

# Harmonic Vocabulary - Major Key

## Part 1 - Diatonic Flavors (triadal)

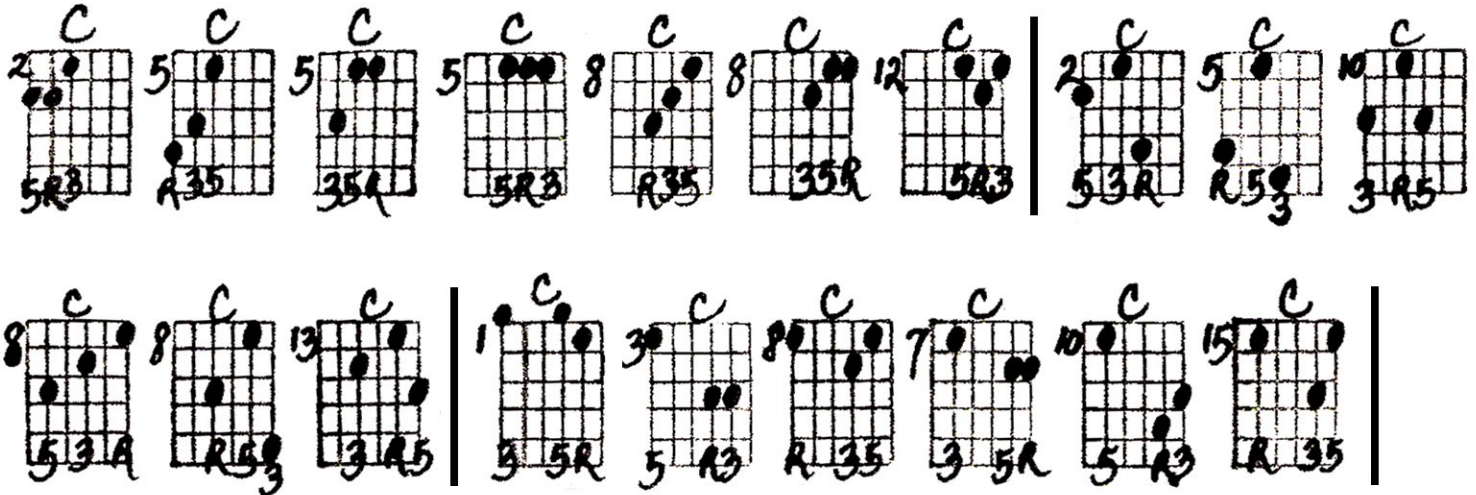
Ted Greene 1984-04-29

Harmony deals with many things, if one is looking for complexity. But generally, the *study* of it can be reduced to three main areas. 1) CHORDS, 2) their PROGRESSIONS and 3) groupings of all this into KEYS (also called *Tonal Centers*).

(A fourth area is INTERVALS, but this subject is actually a form of abbreviated chords, so....)

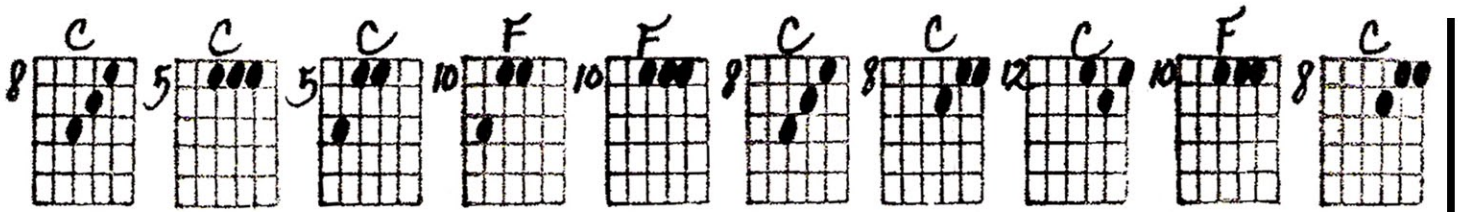
The basic chords of Western civilization three hundred years ago were the *major* and *minor*; they still are.

