

Keyboard Skills II

Week 4 : Triads: Diatonic Triads in key of C, F, G, D, A & E


TRIADS ON MAJOR-SCALE DEGREES

Triads, like other chords, can be constructed on every degree (tone) of the scale of any key, taking into account the sharps or flats in the key signature for that key.

- Triads constructed on the first, fourth, and fifth degrees are **major**.
- Triads constructed on the second, third, and sixth degrees are **minor**.
- The triad constructed on the seventh tone is **diminished** (see page 415).


Study the triads constructed on the two scales that follow.

C major



Scale degree:	Tonic	Supertonic	Mediant	Subdominant	Dominant	Submediant	Leading Tone
Letter name:	C major	D minor	E minor	F major	G major	A minor	B diminished
Roman numeral:	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°

D major



Letter name:	D major	E minor	F# minor	G major	A major	B minor	C# diminished
Roman numeral:	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°

Each triad can be identified by its scale-degree name, its letter-name chord symbol, or the roman numeral traditionally used to designate the scale degree.

- Uppercase roman numerals are used for major triads.
- Lowercase roman numerals are used for minor triads.

1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5

This system contains eight measures. The treble clef staff has a single half note in each measure, with fingerings 1 through 5 above them. The bass clef staff has a whole chord in each measure, with the number of notes increasing from 2 to 5. The chords are: C2 (C1, C2), C3 (C1, C2, C3), C4 (C1, C2, C3, C4), C5 (C1, C2, C3, C4, C5), D2 (D1, D2), D3 (D1, D2, D3), D4 (D1, D2, D3, D4), and D5 (D1, D2, D3, D4, D5).

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

This system contains eight measures. The treble clef staff has a single half note in each measure, with fingerings 1 through 4 above them. The bass clef staff has a whole chord in each measure, with the number of notes increasing from 2 to 4. The chords are: C2 (C1, C2), C3 (C1, C2, C3), C4 (C1, C2, C3, C4), C5 (C1, C2, C3, C4, C5), D2 (D1, D2), D3 (D1, D2, D3), D4 (D1, D2, D3, D4), and D5 (D1, D2, D3, D4, D5).

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