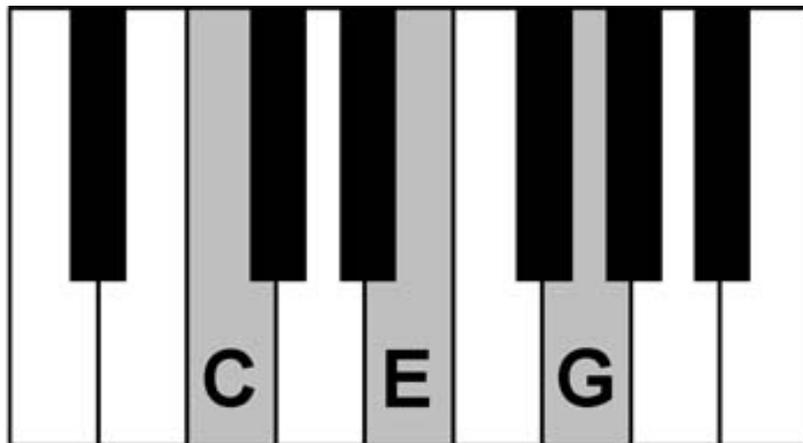
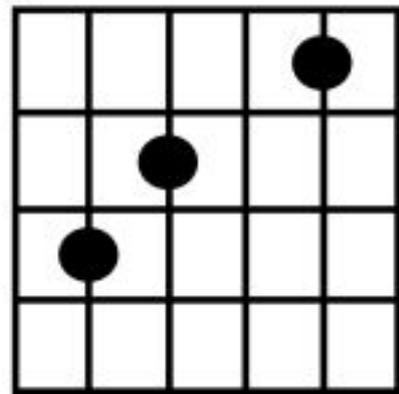
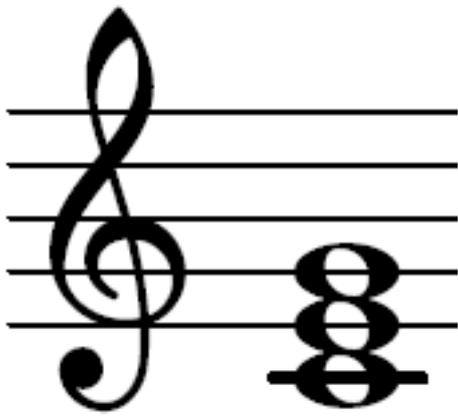


# Year 9

## POPULAR MUSIC & CHORDS



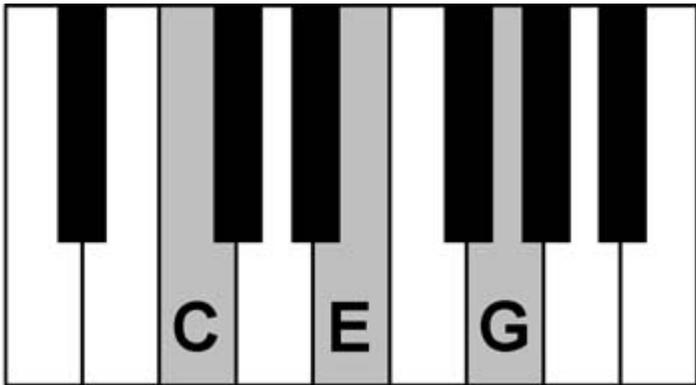
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT IS A CHORD?

A CHORD is when 2 or more notes are played together at the same time. When 3 notes are played together at the same time, it is called a TRIAD.

e.g. C MAJOR:

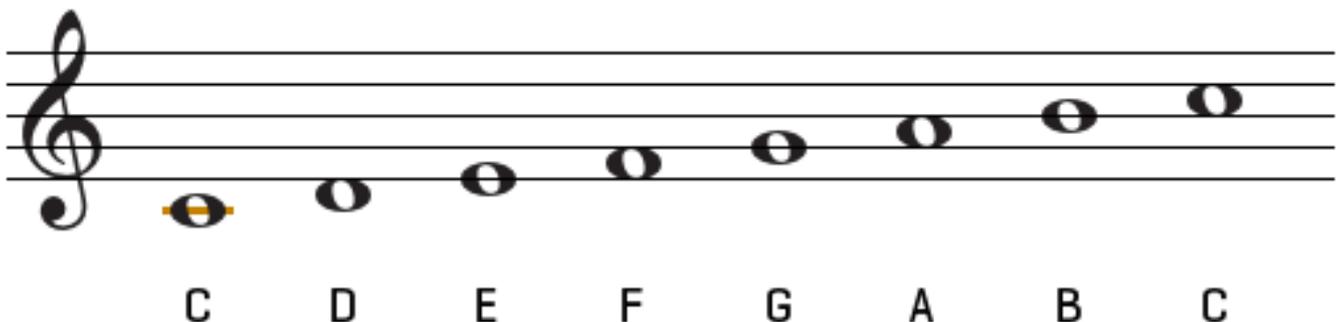


## WHAT IS A SCALE?

Most Western classical and commercial music is based on a series of notes known as a MAJOR SCALE or a MINOR SCALE.