The major chord (1,3,5) can be arranged into many combinations (or *voicings*) as illustrated below:

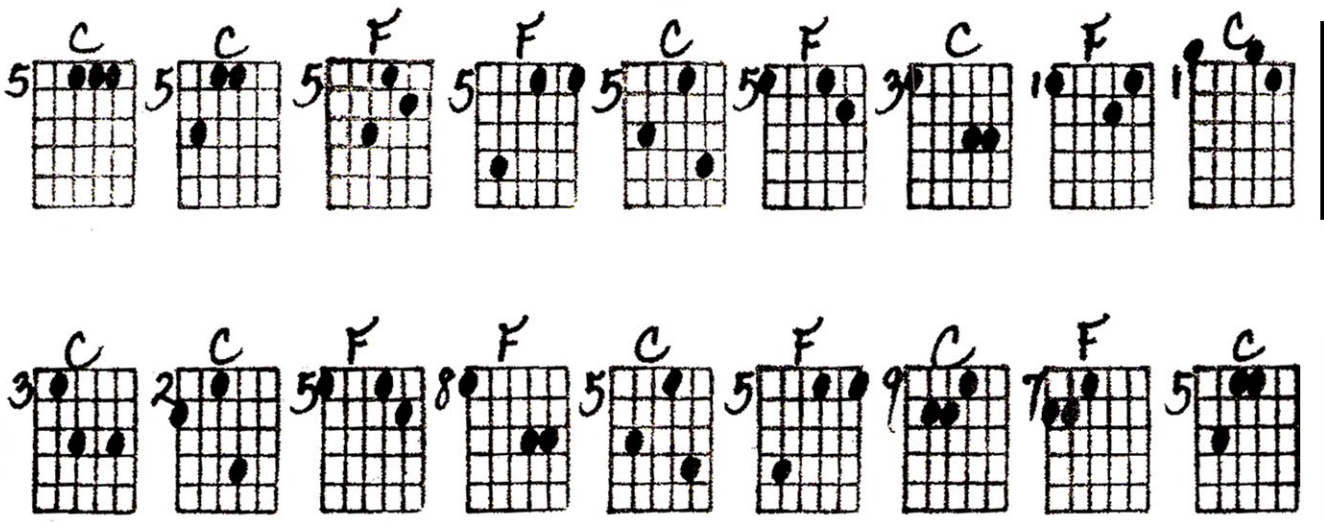


In the following examples, the sweet flavor of the IV chord is demonstrated (ask for explanation if necessary):

