

1. To improve the contour of the bass
2. Makes sure it isn't just keeping the same note
3. Provides more options for the bass line
4. To make a chord not emphasized (particularly I and V)
5. When using a deceptive cadence (V to vi), make sure the vi chord is in root position

Voice leading for first inversion

- 1 is most common
1. Inner voice doubles the soprano
 2. Inner voice doubles the bass
 3. Soprano and bass play the same note
 4. Inner voices double