

HARMONY SONG PUZZLES (all examples in Key of C Major)

Musicians familiar with Diatonic Harmony (naturally occurring chords belonging to the key) can sound these chord progressions out, even without an instrument. Simply by reading the chord numeral and sounding it out in their head, they can "hear" the song. For the rest of us, it's okay to use the Interactive Triads Video while we're learning.

ONE	I		I		IV	IV		?		?	?	?	?	5	6	7
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TWO	I				IV				I				I			
	?				?				?				?			
	?				?				?				?			
	?				?				?				?			

THREE	I				I				I				I			
	?				?				I				I			
	?				?				I							

FOUR	I				I	ii	?	?					?	?	?	?
					?	?	?		?				?			

FIVE	I								?							
	?								?							

SIX	I								?							
	?								?							

SEVEN	I								?							
	?								?							

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EIGHT	I				?				?				?			
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NINE	I				?				?				?			
	?				?				?				?			

TEN	4	3	3	2	4	3	3	2	4	3	3	2	Melody			
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Chords			
	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

ELEVEN	IV/1			?					?				?			
	?			?					?				?			
	?			?					?							
	?			?					?				?			
	?				?											
	?			?					?				?			
	?			?					?							
	?				?				?				?	2	3	1
	?								?							
	?				?				?							
	?								?							

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TWELVE	1			2	3		1		4		6		5		3
	1			2	3	5			4	3	2		1		
	?								?						
	?				?				?						
	?								?						
	?				?				?						
	?								?						
	?				?				?						
	?								?						
	?								?						
	?								?				?		
	?								?				?		
	?								?				?		
	?								?				?		

THIRTEEN	I					iii			
	vi					vi			
	IV					I/3			
	V/2					V			
	?					?			

PUZZLE NUMBER

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Click on the corresponding box to reveal the answers!

ONE

TWO

THREE

FOUR

FIVE

SIX

SEVEN

PUZZLE NUMBER

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TWELVE

Diatonic Harmony: Chord Numerals (Triads and their Qualities by Scale Degree)

CHORD NUMERAL	Root	b3rd	3rd	b5th	5th	INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR INTERVALS			CHORD QUALITIES
						Major 3rd	Minor 3rd	Perfect Fifth	
I	1		3		5	Major 3rd	Minor 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Pleasant, Open, Stable
ii	2	4			6	Minor 3rd	Major 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Darker, Closed, Stable
iii	3	5			7	Minor 3rd	Major 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Darker, Closed, Stable
IV	4		6		8 [1]	Major 3rd	Minor 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Pleasant, Open, Stable
V	5		7		9 [2]	Major 3rd	Minor 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Pleasant, Open, Stable
vi	6	8 [1]			10 [3]	Minor 3rd	Major 3rd	Perfect Fifth	Darker, Closed, Stable
vii ^o	7	9 [2]		11 [4]		Minor 3rd	Minor 3rd	Diminished Fifth [Tritone]	Mysterious, Dissonant, Unstable

Root Position vs. Inversions vs. Open Voicing

INTERVAL DISTANCE (HALF STEPS)																		Classical Name	Common Name (assuming C for Root)
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
Root				3rd			5th											"Root Position Major Chord"	"C"
Root			b3rd				5th											"Root Position Minor Chord"	"C Minor"
3rd			5th					Root										"First Inversion Major Chord"	"C over E" or C/E
b3rd				5th					Root									"First Inversion Minor Chord"	"C Minor over Eb" or C/Eb
5th					Root					3rd								"Second Inversion Major Chord"	"C over G" or C/G
5th					Root			b3rd										"Second Inversion Minor Chord"	"C Minor over G" or Cm/G
Root							5th									10th (3rd)		"Major Chord in Open Voicing"	"C Open Voicing"
Root							5th								b10th (b3rd)			"Minor Chord in Open Voicing"	"C Minor Open Voicing"
3rd								Root'								12th (5th)		"Major Chord in First Inversion Open Voicing"	"C over E Open Voicing"
b3rd									Root'							12th (5th)		"Minor Chord in First Inversion Open Voicing"	"C Minor over Eb Open Voicing"
5th										10th (3rd)							Root''	"Major Chord in Second Inversion Open Voicing"	"C over E Open Voicing"
5th										b10th (b3rd)							Root''	"Minor Chord in Second Inversion Open Voicing"	"C Minor over G Open Voicing"

Have you come across other voicings? If so, try having a look their interval structure. Just hit "File," "Make a copy..." and add these voicings above.

Root Position vs. Inversions vs. Open Voicing (Vertical View)

INTERVAL DISTANCE (HALF STEPS)	INTERVAL DISTANCE (HALF STEPS)																	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17																	Root''	Root''
16								10th (3rd)									12th (5th)	
15										b10th (b3rd)	12th (5th)							
14																		
13																		
12																		
11																		
10																		
9					Root	3rd										Root'	10th (3rd)	
8				Root				b3rd			Root'						b10th (b3rd)	
7	5th	5th								5th	5th							
6																		
5						Root	Root											
4	3rd				5th													
3		b3rd	5th															
2																		
1																		
0	Root	Root	3rd	b3rd	5th	5th	Root	Root	3rd	b3rd	5th	5th						