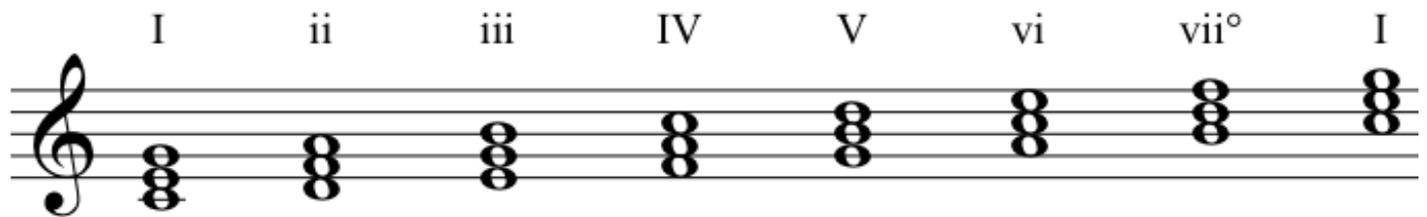
The easiest way to tell the two different types of scale apart is that the Major Scale sounds "Happy" and the Minor Scale sounds "Sad".

The notes of the C MAJOR scale can be seen below:



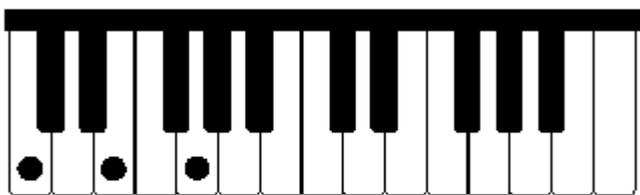
Every SCALE has a series of related CHORDS.

The Scale of C MAJOR can be seen in TRIADS below:

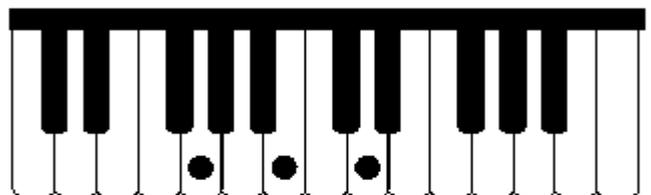


- It is these chords that form the accompaniment of a song/piece of music, while the notes of the scale form the basis of the melody (tune.)
- The chords written with uppercase Roman numerals are MAJOR chords, while the chords written with lowercase Roman numerals are MINOR.
- Most songs are composed using only 3 or 4 chords. The most common chords to use are chords I, IV, V and vi.
- In C major, these chords are as follows:

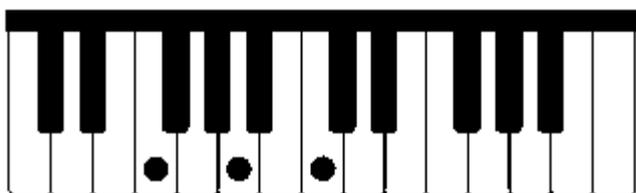
I - C MAJOR (C, E, G)



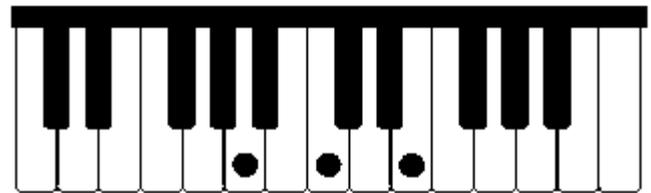
V - G MAJOR (G, B, D)



IV - F MAJOR (F, A, C)



vi - A MINOR (A, C, E)



## TASK 1: PERFORMING "HEART AND SOUL"

Practise performing the chords above on the keyboard (using fingers 1,3 and 5) before moving on to learn the accompaniment part of "Heart and Soul".

# "Heart and Soul" Accompaniment

♩ =  $\overset{3}{\text{♩}}$

First system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, E, G, A, C, E, F, A, C, G, B, D. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, A, F, G.

