



Write A Song About A Household Object

Believe it or not there are song ideas all over your house just waiting to be written, it just depends how you see things.

Some while ago I wrote a song called The Table. Sounds really boring doesn't it?



Well, I started by describing the table; How it was worn out and how the polish was cracked and faded from years of just being there. Then as the song moves on the listener discovers that the table is more than just a piece of furniture, it's where people come together, and when they have a problem they "put it on the table".

It's where family disputes are talked through, voices are raised and tears are shed until the problem is solved. The table then becomes less of an inanimate object and actually one of the most important things keeping people together. It's strong, dependable, always there and has emotional value.

I've also written a song about a door! Here, the significance was that a door is what people walk through when they leave...or when they come back, both of which are potentially powerful moments.

Giving an unexpected significance to an otherwise meaningless object is a powerful way of creating emotion in a song, both happy and sad.



Do note that this is a different technique to using something inanimate as a metaphor or simile for something or someone. This is more about illuminating in the song how relevant that object is in real life to something more personal.



Here are a few more examples of everyday items given importance:

Object: Coffee Cup

Emotion: Passion/Excitement or even Guilt

Story: Still has the lipstick on it from the night before...

Point: Excited about a new relationship...*or*...We shouldn't have done that!

Object: Wooden spoon

Emotion: Nostalgia/Family/Love

Story: What Mum used when we were kids to make cakes on a Summer afternoon

Point: I miss you...*or*...I miss the innocence of being a carefree child

Object: Trash Bin

Emotion: Empowerment

Story: Where I threw my wedding ring

Point: Get out of my life, I'm starting again!

Practising thinking laterally like this is a great way to develop the your originality as a songwriter.

Challenge:

You have one week to write a song about a household object, in any style. Don't worry about production, just focus on a fabulous lyric, melody and harmony.

Try and get the story clear before you start writing, make sure you know what the point of the song is and bear in mind that it's sometimes better not to give the meaning away too soon, much like the punchline of a joke.

Have fun!