁴⁰

The overarching principle for managing distortion is that proactive avoidance through careful prompting (fewer electric instruments, singular names, less density, "exclude styles") is generally more effective and credit-efficient than trying to reactively fix a heavily distorted generation. Users should build their prompts with an awareness of Suno's current sonic rendering capabilities and limitations.

The following table summarizes common instrumental issues and suggests prompting solutions.

Table 8.1: Troubleshooting Common Instrumental Issues & Prompting Solutions

Common Issue	Likely Cause(s)	Prompting Strategies to Fix/Avoid	Relevant Meta-Tags or Keywords
Generic/Aimless Melody or Solo	Vague prompt, lack of melodic focus, AI defaulting to "noodling." ⁹	Specify a lead instrument, describe desired melodic character (e.g., "catchy," "thematic"), use [Hook] or `` tags with descriptive emotional/narrative cues. Increase specificity. [Chapter 6.1]	memorable melody, catchy instrumental hook, soaring lead line, [Instrument Name] lead, [Hook], `` , thematic, emotional melody
Muddy Mix / Unwanted Distortion	Too many instruments, plural instrument names, overuse of electric instruments, excessive reverb/effects. ¹⁴	Reduce number of instruments, use singular instrument names, favor acoustic instruments, use "Exclude Styles" for distortion, reverb, echo. Prompt for "clean production." [Chapter 8.3]	acoustic guitar, piano, flute (singular names), clean production, minimalist arrangement. In Exclude Styles: distortion, crunch, static, heavy reverb.
Incorrect Mood or Emotional Tone	Vague or conflicting mood descriptors in the prompt. ¹⁰	Be highly specific with mood keywords (e.g., "serene and melancholic" vs. just "sad"). Ensure mood aligns with genre and instrumentation. Use an emotional arc. [Chapter 2.1.2]	serene, peaceful, melancholic, introspective, triumphant, epic, dark, mysterious, energetic, playful. Emotional journey from X to Y.
Structure Not Followed / Sections Skipped	Overly complex structure, conflicting tags, AI misinterpreting tags.	Simplify structure in "Lyrics" field. Ensure tags are correctly formatted (``). Use one tag per line or	[Intro], [Verse], [Chorus], `` , [Outro], [Instrumental Interlude]. Ensure no

	66	phrase. Place tags clearly above or beside the intended musical section. Test with fewer sections first. [Chapter 3.1]	typos in tags.
Rhythmic Inconsistency / Wrong Groove	Vague tempo/rhythm description, or AI defaulting to a common feel for the genre.	Specify BPM (e.g., 120 BPM), use descriptive rhythmic keywords (e.g., syncopated groove, driving four-on-the-floor beat, laid-back swing). Request specific percussion instruments and their style. [Chapter 6.3]	„ syncopated, groovy, offbeat, polyrhythmic, straight beat, swing feel, shuffling rhythm.
Output Sounds "Thin" or Lacks Depth	Insufficient layering, lack of bass frequencies, or overly sparse instrumentation prompted.	Prompt for foundational instruments (bass, pads), request "full sound," "rich texture," "layered harmonies." Consider adding subtle reverb or delay through descriptive terms if appropriate for the style. [Chapter 5.1, Chapter 6.2]	deep bass, warm pads, layered synths, full string section, rich harmonies, ethereal reverb, subtle delay.
Transitions Between Sections are Abrupt	Lack of transitional cues in prompts, or AI not naturally creating smooth changes.	Use before a high-energy section, or before a quieter one. Prompt for smooth transition, evolving soundscape. Use [Crescendo] or `` tags. Use the "Fade Out" feature for endings. [Chapter 3.3, Chapter 7.3]	„ [Crescendo], „ smooth transition, evolving pads, gradual change.

Chapter 9: Practical Prompt Examples and Deconstructions

Understanding the principles of prompting is one thing; seeing them in action is another. This chapter provides practical examples of prompts for various instrumental styles, deconstructing why they are effective based on the concepts discussed in earlier chapters. Each example will include a "Style of Music" prompt and corresponding "Lyrics" field cues (for structure and events), followed by an analysis and suggestions for variations. These examples aim to serve as templates and inspiration for users to adapt and build upon. The deconstruction of these prompts helps to internalize the logic, enabling the transfer of these skills to novel musical ideas and genre combinations.

9.1 Orchestral/Cinematic Instrumentals

Orchestral and cinematic instrumentals often require a sense of grandeur, emotional depth, and dynamic range.

