Some Helpful Notes

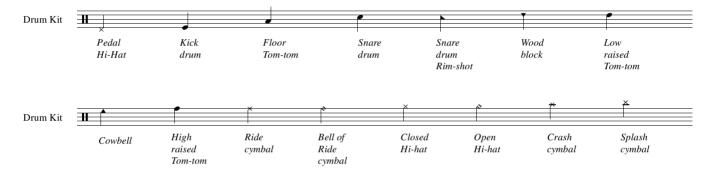
"Doo-wop, I Love You" is a flexible ensemble piece requiring a minimum of: 7 melody instruments (or 3 players & 4 singers), guitar, piano, bass & drum kit.

To Sing or Not to Sing

The 4 doo-wop backing parts (the Doo-woppers) can either be played as instrumental parts, or sung using the "lyrics" as indicated. The other melody parts are all instrumental and can either be played by soloists, or with small groups of players on each part.

Drum Kit

The drum kit part is notated on a single stave, with each sound notated on a particular line or space, and using a variety of note heads. Below shows where and how the individual sounds of a drum kit appear on the stave:



Guitar notation

The chords in the guitar part are indicated above the staves, and are strummed to the notated rhythm. As it is basically a rhythm part (ie. non-pitch defining) and not melodic, the notes are headless. The bracketed symbols are chords formed by the other parts, during the guitar rests.

Played with a Swing

Swing isn't something that can be notated accurately, but a feel to the music which comes about through the interpretation of what's written.

Often quavers are written in the usual way, but are not playd evenly. Those which fall on a beat are lengthened, and those which fall between the beats are shortened, creating a "da-di-da-di" rhythm as opposed to "la-la-la-la". The example below shows how a phrase might be written, and the approximate note values when it is played:

