Arranging table

You may find some kind of visual aid useful to help you see what sections you still need to review or think about in your song arrangement.

This is one way of laying out the sections and an example of some different parts. With a full arrangement, there would be drums and bass to consider too, maybe keyboards, maybe synth or some other type of sample etc.

Even if you only have one guitar, visualising your arrangement like this might help you create a flow of different parts through your performance that adds interest and dynamic.

You can also use this to go through each section thinking in turn about melody, lyric, harmony, rhythm and density/texture (how much is happening at any one time) so that you know you've considered each part of the song and what you're intending to achieve.

Don't worry if you want to create an effect that you can't yet pull off technically with singing or guitar playing. We are training your creative imagination and there are lots of ways to approach bridging a technical gap. There is no better incentive to close a gap than because you have composed something that needs a bit more than you have.

	Intro	Verse 1	Verse 2	Bridge	Chorus	Middle 8	Verse 3	Chorus
Guitar 1 – Chords	x	x	x	x	X Stop at end	X	X	x
Guitar 2 Fingerstyle				X	X	X		x
Guitar 3 riff	x		X				x	
Guitar 4 extra rhythm high chords					X			x
Main vocals		X	X		X		X	x
Counterpoint or harmony			X		X			x
Intention and dynamic	Medium	Medium	Slightly higher		Highest	Drop to low – so lyrics from Chorus sink in	Still low	Goes back up

Instrument or part name	Section	Section	Section	etc				
Intention and dynamic								