- **Example Prompt:**

- **Style of Music Field:** Epic orchestral soundtrack, sweeping strings, thunderous percussion, majestic brass fanfares, cinematic tension building to a triumphant resolution, D minor, 100 BPM, lush reverb
- **Lyrics Field (Instrumental Cues):**
 - [Intro: soft, melancholic solo cello melody, sustained low string pads]
 - [Verse 1: cellos joined by violins, oboe counter-melody, building slightly]
 - [Pre-Chorus: strings become more rhythmic, timpani roll enters softly, brass swells hint at theme]
 - [Chorus: full orchestra, triumphant main theme in brass, soaring violins, powerful percussion, cymbal crashes]
 - [Verse 2: theme played by woodwinds, pizzicato strings, lighter percussion]
 - [Chorus: final powerful statement of main theme, full orchestra and choir, epic and heroic]
 - [Outro: theme fragments, fades out with lingering high string chord and deep brass note]

- **Analysis:**

- **Style Field:** Uses Epic orchestral soundtrack to set the main genre and scale.³⁰ Specifies key instrument families (sweeping strings, thunderous percussion, majestic brass fanfares) and their character.¹ Includes mood progression (cinematic tension building to a triumphant resolution).⁶ Defines D minor key and 100 BPM tempo.¹³ lush reverb suggests production style.⁶
- **Lyrics Field:** Employs structural tags ([Intro], [Verse 1], etc.) to map out the

form.¹ Each section includes specific instrumentation cues (solo cello melody, oboe counter-melody, full orchestra) and dynamic/emotional instructions (soft, melancholic, building slightly, triumphant, moment of suspense).¹ Tags like `` and [Crescendo] (implied in "crescendo" text) are used to shape energy.²⁶

- **Variations:**

1. **Darker/Mysterious:** Change mood to "ominous, mysterious, suspenseful." Use more minor key harmony, low brass, and dissonant string textures. Replace "triumphant" with "unsettling climax."
2. **Fantasy Adventure:** Add "folk-inspired melodies," "wooden flutes," "celtic harp." Make the mood "adventurous, wondrous, slightly perilous."
3. **Sci-Fi Epic:** Incorporate "synthesizer pads," "electronic textures," "futuristic sound design" alongside orchestral elements. Mood: "vast, awe-inspiring, technological."

9.2 Ambient/Electronic Soundscapes

Ambient and electronic soundscapes often focus on texture, atmosphere, and gradual evolution.

- **Example Prompt:**

- **Style of Music Field:** Ambient electronic soundscape, evolving synth pads, crystalline arpeggios, minimalist glitch percussion, slow tempo (70 BPM), C Lydian dominant scale feel, introspective and meditative, spacious reverb and subtle delay
- **Lyrics Field (Instrumental Cues):**
[Fade Out: all elements slowly fade into deep, long reverb tail]

- **Analysis:**

- **Style Field:** Defines the genre and overall character (Ambient electronic soundscape, evolving synth pads).⁸ Specifies key textural elements (crystalline arpeggios, minimalist glitch percussion).⁶ Sets slow tempo (70 BPM) and an experimental scale feel (C Lydian dominant scale feel).⁷ Mood (introspective and meditative) and effects (spacious reverb and subtle delay) are included.²
- **Lyrics Field:** Uses descriptive phrases as section markers rather than traditional song structure tags, focusing on textural evolution (.).¹ Each section details changes in specific layers or introduces new ones. Explicitly mentions effect details like ping-pong delay and long reverb tail.

- **Variations:**

1. **Dark Ambient:** Shift mood to "dark, unsettling, eerie." Use "dissonant pads,"

"industrial textures," "rumbling sub-bass."

2. **Uplifting Chillwave:** Change mood to "nostalgic, hopeful, dreamy." Use "brighter synth melodies," "retro 80s synth sounds," "gentle sidechain compression on pads."
3. **Organic Ambient:** Incorporate "field recordings (rain, wind)," "processed acoustic instrument textures (e.g., bowed guitar, slowed down piano samples)."

9.3 Solo Instrument Pieces (e.g., Solo Piano Jazz, Fingerstyle Guitar)

These prompts require a strong focus on a single instrument's expressive capabilities.

