One Tune, Three Tempos

Create three versions of the same instrumental idea at slow, medium, and fast tempos, and discover how tempo changes its emotional effect. **About 30 minutes.** You'll need Suno (Advanced mode), headphones, and your prompt journal.

The Starting Prompts

The three style descriptions are identical except for the tempo, shown in bold. Keep everything else exactly the same, so any difference you hear comes from the tempo alone.

PROMPT 5.1 · SLOW

Acoustic folk instrumental, **slow tempo around 65 BPM**, fingerpicked acoustic guitar, gentle piano, soft cello, warm and intimate recording.

PROMPT 5.2 · MEDIUM

Acoustic folk instrumental, **relaxed medium tempo around 95 BPM**, fingerpicked acoustic guitar, gentle piano, soft cello, warm and intimate recording.

PROMPT 5.3 · FAST

Acoustic folk instrumental, **lively fast tempo around 140 BPM**, fingerpicked acoustic guitar, gentle piano, soft cello, warm and intimate recording.

Step by Step

1. Click **Create** and switch to **Advanced** mode.
2. Turn the **Instrumental** switch on.
3. In the Title field, type **The Porch Swing (Slow)**.
4. Paste Prompt 5.1 into the **Styles** box and click **Create**.
5. Repeat with Prompt 5.2 (title: **The Porch Swing (Medium)**) and Prompt 5.3 (title: **The Porch Swing (Fast)**).
6. Listen to one version of each tempo, in order from slow to fast, without stopping in between.
7. For each, write down three words that describe how it makes you feel.

How Does Each Tempo Feel?

Many listeners describe the slow version as "reflective" or "tender," the medium as "comfortable" or "nostalgic," and the fast as "joyful" or "playful." Your words may be different, and that's exactly the point.

VERSION	Three feeling words
The Porch Swing (Slow)	
The Porch Swing (Medium)	
The Porch Swing (Fast)	

My favorite tempo: _____

© 2026 PMV Consulting, LLC

When AI Gets It Wrong

Problem	Fix
The “slow” and “medium” versions sound almost the same speed.	BPM numbers are suggestions, not commands. Add feeling words, such as “very slow and unhurried, like a lullaby” or “brisk and lively,” and generate again.
The fast version sounds rushed and cluttered.	At faster tempos, fewer instruments often sound better. Try removing the cello from Prompt 5.3.
Your description contradicts itself.	Watch for clashes such as “slow and energetic” or “peaceful and driving.” When words pull in opposite directions, the AI has to guess.

Finished-Product Checklist

- ☐ I created all three tempo versions in Advanced mode with the Instrumental switch on.
- ☐ I changed only the tempo between versions.
- ☐ I listened to them in order, slow to fast.
- ☐ I wrote three feeling words for each version in my prompt journal.
- ☐ I chose the tempo I liked best and marked it as a favorite.

Try It Yourself: Change One Word

Return to your favorite version of The Retirement Blues from Chapter 4. Switch to Advanced mode and recreate it with this style description. In the Lyrics area, ask Suno to write the lyrics for you, giving it the subject: *a retired man with endless free time who never gets anything done.*

> **PROMPT 5.4 · THE RETIREMENT BLUES, ADVANCED**
>
> Humorous Chicago blues, relaxed shuffle, gravelly male vocals, gritty electric guitar, harmonica, catchy chorus hook.

Then change just one vocabulary element at a time and note what you hear:

Change	What to do	What I heard
Era	Add “1950s vintage recording”	
Mood	Replace “humorous” with “melancholy, minor key”	
Place	Add “recorded live in a smoky small club”	
Rhythm	Replace “relaxed shuffle” with “slow, heavy, laid-back groove”	

Words That Work. Every time a description gives you a result you love, copy it here and onto the “Words That Work” page of your prompt journal.

© 2026 PMV Consulting, LLC