Second system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, E, C, G, E, C, G, E, C, E, C, A, E, C, A, E, C, A, C, A, F, C, A, F, C, A, F, D, B, G, D, B, G, D, B, G. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, Am, F, G.

Third system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, G, E, G, E, A, E, C, E, C, F, C, A, C, A, G, D, B, D. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, Am, F, G.

# "Heart and Soul"

## Melodies

### Melody 1

C C C C B A B C D E E E E D C D E F

C Am F G C Am F G

5 G C A G F E D C B A G F E D G

C Am F G C Am F G

### Melody 2

9 C C D E F E D E F G F E F G A G F G A B

C Am F G C Am F G

13 C C B A G F E D

C Am F G

## "HEART AND SOUL" - SUCCESS CRITERIA

Level	Description	✓
3	Perform the top line of the first "Heart and Soul" accompaniment with your right hand.	
4	Perform the first "Heart and Soul" accompaniment using both hands, with the bass clef in your left hand and the treble clef in your right.	
5	Perform the first line of the "Heart and Soul" accompaniment in time with a partner, performing Melody 1.	
6	Perform Melody 1 of "Heart and Soul" in your right hand with single bass notes in your left hand (the root/bottom note of each chord).	
7	Perform Melodies 1 and 2 of "Heart and Soul" in your right hand with block chords in your left hand.	
8	Perform Melodies 1 and 2 of "Heart and Soul" in your right hand with a varied chord accompaniment in your left hand.	

- Sub-levels a, b and c will be awarded alongside your level depending on the fluency and accuracy of your performance.

### TARGET / FEED FORWARD:

What can you do to improve during future performance tasks? Think about the keywords below in your response:

**Melody**

**Practise**

**Perform**

**Bass**

**Accurately**

**Right Hand**

**Chords**

**Fluently**

**Left Hand**

**Triads**

**Pitch**

**Hands Together**

**Accompaniment**

**Rhythm**

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## 4 CHORD SONGS

Most commercial songs (pop, rock etc...) are composed using only 3-4 chords.  
How many different songs can you count during the following Music video?:



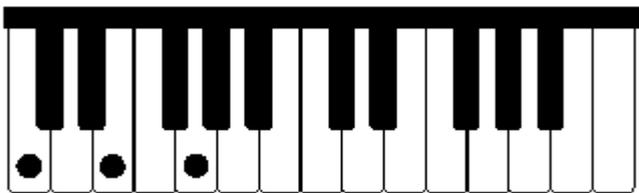
4 Chords  
(2011)

I V vi IV

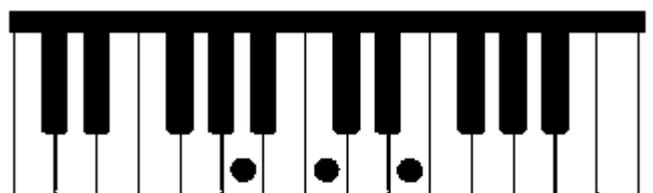
### TASK 2: PERFORMING CHORDS I, V, vi, IV

Practise performing the same chords that you used during "Heart and Soul" in the following order:

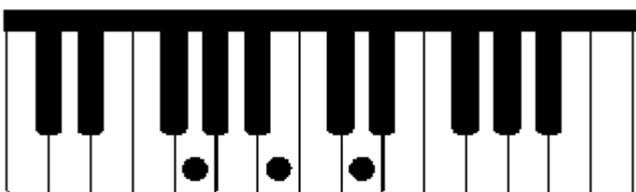
(1) I - C MAJOR (C, E, G)



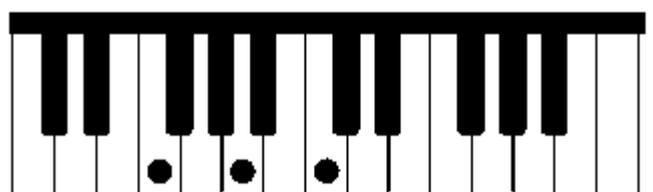
(3) vi - A MINOR (A, C, E)



(2) V - G MAJOR (G, B, D)



(4) IV - F MAJOR (F, A, C)



# WHAT IS A MASHUP?

Songs that share the same chord structure (the same chords performed in the same order) can be performed together simultaneously (at the same time). This is known as a "MASHUP".

e.g. Any number of the following songs could be sang together at the same time over the I - V - vi - IV chord structure:

## "Paparazzi" - Lady Ga Ga

I'm your biggest fan  
I'll follow you until you love me  
Papa-paparazzi  
Baby there's no other superstar  
You know that I'll be your  
Papa-paparazzi

Promise I'll be kind  
But I won't stop until that boy is mine  
Baby you'll be famous  
Chase you down until you love me  
Papa-paparazzi

## "Someone Like You" - Adele

Never mind, I'll find someone like you  
I wish nothing but the best for you too  
Don't forget me, I beg  
I'll remember you said,  
"Sometimes it lasts in love but  
sometimes it hurts instead,

## "Don't Stop Believing" - Journey

Don't stop believin'  
Hold on to the feelin'  
Streetlights, people.

## "Dancing Queen" - Abba

You are the Dancing Queen,  
Young and sweet, only seventeen,  
Dancing Queen, feel the beat  
From the tambourine

## "Firework" - Katy Perry

Baby you're a firework  
Come on show 'em what your worth  
Make 'em go "oh, oh, oh!"  
As you shoot across the sky-y-y  
Baby you're a firework  
Come on let your colors burst  
Make 'em go "oh, oh, oh!"  
You're gonna leave 'em all in awe awe awe

## "Let it Go" from Frozen

Let it go, let it go  
Can't hold it back anymore  
Let it go, let it go  
Turn away and slam the door

## "With or Without You" - U2

With or without you  
With or without you  
I can't live  
With or without you

## "Just the Way You Are" - Bruno Mars

And when you smile  
The whole world stops and stares for a  
while  
'Cause girl, you're amazing  
Just the way you are

### "Wrecking Ball" - Miley Cyrus

I came in like a wrecking ball  
I never hit so hard in love  
All I wanted was to break your walls  
All you ever did was break me  
Yeah, you wreck me

### "Where is the Love?" - The Black Eyed Peas

People killin', people dyin'  
Children hurt and you hear them cryin'  
Can you practice what you preach?  
Or would you turn the other cheek?  
Father, Father, Father help us  
Send some guidance from above  
'Cause people got me, got me  
questionin'  
Where is the love?

### "I'm Yours" - Jason Mraz

So I won't hesitate  
No more, no more.  
It cannot wait,  
I'm sure.  
There's no need to complicate.  
Our time is short.  
This is our fate,  
I'm yours.

### "If I Were a Boy" - Beyonce

If I were a boy  
I think I could understand  
How it feels to love a girl  
I swear I'd be a better man  
I'd listen to her  
'Cause I know how it hurts  
When you lose the one you wanted  
'Cause he's taking you for granted  
And everything you had got destroyed

### "Walks like Rihanna" - The Wanted

She can't sing, she can't dance  
But who cares ' she walks like Rihanna!  
She can't sing, she can't dance  
But who cares ' she walks like Rihanna!

### "It's My Life" - Bon Jovi

It's my life  
It's now or never  
I ain't gonna live forever  
I just want to live while I'm alive  
(It's my life)  
My heart is like an open highway  
Like Frankie said  
I did it my way  
I just wanna live while I'm alive  
It's my life.

### "Poker Face" - Lady Ga Ga

Can't read my,  
Can't read my,  
No he can't read my poker face  
(She's got me like nobody)  
Can't read my  
Can't read my  
No he can't read my poker face  
(She is gonna let nobody)

### "The Edge of Glory" - Lady Ga Ga

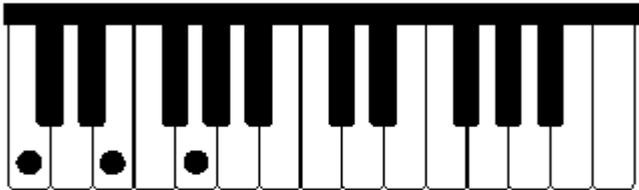
I'm on the edge of glory and I'm hangin'  
on a moment of truth  
Out on the edge of glory and I'm hangin'  
on a moment with you  
I'm on the edge, the edge, the edge,  
The edge, the edge, the edge, the edge  
I'm on the edge of glory  
And I'm hangin' on a moment with you  
I'm on the edge with you



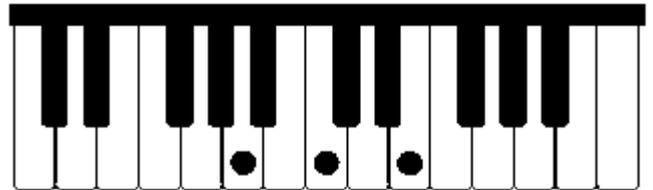
## TASK 3: COMPOSING A MELODY OVER CHORDS I, V, vi, IV in C MAJOR.

