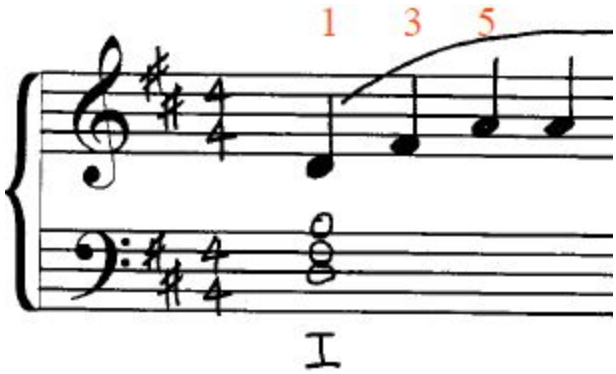
LESSON 4: HARMONIZATIONS AND CHORD INVERSIONS

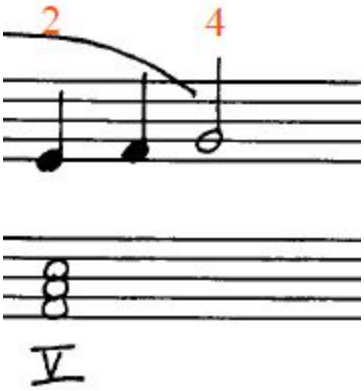
Classical Piano: Major 5-Finger Patterns on White Keys

HARMONIZE A MELODY USING TONIC (I) OR DOMINANT (V)

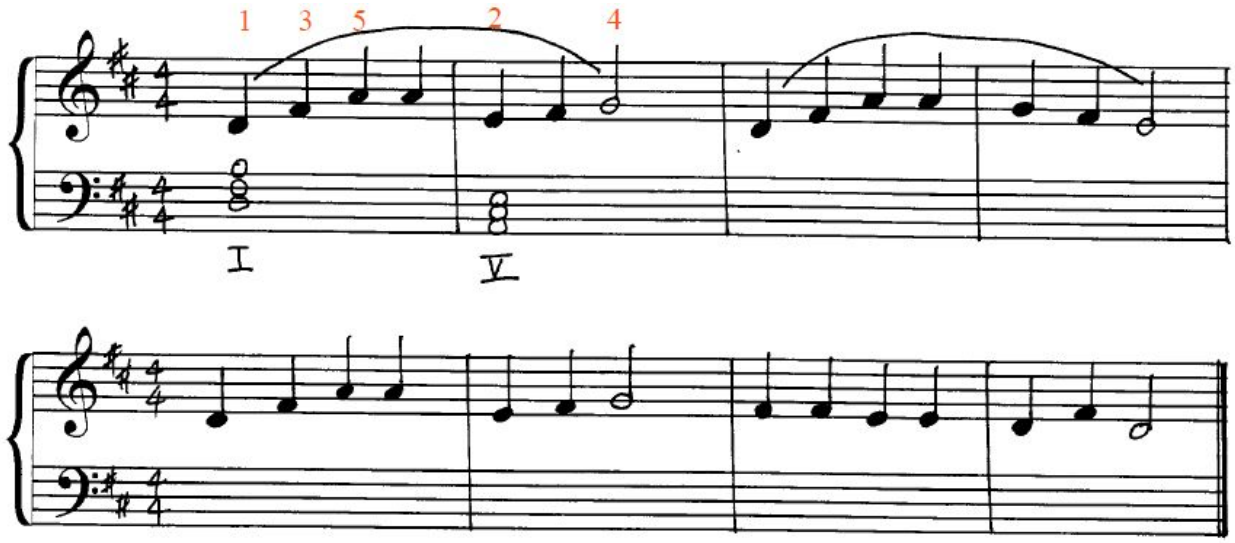
➢ Use tonic (I) when most of the notes in the melody are 1, 3, and 5



