

Basic Sonata Form

EXPOSITION

Theme (group) 1 -----

transition -----

Theme (group) 2 -----

Codetta or
Closing (theme)

DEVELOPMENT

Development of motives and theme fragments; sectional in nature.

Key: I or i

modulatory
ends on V of the
new key

usually V or III

V (or III)

Transits several keys, usually related to I (I) and V (II or v); can move into parallel keys.

Retransition

RECAPITULATION

Usually not of great motivic or thematic significance

Theme 1 -----

Transition -----

Theme 2 -----

Codetta or
Closing Theme

V/I (I) pedal, usually

I (i)

does not modulate; can be simply transposed, slightly rearranged, or quite different from Exposition

I (i)

I (i)