- **Example Prompt (Solo Piano Jazz):**

- **Style of Music Field:** Solo jazz piano, improvisational, smoky late-night club vibe, complex bebop harmonies and voicings, walking bassline in left hand, intricate bluesy melodies and fast runs in right hand, expressive dynamics from soft to forte, medium-up swing tempo (140 BPM), F minor blues
- **Lyrics Field (Instrumental Cues):**
[Intro: sparse, out-of-tempo rubato chords, establishing F minor]

[Outro: slows down, thoughtful, unresolved dominant chord ending, fades with a final low F note]

- **Analysis:**

- **Style Field:** Clearly states Solo jazz piano and improvisational.¹ Sets the atmosphere (smoky late-night club vibe).² Details harmonic and melodic content (complex bebop harmonies, walking bassline in left hand, intricate bluesy melodies).⁶ Specifies dynamics, tempo, and key/scale (expressive dynamics, medium-up swing tempo (140 BPM), F minor blues).⁷
- **Lyrics Field:** Uses structural tags that reflect a jazz performance structure (.).¹ Cues guide the improvisational character and dynamic flow through different sections.

- **Variations:**

1. **Classical Solo Piano:** Change genre to "Romantic era solo piano," mood to "passionate, virtuosic." Request "Liszt-inspired arpeggios," "Chopin-esque

nocturne melody."

2. **Fingerstyle Acoustic Guitar:** Style: "Instrumental fingerstyle acoustic guitar, percussive techniques, open tuning feel (e.g., DADGAD), folk melodies with complex fingerpicking patterns, warm and intimate recording." Lyrics cues: [Intro: gentle harmonics][Melodic Variation: higher up the neck].²²
3. **Solo Cello Suite:** Style: "Solo cello, Bach-inspired, baroque counterpoint, resonant and woody tone, adagio tempo." Lyrics cues: [Prelude: arpeggiated figures][Allemande: flowing melodic lines][Courante: faster, dance-like][Gigue: lively, contrapuntal].

9.4 Funky Grooves / Band-Based Instrumentals

These instrumentals thrive on the interplay of a tight rhythm section and catchy melodic/rhythmic hooks.

- **Example Prompt:**

- **Style of Music Field:** Instrumental funk groove, driving clavinet lead, tight electric bassline playing a syncopated riff, crisp drums with open hi-hats and ghost notes on the snare, wah-wah rhythm guitar chords, punchy brass section stabs (trumpet, tenor sax, trombone), 115 BPM, energetic, danceable, 1970s analog production style
- **Lyrics Field (Instrumental Cues):**
[Intro: drum fill into main clavinet and bass riff, guitar enters with wah chords]
[Outro: band hits a final chord, then a repetitive bass and drum groove fades out with filter sweep]

- **Analysis:**

- **Style Field:** Defines genre and feel (Instrumental funk groove, energetic, danceable).⁶ Specifies lead (driving clavinet lead) and rhythm section roles/character (tight electric bassline playing a syncopated riff, crisp drums, wah-wah rhythm guitar).¹ Details accent instruments (punchy brass section stabs) and production (1970s analog production style).⁶ Includes BPM.⁷
- **Lyrics Field:** Uses structural tags combined with instrumental action cues ([Intro: drum fill into main clavinet and bass riff]).¹ Clearly marks solos () and breaks (). Guides the interplay between sections (e.g., ``).

- **Variations:**

1. **Smooth Jazz Funk:** Slow tempo, add "Rhodes electric piano," "flugelhorn lead." Make mood "mellow, sophisticated."
2. **Afrobeat Instrumental:** Increase tempo, add "djembe," "complex interlocking guitar lines," "call-and-response horn section." Mood: "vibrant, polyrhythmic."

3. **Progressive Rock Instrumental:** Vary time signatures, add "Hammond organ," "synthesizer solos," "epic guitar riffs with complex progressions."
Mood: "dynamic, adventurous, intricate."

These examples illustrate how combining detailed "Style of Music" prompts with strategic structural and event cues in the "Lyrics" field can guide Suno AI to produce more specific, structured, and musically interesting instrumentals across a range of genres.

Community Resources

Creating masterful instrumentals with Suno AI extends beyond just crafting the perfect prompt. It also involves understanding the ethical landscape of AI music generation, copyright considerations, and leveraging the collective knowledge of the user community. This chapter addresses these important aspects, helping the Sonic Architect navigate the broader context of their creative endeavors.

10.1 Ethical Use of Suno AI: Originality and Inspiration

Suno AI is designed as a tool to foster creativity and generate original musical content.⁵ A core ethical principle is to use the platform to create new works rather than attempting to replicate existing copyrighted music directly.