It is now your turn to compose a melody over the "Axis of Awesome" Chord Structure:

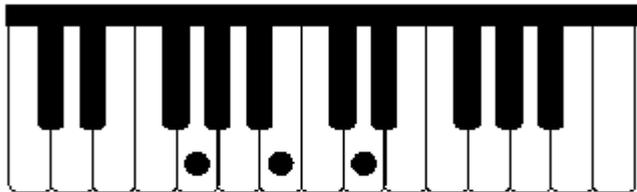
(1) I - C MAJOR (C, E, G)



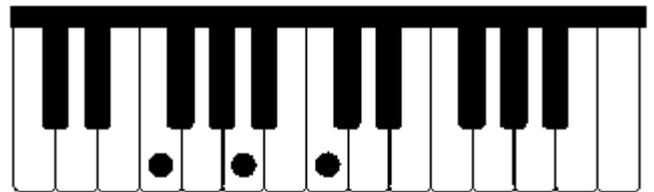
(3) vi - A MINOR (A, C, E)



(2) V - G MAJOR (G, B, D)

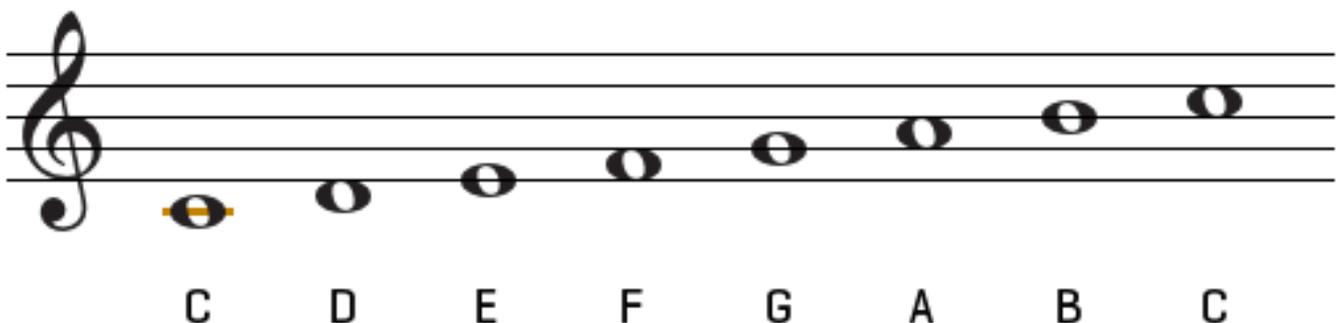


(4) IV - F MAJOR (F, A, C)



Please follow the steps below in GarageBand:

1. Start a new song. Increase the number of bars to 16 and then record the chords (C, G, Am, F) into GarageBand using the Smart Guitar.
2. Count 4 beats of the metronome on each chord. The chord sequence should be repeated 4 times (either performed in or using copy and paste), lasting 16 bars in total.
3. You may add a Smart Drum track to your accompaniment if you wish.
4. Next, create a new track (new instrument) for either the Virtual Keyboard or Audio Recorder. Using the notes of the C Major scale, compose a MELODY (tune) to fit over your chord accompaniment.



5. The notes that will sound best with your accompaniment, will be the 3 notes in the chord being played at that particular time e.g. If there is a 'C' chord being played in the accompaniment, the notes C, E and G would sound the nicest in your melody.
6. You can then add in PASSING NOTES (less important notes) to link the notes of the chord together and make your melody sound more interesting e.g. you could use the note 'D' to link together the notes 'C' and 'E'.
7. Vary your note durations to create more RHYTHMICAL INTEREST and don't be afraid to include gaps/silence.
8. Use REPETITION in your melody. This is what makes pop songs so catchy! Notice how repetitive some of the songs are on the previous pages.
9. Once happy with your melody, you can either record it into GarageBand using the Virtual Keyboard (not Smart Keyboard) or the Audio Recorder.

**\* EXTENSION TASKS:**

1. Compose and record a second melody over your 16 bar accompaniment, which could be heard simultaneously with your first (like a mash-up).
2. Compose your own accompaniment pattern using the chords C, G, Am and F and record it into GarageBand using either the Virtual Keyboard or the Audio Recorder.

