

Chord Shapes 1: Basic Scales and Triads:(F)

(Foundational Knowledge. Apply to all 12 keys)

JimO

1. Start with a F major scale. The basic "Major" scale in Western Music uses this note grouping.

Root/Tonic WholeStep
Root - 2 -

Whole - Half -
2 - 1 -

Whole - Whole -
2 - 2 -

Whole Half
2 - 1

2. Build Major and Minor 3rds on each note of the scale to create 3-Part **Tertial Chords**.
These are the **Diatonic major, minor and diminished triads/chords for the key.**

5

1 2m 3m 4 5 6m 7dim 1

Imaj iim iiim IVmaj Vmaj vim viidim IMaj

3. EXERCISES: Play the following with **broken chords** in 2 time signatures.

9

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1/8

NAME _____
CHORDS: _____

13

Name: _____

4. These shapes are called **Arpeggios**.

17

Name: _____ etc.

5. NEW CONCEPT: Each chord has it's own **CHORD-SCALE**. They all have different **NAMES**.

21

1=IONIAN	(Major)	2=DORIAN	(Minor nat.6)
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(Play through each scale. Notice how well they "fit" the chords.)

25

3=PHRYGIAN	(Minor b2)	4=LYDIAN	(Major#4)
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29

5=MIXOLYDIAN	(Majorb7)	6=AEOLIAN	(Nat.minor)*
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33

7=LOCRIAN	(Minorb2andb5)	8/1=IONIAN	(Major)
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6. These scales contain **CHORD-TONES (Passive)** and **NON-CHORD TONES (Active)**.

37

Musical notation for exercise 6. It shows a scale in G minor (one flat) across two staves (treble and bass). The notes are: G (1), Bb (3), D (5), F (2), Ab (4), C (6), Eb (7). The bass line has rests for all notes.

7. **Chord-Tones** often begin melodies or stop at "rest points". See below.

41

Musical notation for exercise 7. It shows a scale in G minor (one flat) across two staves. The notes are: G (CT), Bb (CT), D (CT), F (CT), Ab (CT), C (CT), Eb (CT). The bass line has rests for all notes.

8. **Non-Chord-Tones** create tensions and energy to melodies. See Below.

45

Musical notation for exercise 8. It shows a melody in G minor (one flat) across two staves. The chords are: F, Dm, Bb, and F/A. The notes are: F (CT), G (NCT), Ab (CT), Bb (NCT), C (CT), D (NCT), Eb (CT), F (CT). The bass line shows the chord voicings for each chord.

9. The general category here is **CHORD-SCALE-AGREEMENT**. When harmonizing melodies we try to find chords that "fit" the melody. Chord-Tones totally "agree", for the most part. The Non-Chord-Tones will normally "lead" to Chord-Tones by creating tensions like the ones shown above. **Now, try to fit some chords to this melody.**

49

Musical notation for exercise 9. It shows a melody in G minor (one flat) across two staves. The notes are: G, A, Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G. The bass line has rests for all notes.

* Natural minor can also be called "relative" minor or simply, Aeolian mode.