- **Inspiration, Not Imitation:** While reference tracks can be a valuable source of inspiration, the recommended approach is to deconstruct the *musical components* of such tracks—genre, instrumentation, tempo, mood, structure—and use these elements to inform an original prompt, rather than asking Suno AI to copy a specific song or artist.³²
- **Avoiding Direct Artist References:** Directly naming specific artists in prompts is generally discouraged and may not be effectively processed by Suno AI, or could lead to outputs that too closely mimic an artist's style, raising ethical concerns.²⁴ Some users suggest workarounds like using an artist's name with a suffix like "-core" or "-inspired" (e.g., "Zimmer-core" for a Hans Zimmer-esque cinematic sound) to guide the style without direct imitation.²⁵ The aim should always be to create something new that reflects the user's unique vision, using Suno AI as a collaborative tool.
- **Platform Guidelines:** Suno AI, like many generative AI platforms, may have terms of service that prohibit the generation of content that infringes on copyright or is intended to impersonate specific artists without permission.⁷² Users should familiarize themselves with these guidelines.

10.2 Copyright Considerations for AI-Generated Instrumentals

The legal landscape surrounding copyright for AI-generated works is still evolving, and it's crucial for users to be aware of the general considerations:

- **Commercial Use Rights:** Suno AI's subscription plans typically differentiate usage rights. Music generated under a free or basic plan is often restricted to personal, non-commercial use, with Suno AI potentially retaining ownership of the generated content.³ Pro or Premier plans usually grant users commercial rights to the music they create, allowing for monetization on streaming platforms or use in

commercial projects.³

- **Copyright Protection for AI Works:** Suno AI itself cannot guarantee that works generated on its platform will receive copyright protection in all jurisdictions.⁴ Copyright offices, such as the US Copyright Office, have been hesitant to grant copyright to works primarily created by AI, often emphasizing the need for significant human authorship.⁷²
- **The Role of Human Authorship:** The degree of human creative input is a key factor in copyright discussions. The more detailed, specific, and iterative the prompting process—as advocated throughout this guide—the stronger the argument for substantial human authorship in the final instrumental piece. A "Sonic Architect" who meticulously crafts prompts, defines structures, guides melodic and harmonic development, and iteratively refines the output through features like "Extend" and "Replace Section" is contributing significant creative labor. While this doesn't automatically guarantee copyright, it strengthens the claim of human co-creation.
- **Original Lyrics:** If a user writes original lyrics (even if only used as structural markers or descriptive text for instrumentals in Suno), they may retain copyright over that specific textual input, separate from the AI-generated music.⁷²

Users intending to use their Suno AI-generated instrumentals for commercial purposes should carefully review Suno AI's terms of service regarding their specific subscription level and stay informed about the evolving legal standards for AI-generated content in their jurisdiction.

10.3 Leveraging Community Knowledge: Suno AI Wiki, Discord, Forums

The Suno AI user community is a vibrant source of shared knowledge, tips, tricks, and inspiration. Engaging with these resources can significantly accelerate the learning curve and uncover new prompting techniques.

- **Unofficial Suno AI Wiki:** Often cited in guides, an unofficial wiki (if available and maintained by the community) can be a repository for meta-tag lists, genre ideas, and troubleshooting tips.¹
- **Official and Unofficial Discord Servers:** The official Suno AI Discord server, and potentially other community-run servers, are platforms for real-time discussion, prompt sharing (e.g., in #audio-prompts channels), collaboration, and getting help from experienced users and sometimes even the developers.⁷³
- **Reddit (e.g., r/SunoAI):** Subreddits dedicated to Suno AI are invaluable for seeing what other users are creating, learning from their successful (and unsuccessful) prompts, and participating in discussions about new features, limitations, and creative strategies.⁷ These forums often surface practical

workarounds and novel uses of the AI.

- **Other Online Guides and Blogs:** Many creators and music technologists share their experiments and guides on personal blogs or platforms like YouTube, offering further perspectives and examples.⁶

10.4 Organizing and Reusing Your Best Prompts: Building a Personal Library

As users experiment and discover prompts that yield excellent instrumental results, it becomes highly beneficial to develop a system for organizing and reusing this knowledge.

