

Year 7 Music

# Summer A Booklet Band Musicianship 1: 

The Four-Chord Trick


Name:
Form:

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## For all lessons, please go to:

Oak national academy ( www.thenational.academy )- Lessons- KS3-MusicBandmusicanship1: The Four-Chord Trick - click onto appropriate lesson

Virtual instrument apps:
https://www.musicca.com/piano?
https://www.onlinepianist.com/virtual-piano
Stretch (if you want to record any chord sequences)- DAW app:
Please note: Instead of using Bandlab, please use https://onlinesequencer.net/ or Garage Band.

## Knowledge Organiser

## Music Knowledge Organiser: What makes a piece of music popular?

## Composition Getting started

Composing is all about experimenting and finding out what works and what does not- try out lots of different ideas. Begin with an idea. Starting points for songs can be very different. It could be a sequence of chords, a few lyrics, a guitar riff or a drum beat.

## Developing an idea

When you have an idea you like, start to play about with that idea and see where it takes you. One idea can quickly lead to another. Some ideas are finished the moment you come up with them and some require a lot of development. Adding a melody on top of a chord progression can bring something alive. Play the idea in different rhythms.

## Structure

Structure is the order that different parts of the song are played in. Traditional pop music usually follows a verse, chorus, verse structure. Decide which ideas you would like to use focussing on creating a chorus.

## Instruments

Decide which instruments will feature in your piece of music. Think about the role of each instrument, remembering that you don't need every instrument to play all the time.

## Lyrics

Lyrics make a song memorable; they may have been the first aspect of composition or thought about throughout the process.

## Feedback

A vital aspect of composition is receiving feedback in order to develop a piece of music to ensure it fits a specific criteria.

## Recording

During the recording process, music can be edited and further developed.

## Key Vocabulary

- Syncopation- a disturbance or interruption of the regular flow of rhythm. It is the placement of rhythmic stresses or accents where they wouldn't normally occur.
- Pulse- a steady beat like a ticking clock or your heartbeat. It can be measured in time by counting the number of beats per minute (BPM).
- Rhythm- the pattern of long and short sounds as you move through the song.
- Melody- the tune. It's the part of the music that you often find yourself singing along with.

A melody is made up of high- and low-pitched notes played one after the other.

- Pitch- how high or low a note sounds.
- Dynamics- can make the listener feel different emotions. Musicians will change whether they play a part quietly or loudly depending on how they want the listener to feel.


## SAL- Assessment Ladder

| Attainment Band | Music Knowledge and Skills |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \frac{0}{2} \\ & \frac{1}{n} \\ & \frac{3}{3} \\ & \frac{0}{\overline{0}} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 1. You can play a chord sequence with multiple inversion chords and smooth voice leading in your chords. <br> 2. You can play a whole song in time throughout. <br> 3. You understand about balance in band with dynamics intricately. <br> 4. You can create and play your own song with extended chords fluently. |
| 3 <br> $\stackrel{3}{0}$ <br> 1 | 1. You can play a chord sequence with at least one inversion chord. <br> 2. You can create more rhythmically exciting four-chord progressions. <br> 3. You can play most of a whole song in time throughout. <br> 4. You can create a chord sequence with at least one extended chord. |
| $\frac{0}{\frac{1}{0}}$ | 1. You can understand that by using inversion chords it makes for a smoother performance. <br> 2. You understand the different parts in a band and how they are/ can be balanced. <br> 3. You can attempt a chord sequence with an extended chord <br> 4. You can vary your rhythm in your sequence. |
| $\begin{gathered} \stackrel{ᄃ}{\bar{\omega}} \\ \stackrel{\otimes}{\top} \end{gathered}$ | 1. Can name the different parts in a song structure. <br> 2. You can play an existing 4 -chord sequence. <br> 3. You understand that by varying the rhythm it makes for a more exciting song. <br> 4. You can try to play two or more chords. |
| ¢ | 1. You know about the different sections in a song structure. <br> 2. You can recognise the different sections of a song. <br> 3. You can try to play one chord. |

## Lesson 1 - Connect

Title- The role of Chords
LI- To be able to identify musical contrast in a song, and understand how a musical group communicates and balances the sound

