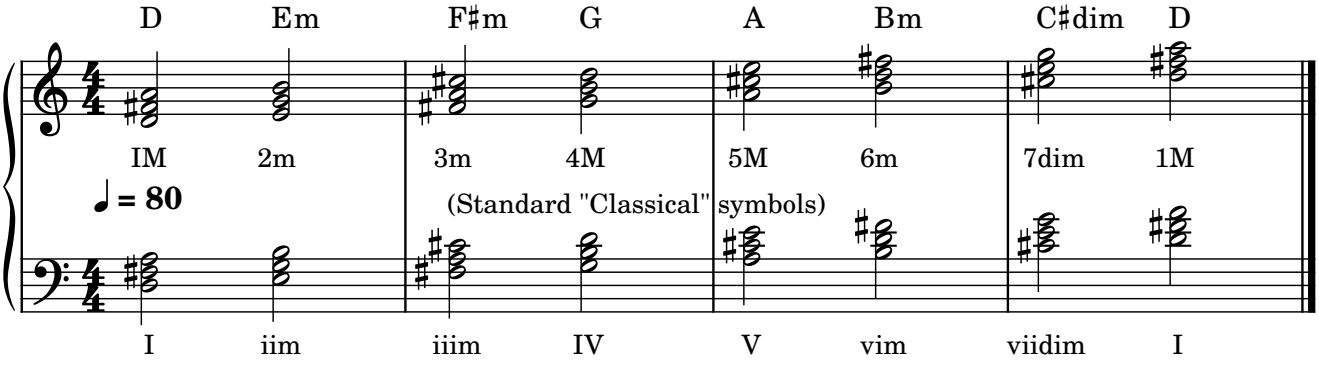
Key Pages 6: Full Diatonic Major (D.NK)

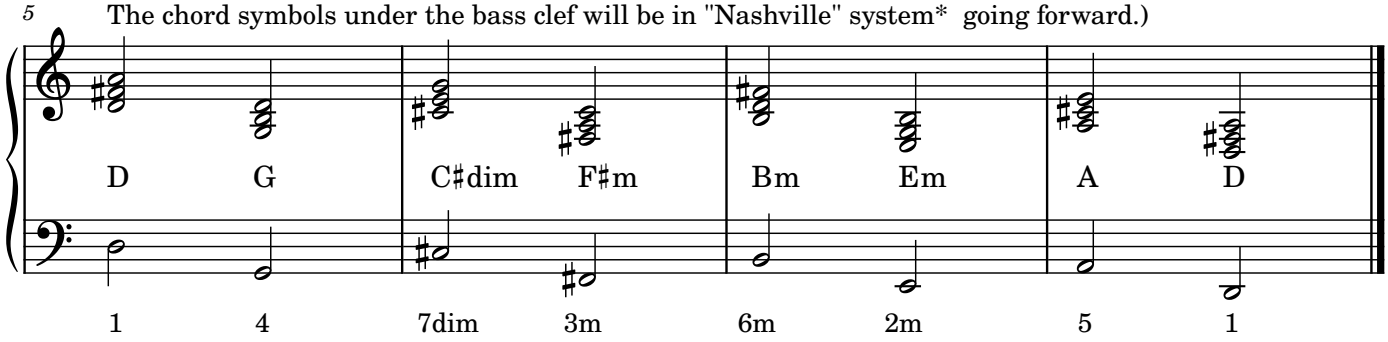
(Developing chord patterns in 4ths, 5ths and Steps.)

