

KEYBOARD EXERCISE STUDENT HANDOUT: INITIAL & GRADE 1

TRINITY
ELECTRONIC
KEYBOARD
2019-2022

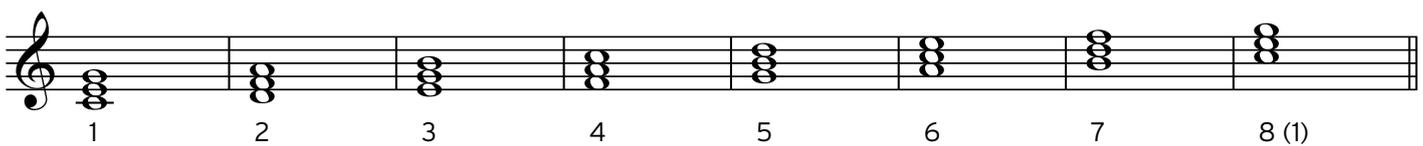
Initial

Introducing triads

Play triads on each degree of the C major scale:

Fig. 1 Introducing triads

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Triads as block chords - making sequences

Fig. 2a Triads as block chords (treble clef)

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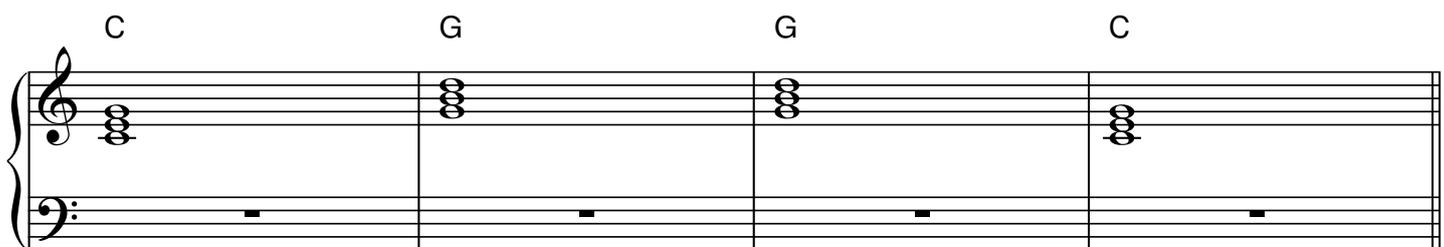
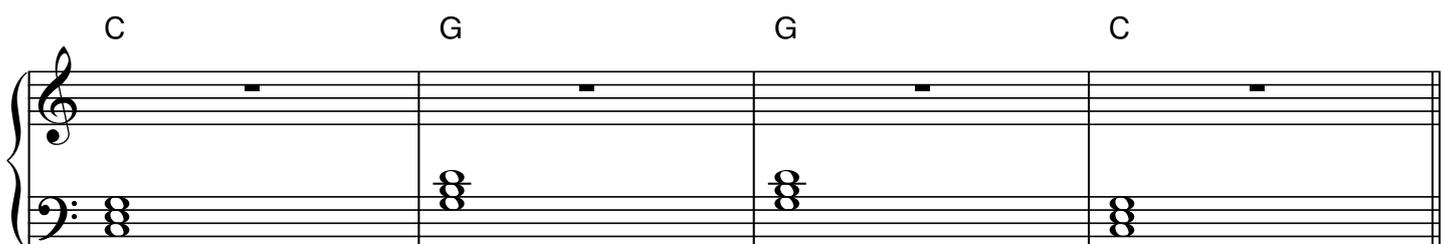


Fig. 2b Triads as block chords (bass clef)

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You may find it easier to play the G chord next to the C chord like this:

Fig. 2c Triads as block chords (easier to play, treble clef)

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Fig. 2d Triads as block chords (easier to play, bass clef)

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* in later grades we will see this written as G/B, as the B is on the bottom

Triads as broken chords - making sequences

Fig. 3 Triads as broken chords

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Improvising with the pentatonic scale

Fig. 4 Improvising with pentatonic scale

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The C major pentatonic scale (5 notes) is included in **Scales & Chord Knowledge** at Initial.

Tip: You may want to get your teacher, or a friend, to play the chords whilst you improvise on top - and then switch around! Try and finish on the key note (C).

Improvising with the inverted pentatonic scale

Here you move your RH so your thumb is now on the G. Which do you prefer to improvise with?

Fig. 5 Improvising with inverted pentatonic scale

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C G G C

Tip: Why not use a rhythm from one of your pieces?

Grade 1

Keys of G major and D minor

At Initial, we numbered the chords from 1-7. We now introduce the Roman numeral system, with chords numbered from I to VII. You may like to write in numbers 1-7 if you wish.

G major

Fig. 6a Triads in G major

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I ii iii IV V vi vii I

D minor

Fig. 6b Triads in D minor

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i ii III iv V VI vii i

In accordance with the Trinity Music Theory workbooks, we have now written minor chords with small letters.

Triads as block chords - making sequences

Fig. 7a Triads as block chords (treble clef)

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G D D G

Triads as block chords - making sequences continued...

Fig. 7b Triads as block chords (bass clef)

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You may find it easier to play the D chord next to the G chord like this:

Fig. 7c Triads as block chords (easier to play, treble clef)

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Fig. 7d Triads as block chords (easier to play, bass clef)

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* in later grades we will see this written as D/F#, as the F# is on the bottom

To get used to these new keys, try playing the chord sequences, here with broken chords.

Triads as broken chords - making sequences

G major, in 4-time

Fig. 8 Triads as broken chords: G major

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And D minor, in 3-time

Fig. 9 Triads as broken chords: D minor

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Why not make up your own 4-bar sequences? But be careful to always finish on the home chord.

Improvising with the pentatonic scale (G major)

Fig. 10 Improvising in G major with pentatonic scale

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G D D G

improvise for 8 bars (i.e. two repetitions of the chord sequence)

The G major pentatonic scale (5 notes) is included in **Scales & Chord Knowledge** at Grade 1.

Tip: Try and finish on the key note (G)

Improvising with the pentatonic scale (D minor)

Fig. 11 Improvising in D minor with pentatonic scale

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Dm A A Dm

improvise for 8 bars (i.e. two repetitions of the chord sequence)

The D minor pentatonic scale (5 notes) is included in **Scales & Chord Knowledge** at Grade 1.

Tip: Try and finish on the key note (D)

Chord inversions

Fig. 12a Chord inversions (C major)

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root position first inversion second inversion

Fig. 12b Chord inversions (G major)

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root position first inversion second inversion

Fig. 12c Chord inversions (D minor)

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root position first inversion second inversion