### 4 Chords - Composition Success Criteria

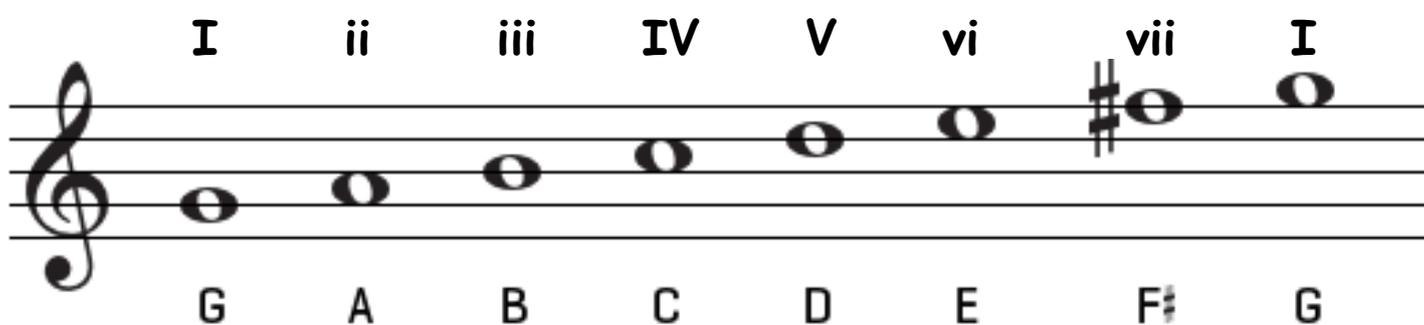
Level	Description	✓
3	Compose a simple 4 bar melody over the 4 chords C, G, Am & F using the white notes of the keyboard C, D, E, F, G, A, B. C.	
4	Compose a simple 8 bar melody over the 4 chords C, G, Am & F using the white notes of the keyboard C, D, E, F, G, A, B that demonstrates musical shape and some rhythmical interest.	
5	Compose a 16 bar melody over the 4 chords C, G, Am & F that is rhythmically pleasing and demonstrates a clear musical shape and structure.	
6	As Level 5, and then compose a second, contrasting 16 bar melody over the 4 chords C, G, Am & F, that could be heard simultaneously with the first.	
7	As Level 6, but with clear development of musical ideas and the Smart accompaniment replaced with your own chordal accompaniment.	

## TASK 4: PERFORMING CHORDS I, V, vi and IV in G MAJOR

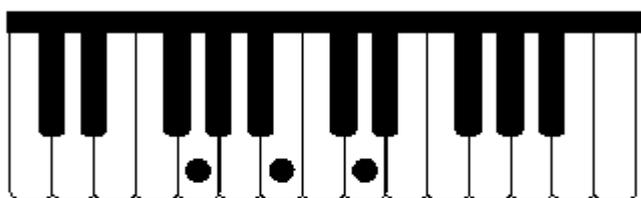
So if most songs use only 3 - 4 chords, you may be wondering, what the point is in all of the other chords?

Not all songs are written in the same key. Different songs are written in different keys (based on different scales) depending on factors such as the vocal range of the singer.

Regardless of the key however, the same 4 chords: I, IV, V and vi are the most popular chords to use e.g. See the scale of G Major below:



(1) I - G MAJOR (G, B, D)



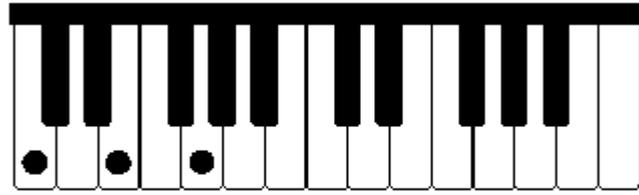
(3) vi - E MINOR (E, G, B)



(2) V - D MAJOR (D, F#, A)



(4) IV - C MAJOR (C, E, G)



Practise performing the 4 Chords in G Major (above) on the keyboard before giving the song "Don't Stop Believing" on the following pages a try.