- **Maintain a Prompt Library:** Keep a record of successful prompts, noting the specific wording used in both the "Style of Music" and "Lyrics" fields, the resulting audio (perhaps with a link if stored in Suno), and any observations about why it worked well.²⁴ This can be done using simple text files, spreadsheets (as suggested by some toolkits⁸⁵), or dedicated prompt management tools like Promptaa if they integrate well with a user's workflow.⁸⁶
- **Suno's "Reuse Prompt" Feature:** Suno AI itself includes a "Reuse Prompt" feature, which allows users to take the prompt from an existing song (either their own or, with ethical considerations for lyrics, one shared by others) and use it as a starting point for a new creation.⁷² This is useful for iterating on a successful style or structure.
- **Develop Templates:** For recurring needs (e.g., a certain type of ambient background track or a specific instrumental song structure), users can develop template prompts that they can then customize with specific mood or instrument variations. Latenode suggests developing and sharing effective narrative prompts internally for common business needs, a practice adaptable for individual creative projects.⁸⁷
- **Tagging and Categorization:** When saving prompts, use tags or categories to organize them by genre, mood, instrumentation, or project type. This makes it easier to find and adapt relevant prompts for future use.⁸⁴

By systematically documenting successful prompting strategies and leveraging community wisdom, Sonic Architects can continuously refine their craft and more efficiently produce high-quality instrumental music with Suno AI.

Conclusion: The Evolving Art of AI Instrumental Composition

Suno AI presents a transformative platform for the creation of instrumental music, democratizing access to music production tools and offering a vast canvas for sonic exploration. This guide, "The Sonic Architect: Crafting Masterful Instrumentals with Suno AI," has endeavored to provide a comprehensive and practical roadmap for users of all levels to harness the full potential of this remarkable technology for non-vocal music generation.

The journey from a simple text idea to a fully realized instrumental piece with Suno AI is one of guided discovery, iterative refinement, and creative partnership with the AI. The core of this process lies in **masterful prompting**: the ability to translate nuanced musical intentions into precise and evocative language that the AI can interpret effectively. This involves a deep understanding of how to utilize both the "Style of Music" field—the primary blueprint for genre, mood, instrumentation, and texture—and the "Lyrics" field, which, for instrumentalists, becomes a powerful timeline for dictating structure, sectional changes, and specific instrumental events through meta-tags.

Key takeaways for the aspiring Sonic Architect include:

- **Specificity is Paramount:** Vague prompts lead to generic results. Detailed descriptions of genre, sub-genre, mood, specific instruments and their roles, desired sonic textures, production styles, and even narrative or emotional arcs are crucial for guiding Suno AI towards a unique and intentional output.
- **Custom Mode is Essential:** For serious instrumental work, Custom Mode provides the necessary granular control over stylistic and structural elements.
- **Meta-Tags Unlock Structure and Dynamics:** Tags like [Intro], [Verse], [Chorus], ,, ,, and advanced modifiers such as [Complex Progression] and [Epic] are indispensable tools for shaping the form, energy, and sophistication of instrumental pieces.
- **The "Lyrics" Field is a Conductor's Score:** Even with the "Instrumental" toggle ON, this field is vital for mapping out the arrangement, controlling density, and cueing specific instrumental moments.
- **Iterative Refinement is Key:** Leveraging features like "Continue From This Song," "Extend," "Replace Section," and "Crop" allows for the construction of longer, more complex works and the fine-tuning of generated material. Each extension or replacement is an opportunity to further guide the AI.
- **Overcoming Challenges Requires Strategic Prompting:** Issues like generic melodies or unwanted distortion can often be mitigated through more targeted melodic cues, careful instrument selection (favoring acoustics for clarity), limiting instrumental density in prompts, and using "exclude styles" tags.

- **Embrace Community and Continuous Learning:** The field of AI music generation is rapidly evolving. Engaging with community resources and maintaining a personal library of effective prompts are vital for ongoing growth and mastery.

While Suno AI significantly lowers the barrier to music creation, the role of the human creator remains central. The "Sonic Architect" is not a passive recipient of AI-generated music but an active director, shaping the output through thoughtful instruction, critical listening, and iterative feedback. The quality of the instrumental music produced is directly proportional to the clarity of vision and the skill in communicating that vision to the AI.

As Suno AI continues to develop, its capabilities for nuanced instrumental generation will undoubtedly expand. However, the foundational principles of clear communication, structural understanding, and creative intent explored in this guide will remain timeless. By mastering these techniques, users can truly become architects of sound, crafting masterful and expressive instrumental worlds with Suno AI as their powerful and versatile co-composer. The future of instrumental music is not just about what AI can generate, but about what humans, in collaboration with AI, can imagine and bring to life.

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