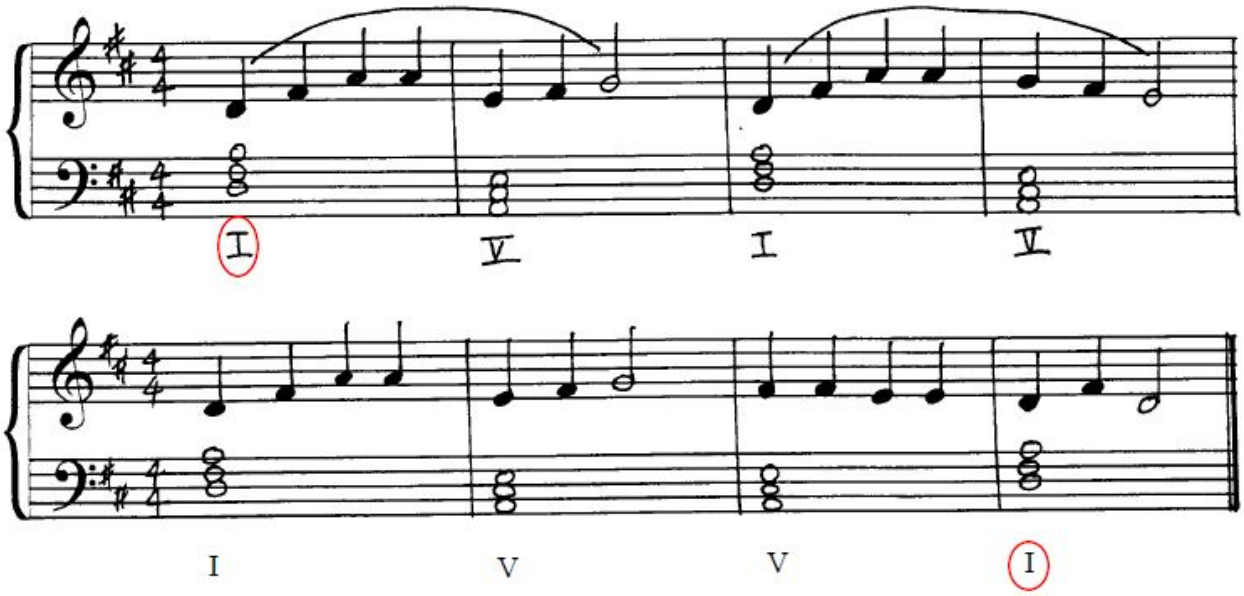
➢ Use dominant (V) when most of the notes in the melody are 2, 4, and 5



- ➢ Use tonic (I) for the first and the last measure
- ➢ Penultimate measure is almost always harmonized with a dominant chord (V)