JimO

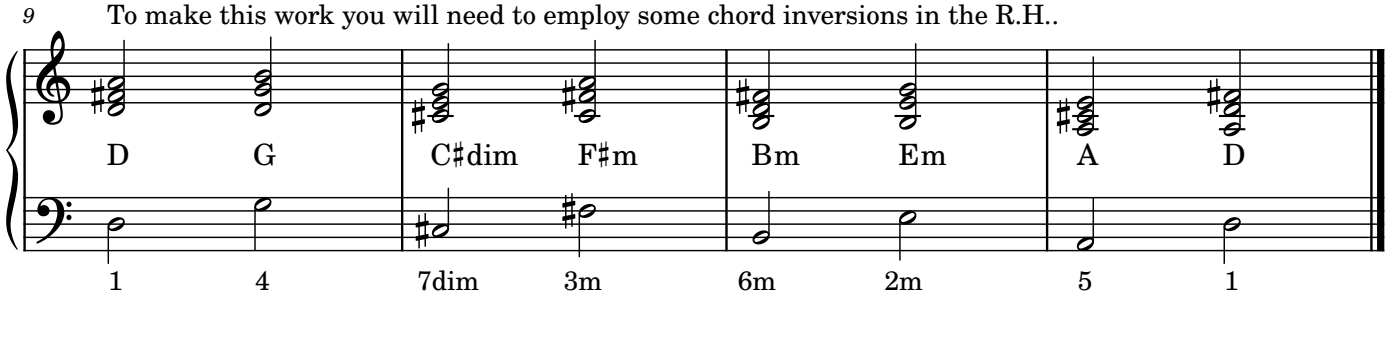
1. Here is the "dictionary" version of the major tonality. Chords up the scale.



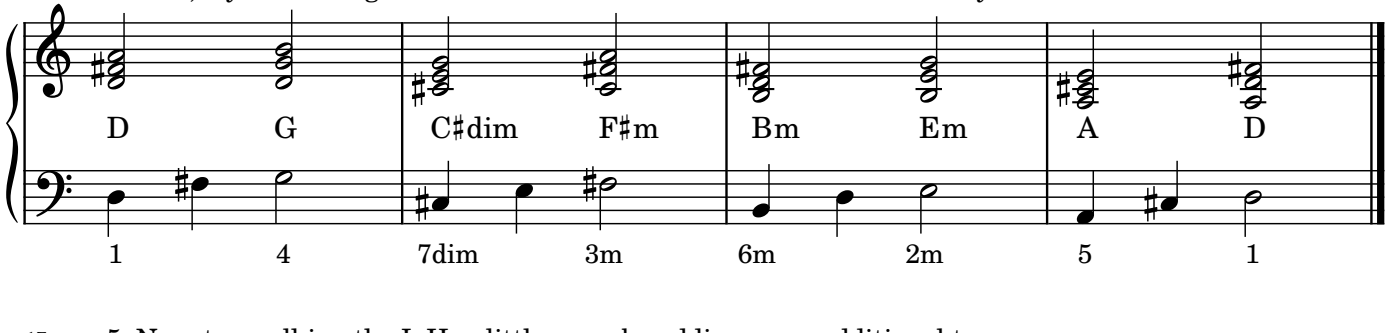
2. Now, set them up in the "Diatonic Circle of Fifths." Sounds better, but still a bit "stiff."
The chord symbols under the bass clef will be in "Nashville" system* going forward.)



3. Try a variation of the "circle" that moves up a 4th and down a 5th.
To make this work you will need to employ some chord inversions in the R.H..