6/8 meter

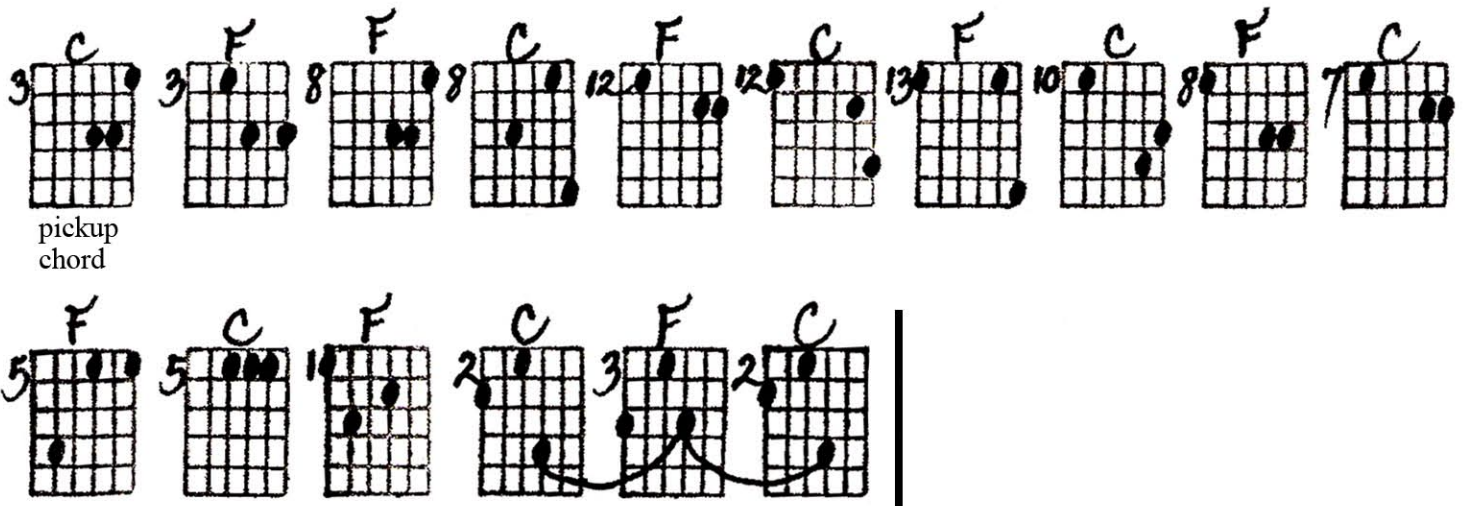


4/4



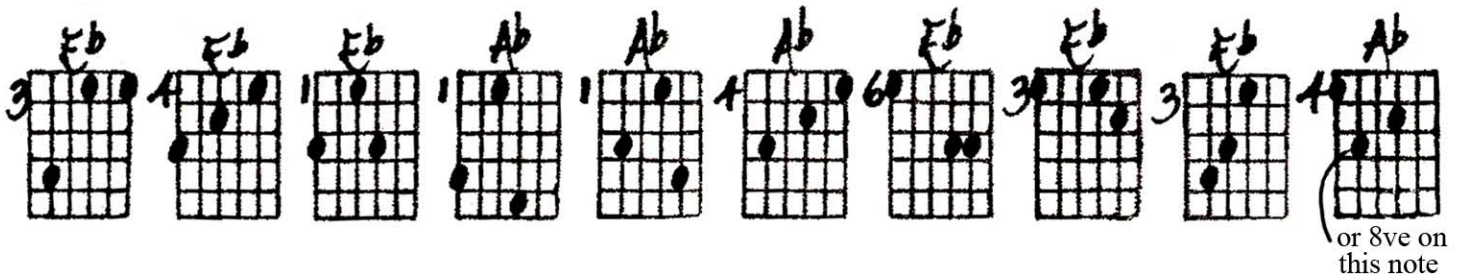
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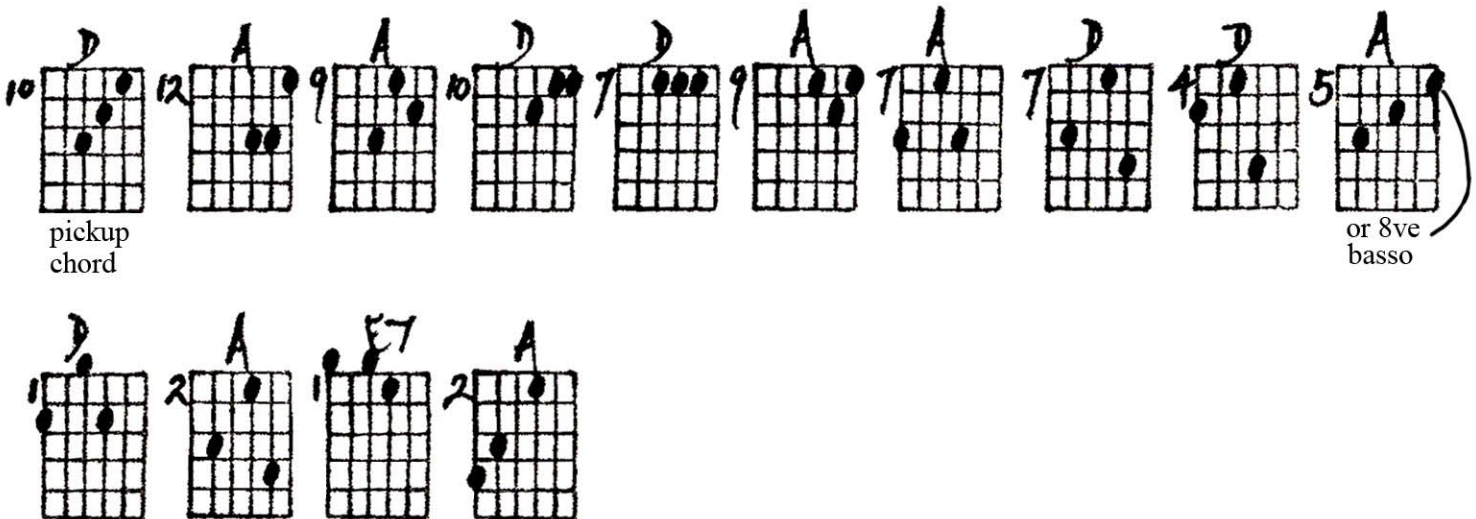
And now in another key for freshness:

6/8



And another key

4/4



[Will be discussed later]

Assignment: Write some phrases like the above mixing up the I and IV chords in various keys.

Harmony deals with many things, if one is looking for complexity. But generally, the study of it can be reduced to 3 main areas\*:  
 ① CHORDS, ② their PROGRESSIONS and ③ groupings of all this into KEYS (also called TONAL CENTERS).  
 The basic chords of Western civilization three hundred years ago were the MAJOR and MINOR, they still are. The major chord (1, 3, 5) can be arranged into many combinations (or VOICINGS) as illustrated below:

In the following examples, the sweet flavor of the II chord is demonstrated (ask for explanation if necessary):

6/8 METER

AND NOW IN ANOTHER KEY FOR FRESHNESS:

AND ANOTHER KEY

ASSIGNMENT: WRITE SOME PHRASES LIKE THE ABOVE MIXING UP THE I and II chords in various keys.

\* a 4th area is INTERVALS but this subject is actually a form of ADV. CHORDS so .....