

AP 701 Gospel Jazz Chords Lesson 1

Welcome to AP 701 Gospel Jazz Chords! Gospel jazz chords is a very fun subject, but there is a lot to it! In this course, we are going to study chords from a jazz perspective and then apply the concepts to gospel and church music.

GOSPEL JAZZ CHORD NUMBER 1: 6th Chords

The first type of chord we are going to study are the often overlooked basic 6th chords. In jazz theory, when you are playing a song (usually off of a chord chart - more info on that to come), you have a basic rule if the chord is a major chord.

RULE: "Major chords can be replaced with sixth chords."

Now in jazz, we often use our LEFT hand to play the chords, while our right hand plays the melody or plays a solo/improvisational style. The same is true many times in gospel music (usually only when you have a bass player or if you are playing the organ).

HOW TO: We make a 6th chord by playing a major chord and then adding the sixth note of the scale.

For example, C6 = CEGA, EGAC, GACE, ACEG (*use whatever fingering is most comfortable for you*)

C6
C E G A
E G A C
G A C E
A C E G

E^b6
E^b G B^b C
G B^b C E^b
B^b C E^b G
C E^b G B^b

D6
D F[#] A B
F[#] A B D
A B D F[#]
B D F[#] A

D^b6
D^b F A^b B^b
F A^b B^b D^b
A^b B^b D^b F
B^b D^b F A^b

F6
F A C D
A C D F
C D F A
D F A C

A^b6
A^b C E^b F
C E^b F A^b
E^b F A^b C
F A^b C E^b

E6
E G[#] B C[#]
G[#] B C[#] E
B C[#] E G[#]
C[#] E G[#] B

G^b6
G^b B^b D^b E^b
B^b D^b E^b G^b
D^b E^b G^b B^b
E^b G^b B^b D^b

G6
G B D E
B D E G
D E G B
E G B D

B^b6
B^b D F G
D F G B^b
F G B^b D
G B^b D F

A6
A C[#] E F[#]
C[#] E F[#] A
E F[#] A C[#]
F[#] A C[#] E

B6
B D[#] F[#] G[#]
D[#] F[#] G[#] B
F[#] G[#] B D[#]
G[#] B D[#] F[#]

Take a minute and learn all of these inversions in all keys. You can see that we have setup into groups of similarly shaped chords. Learning in groups like this will help you to remember the chords more easily. Then proceed to the Exercise Songs.

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HOW TO READ THE EXERCISE SONGS

C / / / is literally **FOUR** beats. Count “1 - 2 - 3 - 4.”

SIMPLE WAY TO GET IT

- 1) Whenever you see the chord name (C), you play both hands together.
- 2) Whenever there is just a slash (/) you play just your right hand.
- 3) For example, if it says C / / /, then you would play both hands together on C, and then you would play your right hand by itself three times.
(Or say “together, right, right, right.”)

It's a little boring (but very easy) when you do it like this, so we like to try to add some rhythm to it! (Watch the video for this lesson to see how we do this!)

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords:

| C6 / / / | C6 / / / | F6 / / / | F6 / / / |

| C6 / / / | C6 / / / | G6 / / / | G6 / / / | C6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Single Walkup)

| C6 B6 C6 C6 | C6 B6 C6 C6 | F6 E6 F6 F6 | F6 E6 F6 F6 |

| C6 B6 C6 C6 | C6 B6 C6 C6 | G6 Gb6 G6 G6 | G6 Gb6 G6 G6 | C6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Double Walkup)

| C6 Bb6 B6 C6 | C6 Bb6 B6 C6 | F6 Eb6 E6 F6 | F6 Eb6 E6 F6 |

| C6 Bb6 B6 C6 | C6 Bb6 B6 C6 | G6 F6 Gb6 G6 | G6 F6 Gb6 G6 | C6 Bb6 B6 C6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Single Walkdown)

