

TRANSPOSER

When expressed in Chord Numeral order (e.g., I-IV-V7-I), a song's harmonic structure is independent of its Key (scale), making it easy to transpose to a Key that better matches voices or instruments. To transpose a song, *circle* its chords in the chart below (adding 7 for sevenths, etc.), then *box* the equivalent chords in the desired scale. The chords of a scale can contain *only* the notes (black & white keys) of that scale, but a song may contain non-scale chords.

Related lessons:

- * Chords
- * Chord Variations
- * Reading Music
- * Practical Music Theory

Minor (m): Flat 3rd

Diminished (dim°): Flat 3rd & 5th

Major Chord Numeral	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	I
minor chord numeral	i	ii	iii	iv	v	vi	vii	i
Interval Number	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Tonal Name	Tonic	Supertonic	Mediant	Subdominant	Dominant	Submediant	Subtonic	Tonic
Chords of Scale	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°	I
C Major	C	Dm	Em	F	G	Am	Bdim	C
D Major	D	Em	F#m	G	A	Bm	C#dim	D
E Major	E	F#m	G#m	A	B	C#m	D#dim	E
F Major	F	Gm	Am	Bb	C	Dm	Edim	F
G Major	G	Am	Bm	C	D	Em	F#dim	G
A Major	A	Bm	C#m	D	E	F#m	G#dim	A
B Major	B	C#m	D#m	E	F#	G#m	A#dim	B
C#/Db Major	C#/Db	D#m/Ebm	Fm	F#/Gb	G#/Ab	A#m/Bbm	Cdim	C#/Db
D#/Eb Major	D#/Eb	Fm	Gm	G#/Ab	A#/Bb	Cm	Ddim	D#/Eb
F#/Gb Major	F#/Gb	G#m/Abm	A#m/Bbm	B	C#/Db	D#m/Ebm	Fdim	F#/Gb
G#/Ab Major	G#/Ab	A#m/Bbm	Cm	C#/Db	D#/Eb	Fm	Gdim	G#/Ab
A#/Bb Major	A#/Bb	C	Dm	D#/Eb	F	Gm	Adim	A#/Bb
KeyCounts								
Major Scale	(Root)	2	2	1	2	2	2	1
Major Intervals	(Root)	2	4	5	7	9	11	12
Major Triad	(Root)	---	4	---	7	---	---	---

* The most popular chord progression may be **I-IV-V7-I** (Tonic-Subdominant-Dominant 7th-Tonic). Example: **C-F-G7-C**

* The Dominant 7th chord **V7** produces a tension that is resolved by playing its Tonic **I** chord. Example: **G7** resolves to **C**

* The 12-Bar Blues progression follows this pattern: **I-I-I IV-IV I-I V-IV-I-I**. Example: **C-C-C-C F-F C-C G-F-C-C**

* Common chord substitutions: **vi** for **I** (Am for C); **iii** for **I** (Em for C); **II** for **ii** (D for Dm); **III** for **iii** (E for Em)

To Transpose Chords or Notes

- * Determine the Key (scale) of the song from the Key Signature.
- * Circle the song's chords (add variations) or notes below.
- * Pick the Key to transpose to.
- * Box the new chords (add variations) or notes

Example

C-Major
C-Am-G7 (I-vi-V7)
 G-Major
G-Em-D7 (I-vi-V7)

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D Major	D	Em	F#m	G	A	Bm	C#dim	D
E Major	E	F#m	G#m	A	B	C#m	D#dim	E
F Major	F	Gm	Am	Bb	C	Dm	Edim	F
G Major	G	Am	Bm	C	D7	Em	F#dim	G
A Major	A	Bm	C#m	D	E	F#m	G#dim	A
B Major	B	C#m	D#m	E	F#	G#m	A#dim	B
C#/Db Major	C#/Db	D#m/Ebm	Fm	F#/Gb	G#/Ab	A#m/Bbm	Cdim	C#/Db
D#/Eb Major	D#/Eb	Fm	Gm	G#/Ab	A#/Bb	Cm	Ddim	D#/Eb
F#/Gb Major	F#/Gb	G#m/Abm	A#m/Bbm	B	C#/Db	D#m/Ebm	Fdim	F#/Gb
G#/Ab Major	G#/Ab	A#m/Bbm	Cm	C#/Db	D#/Eb	Fm	Gdim	G#/Ab
A#/Bb Major	A#/Bb	C	Dm	D#/Eb	F	Gm	Adim	A#/Bb
KeyCounts								
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