

MEMORY CHART

Basic Theory Elements

(Go to: [Key Signatures](#), [Scales](#), [Intervals](#), [Chords](#))

I: KEY SIGNATURES

ORDER OF SHARPS

- Order is **FCGDAEB**
- Treble, Bass, and Alto are written Down-Up-Down, Down-Up-Down (**DudDud**)
- Tenor is written Up-Down, Up-Down, Up-Down (**UDUDUD**)

TREBLE CLEF BASS CLEF ALTO CLEF TENOR CLEF

C/a G/e D/b A/f# E/c# B/g# F#/d# C#/a#

ORDER OF FLATS

- Order is **BEADGCF**
- All clefs written Up-Down, Up-Down, Up-Down (**UDUDUD**)

TREBLE CLEF BASS CLEF ALTO CLEF TENOR CLEF

C/a F/d B^b /g E^b /c A^b /f D^b /b^b G^b /e^b C^b /a^b

II: SCALES

MAJOR SCALES

- Half steps between Scale Degrees 3-4 and 7-8

C Major Scale *half-step* *half-step*

MINOR SCALES

- Built on 6th scale degree of the RELATIVE MAJOR Scale, or count down 3 half steps from the tonic (first) note of a major scale to find the relative minor
- Natural form has no alterations

A Minor Scale--NATURAL FORM



- Harmonic form RAISES Scale Degree 7 ascending and descending

A Minor Scale--HARMONIC FORM



- Melodic form RAISES Scale degrees 6 and 7 ascending, lowers them descending (reverts to natural form descending)

A Minor Scale--MELODIC FORM



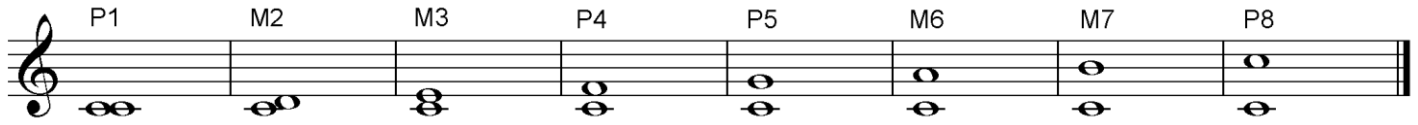
SCALE DEGREE FUNCTIONAL NAMES (chords built on these scale degrees also have the same functional names)

- $\hat{1}$ Tonic
- $\hat{2}$ Supertonic
- $\hat{3}$ Mediant
- $\hat{4}$ Subdominant
- $\hat{5}$ Dominant
- $\hat{6}$ Submediant
- $\hat{7}$ Leading Tone

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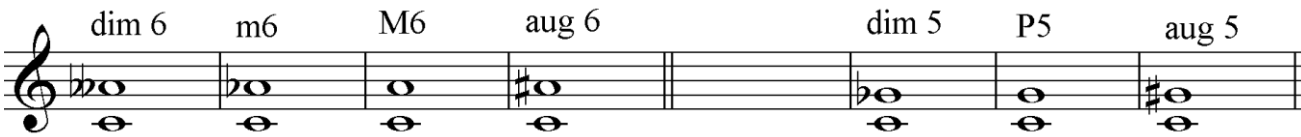
III: INTERVALS

- Measure intervals from the bottom of the tonic note of a major scale
- Intervals have number and quality (Major, minor, perfect, diminished, and augmented)



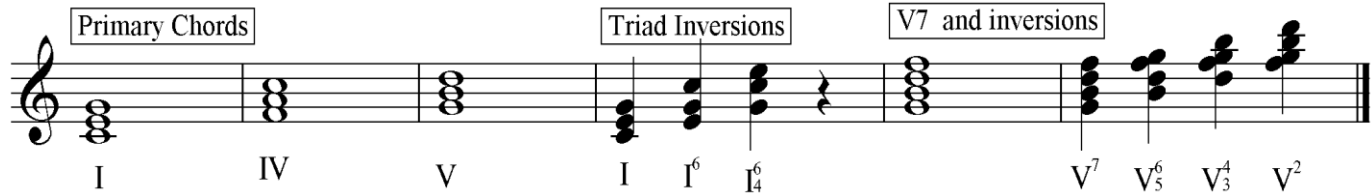
ALTERING QUALITY OF INTERVALS

- When altering an interval, only the quality changes; the number and original basic note names remain the same (i.e. do not use enharmonic spelling such as “G” to replace an “F double-sharp”)
- diminished ← minor ← **Major** → Augmented
- diminished ← **Perfect** → Augmented



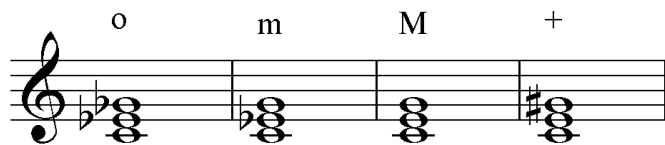
IV: CHORDS

PRIMARY CHORDS AND INVERSIONS



ALTERING QUALITY OF CHORDS

- Similar to intervals, chords have a description of quality
- Diminished (o) ← minor ← Major → Augmented (+)



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