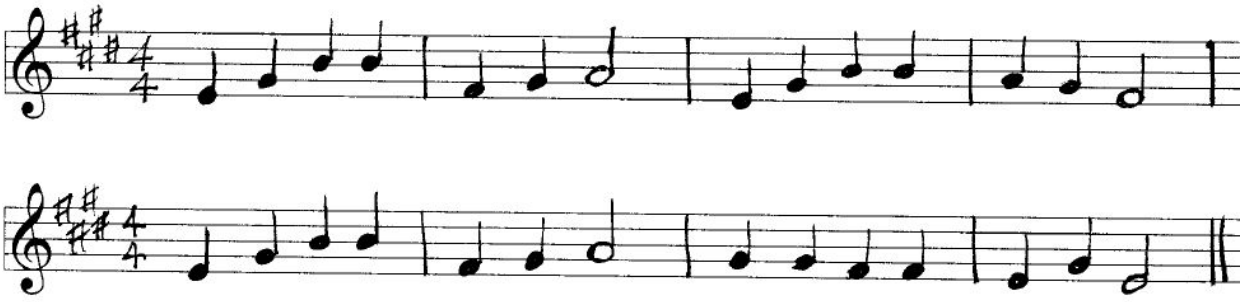
Answer Key



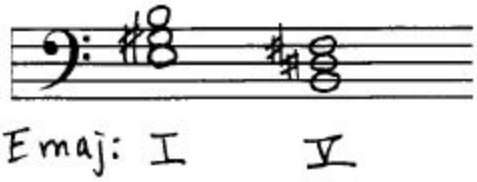
TRANSPOSE TO E MAJOR

- ➢ Same tune
- ➢ Same intervals
- ➢ Same fingerings
- ➢ Different pitches

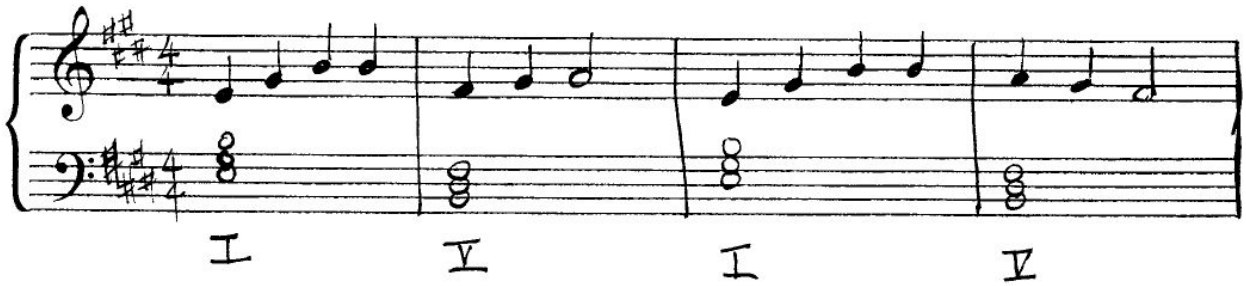
Right Hand

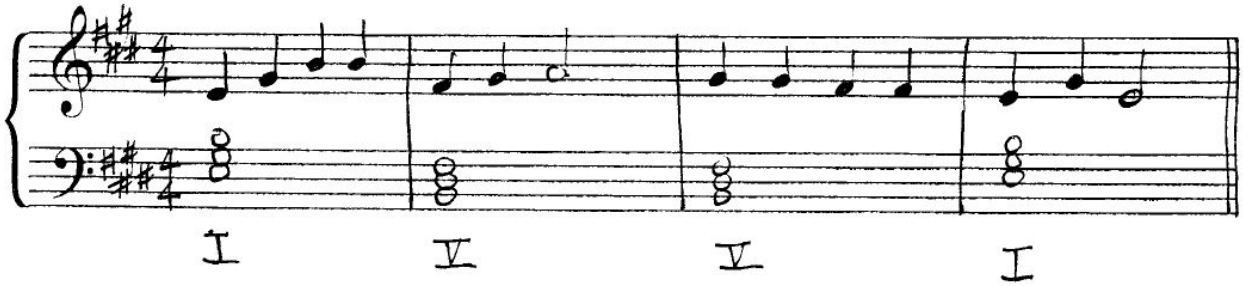


Left Hand

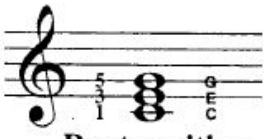


Both Hands



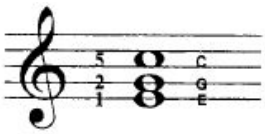


CHORD INVERSIONS



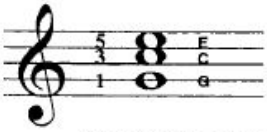
Root position

The root (chord name) is on the bottom.



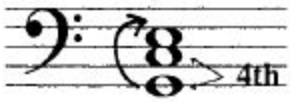
1st inversion

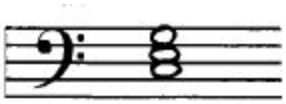
The 3rd is on the bottom.



2nd inversion

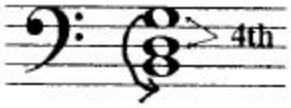
The 5th is on the bottom.

