

Transposing

Music

Three methods for moving music to a different key, and when each is quickest.

Moving a piece from one key into another.

Method	How	Best for
By interval	Move every note the same distance	Accuracy, written work
By scale degree	Think in numbers, play them in the new key	Speed, improvising
By clef	Read in a different clef and adjust the key	Sight transposition, advanced
Capo (guitar)	Move the shapes physically	Guitar accompaniment

Singers ask for transposition constantly. Numbers — I, IV, V — transpose instantly; letter names do not.