| C6 Db6 C6 C6 | C6 Db6 C6 C6 | F6 Gb6 F6 F6 | F6 Gb6 F6 F6 |

| C6 Db6 C6 C6 | C6 Db6 C6 C6 | G6 Ab6 G6 G6 | G6 Ab6 G6 G6 | C6 Db6 C6

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REAL CHURCH SONGS

CAN'T NOBODY DO ME LIKE JESUS

| C6 / Bb6 B6 | C6 /// | C6 / Bb6 B6 | C6 /// | F6 / Eb6 E6 | F6 /// | F6 /// | C6 /// |
Can't nobody, Do me like Jesus Can't nobody, Do me like the Lord

| C6 / Bb6 B6 | C6 /// | E / E/G# / | Am /// | C6 E6 Eb6 F6 | G6 /// | C C7/E F6 F#dim | C/G / G7+5+9 / |
Can't nobody, Do me like Jesus He's my friend
TO END: C6 / Bb6 / B6 / C6

AMAZING GRACE

(3/4 Timing - Count 1 - 2 - 3, 1 - 2 - 3)

| C // | C // | F // | C // | Am // | D // | G // | G // |
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me

| C // | C // | F // | C // | Am // | C/G / G | C // TO REPEAT: | F/G // |
I once was lost, but now I'm found, Was blind but now, I see
TO END: Db // C

Now what's wrong with the song above? It's just plain major and minor chords, right? So remember our Rule: "Major chords can be replaced with sixth chords." Let's do this!

AMAZING GRACE

(3/4 Timing - Count 1 - 2 - 3, 1 - 2 - 3)

| C6 // | C6 // | F6 // | C6 // | Am // | D6 // | G6 // | G6 // |
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me

| C6 // | C6 // | F6 // | C6 // | Am // | C/G / G6 | C6 // TO REPEAT: | F/G // |
I once was lost, but now I'm found, Was blind but now, I see
TO END: Db6 // C6

Don't forget to apply this concept to ALL of the songs you know and learn! But be careful! If it does not sound good, then you may not want to use it in certain spots!

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WANT TO TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL?

If you really want to know your stuff, we recommend you practice these songs in ALL 12 keys. We have written them in the Musical Roman Numeral System below for you to easily do this.

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords:

| I6 /// | I6 /// | IV6 /// | IV6 /// |
| I6 /// | I6 /// | V6 /// | V6 /// | I6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Single Walkup)

| I6 VII6 I6 I6 | I6 VII6 I6 I6 | IV6 III6 IV6 III6 | IV6 III6 IV6 IV6 |
| I6 VII6 I6 I6 | I6 VII6 I6 I6 | V6 #IV6 V6 V6 | V6 #IV6 V6 V6 | I6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Double Walkup)

| I6 bVII6 VII6 I6 | I6 bVII6 VII6 I6 | IV6 bIII6 III6 IV6 | IV6 bIII6 III6 IV6 |
| I6 bVII6 VII6 I6 | I6 bVII6 VII6 I6 | V6 IV6 #IV6 V6 | V6 IV6 #IV6 V6 | I6 bVII6 VII6 I6

EXERCISE SONG for 6th Chords (Single Walkdown)

| I6 #I6 I6 I6 | I6 #I6 I6 I6 | IV6 #IV6 IV6 III6 | IV6 #IV6 IV6 IV6 |
| I6 #I6 I6 I6 | I6 #I6 I6 I6 | V6 #V6 V6 V6 | V6 #V6 V6 V6 | I6 #I6 I6

KEY	1 (I)	2 (ii)	3 (iii)	4 (IV)	5 (v)	6 (vi)	7 (vii)
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B
Db	Db	Eb	F	Gb	Ab	Bb	C
D	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#
Eb	Eb	F	G	Ab	Bb	C	D
E	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#
F	F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E
Gb	Gb	Ab	Bb	B	Db	Eb	F
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#
Ab	Ab	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F	G
A	A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#
Bb	Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A
B	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#

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GOSPEL JAZZ CHORD NUMBER 2: Major 7th Chords

The second type of chord we are going to study are major 7th chords. In jazz theory, when you are playing a song (usually off of a chord chart - more info on that to come), you have a basic rule if the chord is a major chord.

