Genre Production Features

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | Production Feature | |
| Style | Level | Decade | Technological | Musical |
| Ragtime | N4 | 1900 | Played/recorded on a player piano | Left Hand Vamp  Right Hand Syncopation  Question and Answer Melody Line |
| Jazz | N3 | 1900 | Acoustic Horn/Cylinder  1 take recording  All instruments recorded together | Improvisation  Syncopation |
| Blues | N3 | 1900 | Acoustic Horn/Cylinder  1 take recording  All instruments recorded together | 12 Bar Blues Chord Sequence  Repetition  Blues Scale  Walking Bass |
| Country | N5 | 1920 | Prominent vocals in the mix  One or two microphones  Live Recording | Banjo, acoustic or electric guitar, bass guitar, slide guitar  Fiddle and Harmonica  Simple harmonies and structures |
| Swing | N4 | 1930 | One (or two) omnidirectional condenser microphones  Live recording  Recording direct to disk. | Big Band  Saxophones  Soloists  Improvisation |
| Skiffle | N4 | 1950 | No/little use of effects  Live recording | Homemade instruments  Banjo  Guitar  Double Bass |
| Rock ‘n’ Roll | N5 | 1950 | vocals overdubbed to minimise spillage  live recording direct to tape | 12 bar blues  Guitar  Bass guitar  Drum kit  Vocals |
| 1960s Pop | N5 | 1960 | 4 track recording  Overdubbing  Multitrack recording  Instruments grouped together (and often panned together)  Double tracked vocals | Close vocal harmonies  Lead guitar  Rhythm Guitar  Bass guitar  Drum kit |
| Rock | N3 | 1960 | Distortion  Phaser or flanger on guitar  Low EQ boost bass guitar | Drum kit  Electric guitars  Bass guitars  Lead vocals  Bass and guitar riffs |
| Disco | N3 | 1970 | Synthesizer  Bass synthesizer  Electronic hand claps  large scale multi track recording  lots of reverb on vocals  Wah wah guitar | guitar sound clean bright and thin  4/4  Four on the floor drums  Orchestral instruments - string sections, horn sections  Syncopation |
| Celtic Rock | N5 | 1970 | Possible distortion on guitars to give rock feel | Traditional instruments mixed with guitars, bass guitars, drum kit etc. |
| Synth Pop | N4 | 1980 | drum machines/electronic drums  Synthesizers  repeated loops  Sampling  bass synth  Sequencer  MIDI instruments | Riffs/Ostinatos  Repetition |
| Punk | N5 | 1970 | raw unprocessed sound  distorted guitars | Lead Guitar  Rhythm Guitar  Vocals - political lyrics  Bass guitar |
| Rap | N4 | 1970 | use of samplers  scratching effects | Spoken rhyming lyrics  Heavy bass line |
| Hip Hop | N5 | 1970 | double tracking  repeated drum loops/hooks  electronic drums  use of samplers and synths | Use of rap - spoken word  Stress on certain words  Repetition  Melodic chorus section |
| Musical | N5 |  | Radio Mics  Little to no effects  Vocals prominent in the mix  DI instruments  Overhead mics | Mix of modern and orchestral instruments  Many singers |
| Scottish | N5 |  |  | Traditional instruments  Bagpipes  Fiddle |