

# Ternary Form - Cheat Sheet


**Ternary Form** is a 3-section form (ABA'). It is different from rounded binary in that the B theme feels like its own section rather than just a digression. This is usually accomplished through use of a different key, different character to the music, changes in accompaniment, etc.

**Simple Ternary** is ABA'

In **Compound Ternary**, each section has its own form (often binary). An example would be a minuet/trio from a symphony (e.g. AB|CD|AB)...this is not the only option, however.

## Example of Simple Ternary

**A**



9 **B**



change in key (to minor) and accompaniment make this feel like a complete section, meaning ternary rather than rounded binary.

17 **A'**



## Example of Compound Ternary

A                    B                    A'  
||:AB:|            ||:CD:|            AB