# "Don't Stop Believing"

## Verses

Journey

[G] [D] [Em] [C]

B G A A B G G G G D D B A

G G G G D D D D E E E E C C C C

[G] [D] [Em] [C]

5 B B G A A B A G A B G

G G G G D D D D E E E E C C C C

## Chorus

[C] [C] [G] [G]

9 A G A B G G G G D C B A

C C C C C C C C G G G G G G G G

1. [C] [C] [G] [G]

13 A G A B A G A B G

C C C C C C C C G G G G G G G G

2. [C] [C] [D] [D]

17 A G A B A G D

C C C C C C C C D D G G D D C

## Outro

21 [G] C B A C B [D] C B [Em] B B C D E D B A G [C] C C C C

25 [G] C B [D] C B [Em] E E E E [C] C C C C

## Don't Stop Believing

### Verse 1

Just a small town girl  
Livin' in a lonely world  
She took the midnight train goin' anywhere

### Verse 2

Just a city boy  
Born and raised in south Detroit  
He took the midnight train goin' anywhere

### Verse 3

A singer in a smokey room  
A smell of wine and cheap perfume  
For a smile they can share the night  
It goes on and on, and on, and on

### Chorus

Strangers waiting  
Up and down the boulevard  
Their shadows searching in the night  
Streetlight people  
Living just to find emotion  
Hiding somewhere in the night

### Verse 4

Working hard to get my fill  
Everybody wants a thrill  
Payin' anything to roll the dice  
Just one more time

### Verse 5

Some will win, some will lose  
Some were born to sing the blues  
Oh, the movie never ends  
It goes on and on, and on, and on

### Chorus

Strangers waiting  
Up and down the boulevard  
Their shadows searching in the night  
Streetlight people  
Living just to find emotion  
Hiding somewhere in the night

### Outro

Don't stop believin'  
Hold on to the feelin'  
Streetlight, people (X3)

# TASK 5: PERFORMING CHORDS I, V, and IV in A MAJOR:

## Chasing Cars

Snow Patrol

### Verses

Melody

Accomp

Chords

Chords: E, C#, A | B, G#, E

### Chorus

5

1. 2.

Chords: A, F#, D | E, C#, A | E, C#, C#

10

Chords: E, C#, A | E, C#, A | E, B, G# | E, B, G#

14

Chord progression: C# B A | D C# B A A

Guitar strumming patterns: D A F# X 8, D A F# X 8, E C# A X 8, E C# A X 8

Bass notes: A, F#, D | E, C#, A

## Chasing Cars

**Verse 1:** We'll do it all, everything, on our own.  
We don't need, anything, or anyone

**Chorus:** If I lay here, if I just lay here,  
Would you lie with me and just forget the world?

**Verse 2:** I don't quite know, how to say, how I feel  
Those three words, are said too much, they're not enough

**Chorus:** If I lay here, if I just lay here,  
Would you lie with me and just forget the world?  
Forget what we're told, before we get too old,  
Show me a garden that's bursting into life.

**Verse 3:** Let's waste time, chasing cars, around our heads.  
I need your grace, to remind me, to find my own.

**Chorus:** If I lay here, if I just lay here,  
Would you lie with me and just forget the world?  
Forget what we're told, before we get too old,  
Show me a garden that's bursting into life.

**Verses 4 & 5:** All that I am, All that I ever was,  
Is here in your perfect eyes, they're all I can see,  
I don't know where, Confused about how as well,  
Just know that these things will never change for us at all

**Chorus:** If I lay here, If I just lay here,  
Would you lie with me and just forget the world?

# FINDING SONG CHORDS ONLINE

Once you have familiarised yourself with the most frequently used chords, you will have access to 100's and 1000's of different songs online. You can search for song chords using websites such as [www.ultimate-guitar.com](http://www.ultimate-guitar.com) Here, you will find thousands of songs from a range of different musical genres, that will be displayed as seen below:

## Dancing On My Own Chords version 1

by [Calum Scott](#)

★★★★★ x 110

excellent!

★ add to favorites

📱 launch autoscroll

📄 font size

🎵 transpose

🎹 display chords

Help us to improve Ultimate-Guitar.com

[Take our survey!](#)



Author [Charlottelcoope 350](#)

Difficulty [novice](#)

Capo [1st fret](#)

[Verse]

C G F  
Somebody said you got a new friend  
C G F  
Does she love you better than I can?  
C G F  
Big black sky over my town  
C G F  
I know where you at, I bet she's around

[Refrain]

Am G F  
yeah, I know it's stupid  
F C  
I just gotta see it for myself

[Chorus]

C G F  
I'm in the corner, watching you kiss her, oh..  
C G F  
I'm right over here, why can't you see me, oh..  
Am G F  
I'm giving it my all, but I'm not the guy your taking home, ooohh..  
Am G F  
I keep dancing on my own

[Verse 2]

C G F  
I'm just gonna dance all night  
C G F  
I'm all messed up, I'm so outta line

[Refrain]

Am G F  
Stilettos and broken bottles,  
F C  
I'm spinnin' around in circles

[Chorus]