RULE: "Major chords can be replaced with major 7th chords." (Be careful on the V chord in gospel and church music though!)

Now in jazz, we often use our LEFT hand to play the chords, while our right hand plays the melody or plays a solo/improvisational style. The same is true many times in gospel music (usually only when you have a bass player or if you are playing the organ).

HOW TO: We make a major 7th chord by playing a major chord and then adding the seventh note of the scale to that chord.

For example, Cmaj7 = CEGB, EGBC, GBCE, BCEG *(use whatever fingering is most comfortable for you)*

Cmaj7

C E G B

E G B C

G B C E

B C E G

Ebmaj7

Eb G Bb D

G Bb D Eb

Bb D Eb G

D Eb G Bb

Dmaj7

D F# A C#

F# A C# D

A C# D F#

C# D F# A

Dbmaj7

Db F Ab C

F Ab C Db

Ab C Db F

C Db F Ab

Fmaj7

F A C E

A C E F

C E F A

E F A C

Abmaj7

Ab C Eb G

C Eb G Ab

Eb G Ab C

G Ab C Eb

Emaj7

E G# B D#

G# B D# E

B D# E G#

D# E G# B

Gbmaj7

Gb Ab Db F

Ab Db F Gb

Db F Gb Ab

F Gb Ab Db

Gmaj7

G B D F#

B D F# G

D F# G B

F# G B D

Bbmaj7

Bb D F A

D F A Bb

F A Bb D

A Bb D F

Amaj7

A C# E G#

C# E G# A

E G# A C#

G# A C# E

Bmaj7

B D# F# A#

D# F# A# B

F# A# B D#

A# B D# F#

Take a minute and learn all of these inversions in all keys. You can see that we have setup into groups of similarly shaped chords. Learning in groups like this will help you to remember the chords more easily. Then proceed to the Exercise Songs.

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EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Cmaj7 / / / | Cmaj7 / / / | Fmaj7 / / / | Fmaj7 / / / |

| Cmaj7 / / / | Cmaj7 / / / | Gmaj7 / / / | Gmaj7 / / / | Cmaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Single Walkup)

| Cmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Fmaj7 Emaj7 Fmaj7 Fmaj7 | Fmaj7 Emaj7 Fmaj7 Fmaj7 |

| Cmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Gmaj7 Gbmaj7 Gmaj7 Gmaj7 | Gmaj7 Gbmaj7 Gmaj7 Gmaj7 | Cmaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Double Walkup)

| Cmaj7 Bbmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Bbmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Fmaj7 Ebmaj7 Emaj7 Fmaj7 | Fmaj7 Ebmaj7 Emaj7 Fmaj7 |

| Cmaj7 Bbmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Bbmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Gmaj7 Fmaj7 Gbmaj7 Gmaj7 | Gmaj7 Fmaj7 Gbmaj7 Gmaj7 | Cmaj7 Bbmaj7 Bmaj7 Cmaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Single Walkdown)

| Cmaj7 Dbmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Dbmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Fmaj7 Gbmaj7 Fmaj7 Fmaj7 | Fmaj7 Gbmaj7 Fmaj7 Fmaj7 |

| Cmaj7 Dbmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 | Cmaj7 Dbmaj7 Cmaj7 Cmaj7 |

| Gmaj7 Abmaj7 Gmaj7 Gmaj7 | Gmaj7 Abmaj7 Gmaj7 Gmaj7 | Cmaj7 Dbmaj7 Cmaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Cmaj7 / Ebmaj7 / | Fmaj7 / / / | Cmaj7 / Ebmaj7 / | Fmaj7 / / Dbmaj7 | Cmaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Cmaj7 / Bbmaj7 / | Abmaj7 / Bbmaj7 / | Cmaj7 / Bbmaj7 / | Abmaj7 / Bbmaj7 / | **TO END: Cmaj7**