4. Now, try a "walking" tone in the L.H. to create a little "Harmonic Rhythm."



5. Now, try walking the L.H. a little more by adding some additional tones.

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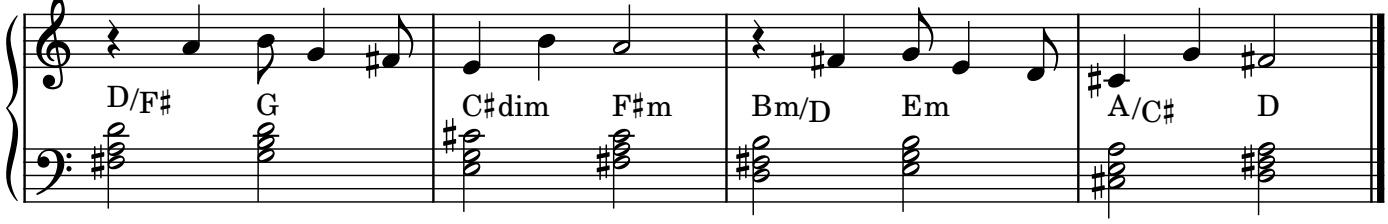
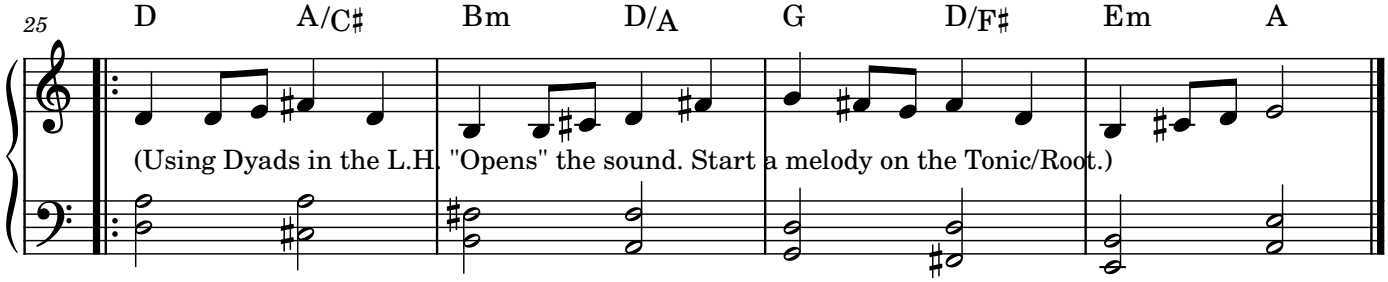
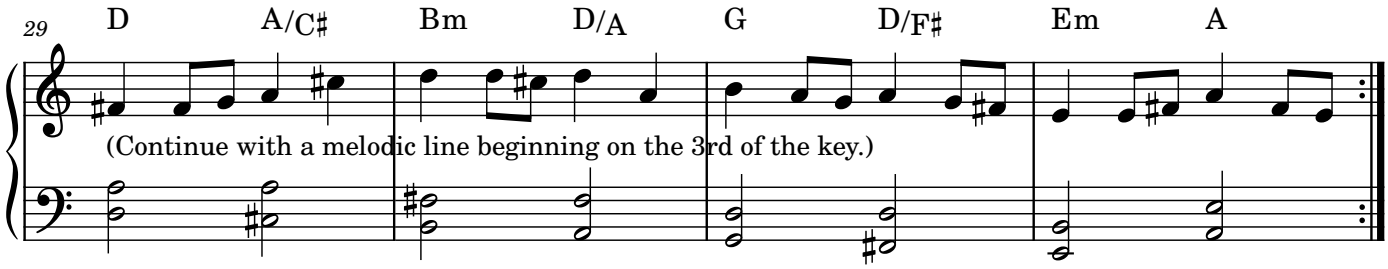
6. Next, place the chords in the L.H. and create a melody in the R.H.
These chords are "Close position" voicings. Connect them as smoothly as possible.

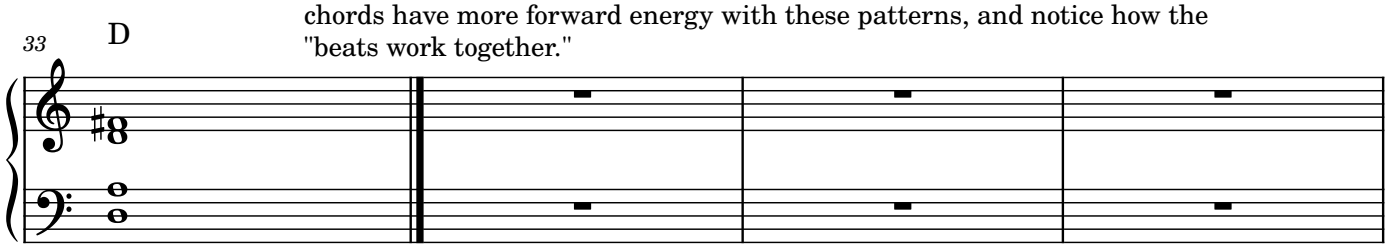


7. The second most common chord movement concept is Stepwise motion.
Here is a sample step pattern that moves down in the L.H..

