

Diatonic Triads in Major Keys (Answer Key)

A. Diatonic Triads in Major Keys

Example

The following key signatures are supposed to represent major keys. Look at the signature and put a key indicator beneath it (such as "F:"). Then, look at the given triad and give it a roman numeral to indicate its function in that key.

F: V

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bb: ii	G: V	Eb: vii°	D: iii	B: I	F: vi	Db: IV	A: ii
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Bb: IV	G: vii°	Eb: V	D: vi	B: V	F: I	Gb: IV	A: vi

B. Making Diatonic Triads

Make the key signature and chord that is requested.

17	18	19	20	21	22
Bb: iii	C: V	B: vi	D: V	F: ii	Eb: vii°

BASS CLEF!

23	24	25	26	27	28
E: iii	A: IV	G: vii°	D: ii	F: IV	C: vi

C. Analyzing Diatonic Chords in Real Music

It is actually very atypical to see simple, neatly-stacked triads in real music. More often, the notes in the harmony will be all spread out, with some redundant notes (or “doublings.”)

I’ve created a somewhat inauthentic arrangement of Pachelbel’s “Canon in D” for you below. The harmony changes with each chord. Give each chord a roman numeral which indicates its function in D major.

The image shows a musical score for a piano arrangement of Pachelbel's Canon in D. The score is written in D major (two sharps) and common time (C). It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a sequence of chords, while the bass staff contains a simple bass line. The chords are: D major (I), F# major (V), B minor (vi), D minor (iii), G major (IV), D major (I), G major (IV), and F# major (V).

D: I V vi iii IV I IV V