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AMAZING GRACE

(3/4 Timing - Count 1 - 2 - 3, 1 - 2 - 3)

| Cmaj7 // | Cmaj7 // | Fmaj7 // | C6 // | Am // | D6 // | G6 // | G6 // |
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me

| Cmaj7 // | Cmaj7 // | Fmaj7 // | C6 // | Am // | C/G / G6 | C6 // TO REPEAT: | Abmaj7 / F/G |
I once was lost, but now I'm found, Was blind but now, I see
TO END: Cmaj7

THIS IS THE AIR I BREATHE

| Cmaj7 /// | Bbmaj7 /// | Cmaj7 /// | Bbmaj7 /// | C2 / G/B / | Am / Em / | Fmaj7 / Am / | G2 /// |
This is the air I breathe, This is the air I breathe, Your holy presence, living in me

| Cmaj7 /// | Bbmaj7 /// | Cmaj7 /// | Bbmaj7 /// | C2 / G/B / | Am / Em / | Fmaj7 / Am / | G2 /// |
This is my daily bread, This is my daily bread, Your very word, spoken through me

| C2 / G/B / | Am / Em / | Fmaj7 / Am / | G2 /// |
And I, I'm desperate for you,

| C2 / G/B / | Am / Em / | Fmaj7 / Am / | G2 /// |
And I, I'm lost without you,
TO END: Cmaj7

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WANT TO TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL?

If you really want to know your stuff, we recommend you practice these songs in ALL 12 keys. We have written them in the Musical Roman Numeral System below for you to easily do this.

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Imaj7 / / / | Imaj7 / / / | IVmaj7 / / / | IVmaj7 / / / |

| Imaj7 / / / | Imaj7 / / / | Vmaj7 / / / | Vmaj7 / / / | Imaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Single Walkup)

| Imaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 |

| IVmaj7 IIIImaj7 IVmaj7 IIIImaj7 | IVmaj7 IIIImaj7 IVmaj7 IVmaj7 |

| Imaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 |

| Vmaj7 #IVmaj7 Vmaj7 Vmaj7 | Vmaj7 #IVmaj7 Vmaj7 Vmaj7 | Imaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Double Walkup)

| Imaj7 bVIIImaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 bVIIImaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 |

| IVmaj7 bIIIImaj7 IIIImaj7 IVmaj7 | IVmaj7 bIIIImaj7 IIIImaj7 IVmaj7 |

| Imaj7 bVIIImaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 bVIIImaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7 |

| Vmaj7 IVmaj7 #IVmaj7 Vmaj7 | Vmaj7 IVmaj7 #IVmaj7 Vmaj7 | Imaj7 bVIIImaj7 VIIImaj7 Imaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords (Single Walkdown)

| Imaj7 #Imaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 #Imaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 |

| IVmaj7 #IVmaj7 IVmaj7 IIIImaj7 | IVmaj7 #IVmaj7 IVmaj7 IVmaj7 |

| Imaj7 #Imaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 | Imaj7 #Imaj7 Imaj7 Imaj7 |

| Vmaj7 #Vmaj7 Vmaj7 Vmaj7 | Vmaj7 #Vmaj7 Vmaj7 Vmaj7 | Imaj7 #Imaj7 Imaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Imaj7 / bIIIImaj7 / | IVmaj7 / / / | Imaj7 / bIIIImaj7 / | IVmaj7 / / #Imaj7 | Imaj7

EXERCISE SONG for maj7th Chords:

| Imaj7 / bVIIImaj7 / | bVIImaj7 / bVIIImaj7 /

| Imaj7 / bVIIImaj7 / | bVIImaj7 / bVIIImaj7 / | **TO END: Imaj7**