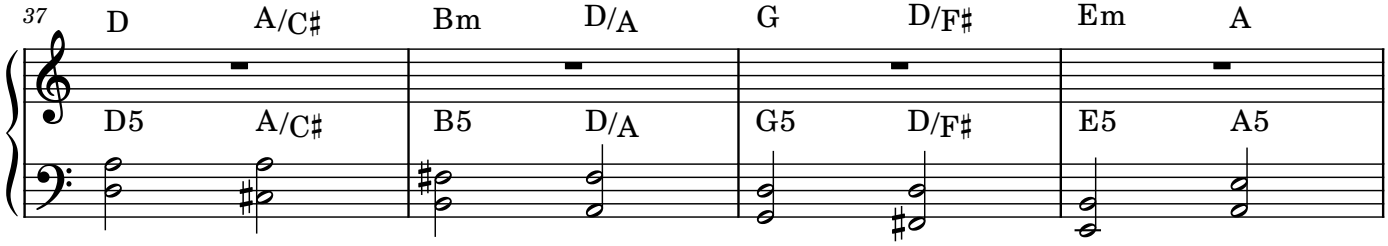


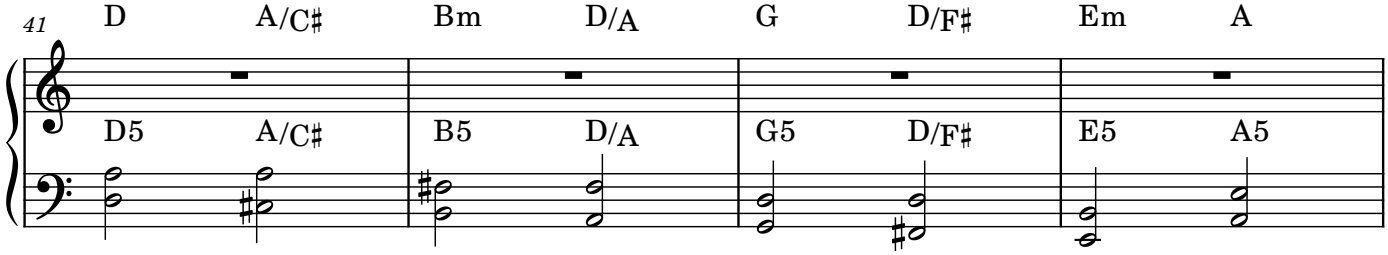


Summary Note: These exercises are based on the most common chord movement patterns in music through the centuries-- 4ths, 5ths and steps. Notice how the chords have more forward energy with these patterns, and notice how the "beats work together."



8. Now it's your turn. Play through the "Chord Shells" below and create your own melody.





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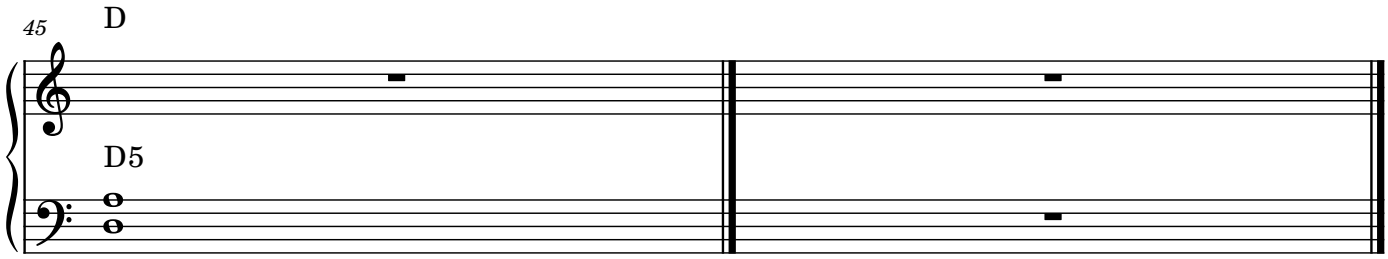

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