

MUS 200

CHORD PROGRESSIONS & VOICE LEADING ASSIGNMENT

Do this on paper (with pencil) or electronically using notation software

Compose a two-phrase, eight-measure chord progression in a 4/4 meter for piano that follows mostly smooth voice leading in the right-hand chords. The details are:

- Use the staves provided on the next page (or follow the same layout if you're using software).
- Phrase 1: four-measures long, in a minor key, concludes with a half cadence OR deceptive cadence (something that feels unresolved).
- Phrase 2: four-measures long, in the parallel major key, concludes with an authentic cadence OR a plagal cadence (something that feels resolved).
- Right hand (treble clef) uses three-note chords (or four notes if a 7th chord).
- Left hand (bass clef) uses single notes. You can, but don't have to, use inversions.
- Use on average two chords per measure, with simple rhythms, but the 4th measure of each phrase should have just one chord to support the feeling of a cadence.
- Reiterating the tonal plan: the first phrase will be in a minor key; the second phrase will be in the parallel major; for example, if the first phrase is in F minor, the second phrase will be in F major.
- Notate clearly and follow all notation conventions including the proper use of stems, key signatures (one for minor, one for major) and a time signature.
- Write the chord symbols above the staff and write the roman numerals beneath the staff, using slash notation and figured bass if you incorporate inversions.
- All your chords should be diatonic (belonging only to the key) and be mindful of the V chord in minor keys, which needs to be a major chord derived from the harmonic minor scale.
- Refer to the chord progressions tutorial and the table below for guidance on how to put chords together, but you may choose other combinations if you like how they sound.

maj key chord	goes to	less often
I	anywhere	
ii	V or vii ^o	
iii	VI or IV	vii ^o
IV	V or I	ii
V	I or vi	IV then I
vi	ii	V
vii ^o	I	V

min key chord	goes to	less often
i	anywhere	
ii ^o	V or vii ^o	
III	VI or iv	V
iv	V or i	ii ^o
V	i or VI	
VI	ii ^o	V
vii ^o	i	V
VII	III	

Name:

USE THIS SCORE PAGE OR YOUR CHORD PROGRESSIONS ASSIGNMENT

A musical staff consisting of two staves, one with a treble clef and one with a bass clef. The staff is divided into four empty measures by vertical bar lines.

A musical staff consisting of two staves, one with a treble clef and one with a bass clef. The staff is divided into four empty measures by vertical bar lines.