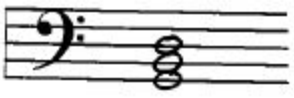




Root Position

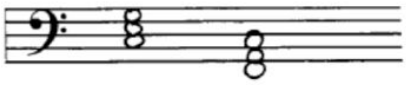
Re-arrange the notes



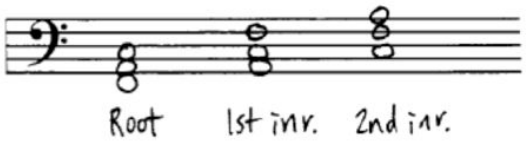


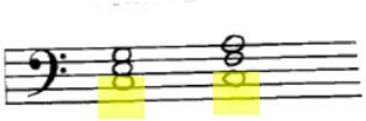
Root Position

Chord inversions are extremely helpful when harmonizing, reducing the distance in between the chords



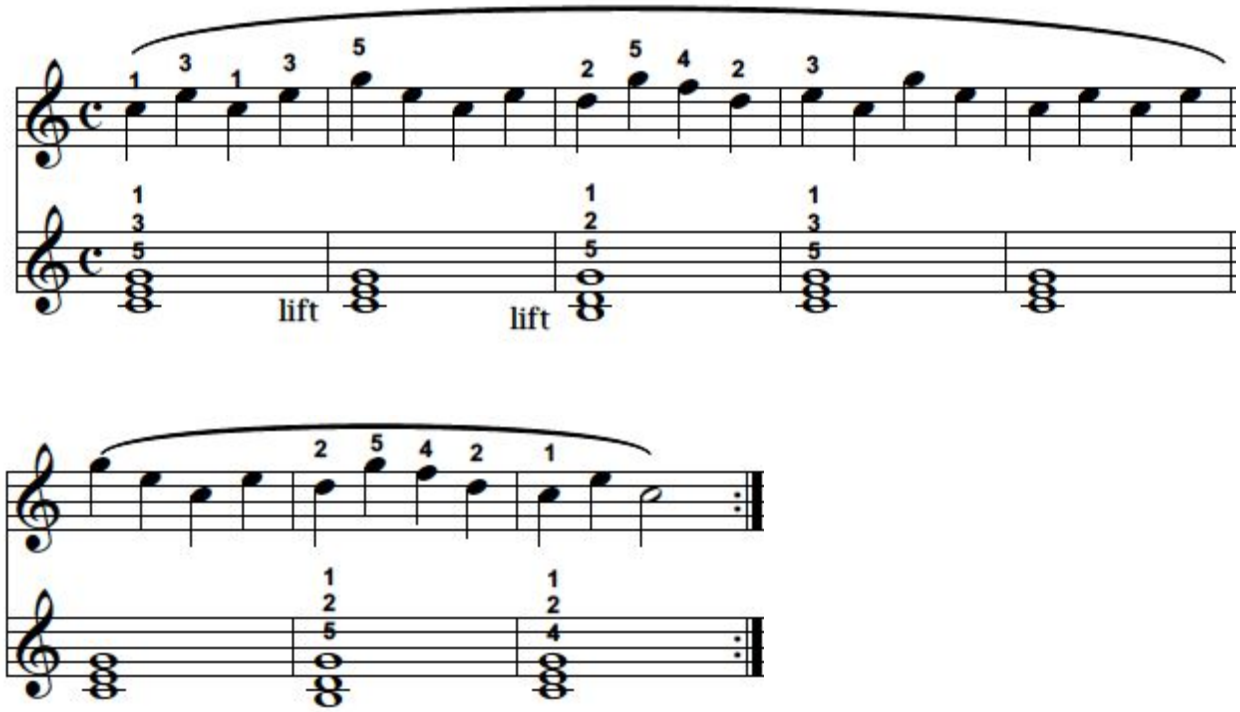
Two root position chords are further away from each other





Root position chord and 2nd inversion chord share a common note C
Minimize the movement

CHORD INVERSION EXERCISE



- Practice hands separately
- Play the right hand melody connected and slightly louder than the left hand
- Practice moving back and forth between the two chords in the left hand
- Remember to lift the left hand at the end of every measure, but keep the right hand legato