

Definitions starting with M

Music

Today young Bahamians [JAM](#) and [BOOGIE](#) to the disco, rock and reggae music heard from New York to Kingston. The traditional music of the Bahamas is also related to that of the American mainland and the Caribbean, combining musical traditions from Africa and Europe, yet maintaining a distinctively Bahamian flavor.

[SINGS](#) that are religious are often accompanied only by hand-clapping. [ANTHEMS](#) developed from hymns, which a leader would [LINE OFF](#) to the chorus. The [RHYMING SPIRITUAL](#) is sung in three parts, led by a [RHYMER](#) as well as a [BASSER](#) and an alto. Singing is an integral part of a religious [SHOUTING MEETING](#), a [SETTING-UP](#), or a [CONCERT](#) (where a particular kind of song is sung during the [RUSH](#) or [RALLY](#)). A person admired for knowing many songs is called a [SANKEY](#).

A secular [SING](#) or [TONE](#) usually accompanies children's [RING PLAYS](#) Or adults' [RING DANCE](#), including the [JUMP-IN](#), the [FIRE DANCE](#), the [NAKED DANCE](#) and the [ZINE DANCE](#). All of these have a strong African flavor, as do [BOTTLE DANCING](#) and the [LIMBER](#). The irresistible rhythms of [JUNKANOO](#), whether the [HILL BEAT](#) or [DOUBLE TAP](#), are also unmistakably African. Accompanied by cow bells and whistles, the principal instruments are drums, which one can [KNOCK](#), [SPANK](#), Or hit with a [BEATER](#). Drums include the [GOOM-BAY](#) or [TOM-TOM](#), as well as the [CONGO DRUM](#), [KEG DRUM](#), and [HUB DRUM](#). Other percussion instruments are the [CLEAVERS](#), the [JAW-BONE](#), the [BOTTLE-AND-NAIL](#) and [SHAKERS](#) (also called [ROCKERS](#), [CARACAS](#), PERACLAS or [JOHNNY CUTLASS](#)). Other instruments include the [BANJA](#), [TUNE-TUNE](#), and [WASH-TUB](#) Or [TIN-TUB BASS](#). These may form a [RAKE-AND-SCRAPE BAND](#) to accompany the European-derived [QUADRILLE](#), a kind of square dance done to music like the [SHORTIE](#) and [PULKA MAZULKA](#). Although these dances are disappearing, Bahamians still love to [SCULL](#) to the Afro-Latin beat of the ever-popular [MERENGUE](#). See Bethel 1978.

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