C G F  
I'm in the corner, watching you kiss her, oh..  
C G F  
I'm right over here, why can't you see me, oh..  
Am G F  
I'm giving it my all, but I'm not the guy your taking home, ooohh..  
Am G F  
I keep dancing on my own

[Bridge]

F G Am G F  
so far away but still so near (the lights go on, the music dies)  
F G Am G C  
but you don't see me standing here (I just came to say goodbye)

[Chorus]

N.C C Am  
I'm in the corner, watching you kiss her, oh..  
Am G F  
I'm giving it my all, but I'm not the guy your taking home, ooohh..  
Am G F  
I keep dancing on my own

C G F  
I'm in the corner, watching you kiss her, oh no  
C G F  
I'm right over here, why can't you see me, oh no  
C G F  
I'm giving it my all, but I'm not the guy your taking home, ooohh..  
C G F  
I keep dancing on my own

[Outro]

C G F Am  
so far away but still so near (the lights go on, the music dies)  
Am G F  
but you don't see me standing here

**\*EXTRA PIECES\***

# Paparazzi

**Chorus**

Lady Ga Ga

1 C C C C C D B B B B C E C A B A B E C

G D E A C A F

5 C C C C C D B B B B C E C A B A B E C

G D E A C A F

9 G F E D B G G G G G G F E D A

G D E A C A F

13 C C C C C D B B B B C E C A B A B E C

G D E A C A F G

# Wrecking Ball

Miley Cyrus

## Verses

Musical notation for the Verses section (measures 1-5). The melody is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: E, A, E, A, E, G, D, G, G, B, B, B, A, B, C, A. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef, with chords: ECA, DGB, BBE, CAF.

## Pre-Chorus

Musical notation for the Pre-Chorus section (measures 6-9). The melody is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: A, A, A, G, E, A, A, A, G, E, G, G, G, F, E, C. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef, with chords: CAF, ECA, GEC, CAF. A triplet of G, F, E is indicated over measures 8 and 9.

## Chorus

Musical notation for the first part of the Chorus section (measures 10-14). The melody is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: F, F, F, F, F, F, E, E, C, F, E, D, C, F, E, E, C, C, F, E, D, C. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef, with chords: GEC, DGB, ECA, CAF.

Musical notation for the second part of the Chorus section (measures 15-20). The melody is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: F, E, E, C, C, F, E, D, C, F, E, D, F, C, C, C, F, E, D, F. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef, with chords: GEC, DGB, ECA, CAF, ECA, CAF.

# Firework

Katy Perry

## Chorus

6

1. 2.

### LYRICS:

Baby you're a firework. Come on show 'em what your worth.  
 Make 'em go "oh, oh, oh!" As you shoot across the sky-y-y.  
 Baby you're a firework. Come on let your colors burst,  
 Make 'em go "oh, oh, oh!" You're gonna leave 'em all in awe awe awe.

## Chorus

# Happy Ending

Mika

### LYRICS:

This is the way you left me, I'm not pretending,  
 No hope, no love, no glory, no happy ending.  
 This is the way that we love, like it's forever,  
 Then live the rest of our life, both not together.

# Love Yourself

Justin Bieber

## Chorus

C C D E E D C E E D C C D

'Cause if you like the way you look that much oh ba - by

G E C D B G E C A C A F

4 E G E C D D C C C D E E D C

you should go and love your - self And if you think that I'm still

G E C D B G G E C G E C D B G

7 E E D C C D E G E C D D C

hol - ding on to some - thin' you should go and love your - self

E C A C A F G E C D B G G E C

# 7 Years

Lukas Graham

## Piano Riff

Bb A G F D F D F D F Bb A G F D F D F D F Bb A G F

D Bb G D Bb F Bb G Eb C A F

6 D F D F D F Bb A G F D F D F D F

D Bb G D Bb F Bb G Eb C A F

## Chord Sequence: Gm - Bb - Eb - Bb - F

10

D Bb G D Bb F Bb G Eb Bb F D C A F

G Bb Eb Bb A

# Someone Like You

Adele

## Intro & Verses

CEGECEGECEGECEGE BEGEBEGEBEGEBEGE

3

AEAEAEAEAEAEAEAEAEAEAEAEAE CFAFCFAFCFAFCFAF

5

## Chorus

CCC\_C B\_ BBC A\_ GA AB CGG CB C A C CC

9

CC DB\_ BB CC\_ G AGF CC C C GG GAG GA A

12

A C C C C G G G A G G E D E C

3