Lesson structure:
Recap our knowledge of structure

Learn about how bands play in time
Learn how and why band members communicate
with one another

What is a typical song structure? Put the sections in order

intro
chorus

## chorus

Write out the correct order here:

## Activate

Structure listening: What part of the song do you think this is and how do you know?
Gala - Freed from Desire (1996)


## 2)

Structure listening:
What part of the song do you think this is and how do you know?
Bruno Mars - When I was your man (2012)

## 3)


4) Structure listening:

What part of the song do you think this is and how do you know?
Crazy - Gnarls Barkley (2006)
Structure listening:
What part of the song do you think this is and how do you know?
Red Hot Chilli Peppers - Can't Stop (2002)


## 

5) 

Structure listening:
What part of the song do you think this is and how do you know?
The Verve - Bittersweet Symphony (1997)


## Demonstrate

Watch the video of the Ceili band and answer how many things the musicians need to memorise:

## How do bands know what to play, and when

to play?


Make your own chord
sequence out of these chords, you can change them into any order!

C Major - C, E, G
F Major- F, A, C
A minor - A, C, E
G Major - G, B, D
Put your sequence in the table below:


Now on your instruments practise in pairs playing your chord sequence. Help by using the communication techniques we just watched.

## Consolidate

# Cause the video to complete your task 

## On your piece of paper, answer the

 following questions...1. How do musicians play in time together?
2. What are the 5 things you need to memorise when you play in a band?
3. How do musicians communicate with each other on stage?

## Write your answers here:

1) 
2) 

)
3)

## Lesson 2 - Connect

Title- The role of Chords
LI- To be able to identify musical contrast in a song, and understand how a musical group communicates and balances the sound

## Lesson structure:



Read the following statement and answer the three questions underneath - you may do this in a pair share!

## Balance

Balance is the relative volume level of different parts of a piece of music. For a piece of music to sound good, it needs to be balanced, ie. parts need to be loud enough so we can hear them.

2) Which parts need to be heard more than others?
3) Is this going to be the same throughout the song?

You can write answers here:


## Activate

How are parts balanced in a live performance? How are parts balanced on a recording?

During:
After:


Put the correct keywords in order of before, during and after the performance above:

Mixing
Reflecting
Listening and adjusting
Sound check

## Demonstrate


3) Play your chord sequence on your instrument from lesson 1 and decide which sections you will make louder or softer (this is called dynamics = volume)
Intro Loud/soft
Verse Loud/soft
Chorus Loud/soft
Outro Loud/soft

## Consolidate

## Checklist

How did you decide on your balance?

Which parts are louder and why?

Does your balance change? Why or why not?

Answer the three questions above:
1)
$\qquad$
2)
3)

## Lesson 3 - Connect

Title- The role of Chords
LI- Understanding chord inversions: Composing a successful 4-chord chord progression

Lesson structure:


Quick quiz:
Work out all of these triads and then play them on a keyboard (real or virtual)


## C major D minor Eminor F major G major A minor

write in the pitches for each triad in the blank keyboards underneath:


## Activate

Read below about chord inversions:

## Numbering a scale

- These are the degrees of the C major scale. The 1st degree is C, the 2nd is D, the 3 rd is E, and so on.
- What are the numbers of the scale degrees (pitches) in a C major triad?

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Root

Answer the questions

## Labelling notes of a chord

below:

1. What is the root of G major?
2. What is the third
of A minor?
3. What pitch is the

5th of F major and
the third of $A$
minor?


Stretch: Which pitch tells us whether a chord is major or minor? Which are the two most important notes of the chord? Why do you think

Stretch)

$\qquad$



## Demonstrate

Try playing inversions on a virtual keyboard Ordering our pitches

What happens if we change the order of the pitches in a triad?

| $\bigcirc$ | $C$ | E | Complete this task on a keyboard (real or virtual) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 들 | $\bigcirc$ | C | - If you rearrange the pitches of a triad, what does it sound like? |
| C | E | $\bigcirc$ | - Does it matter if the pitches are in a different order? Why, or why not? |

Write out the inversions below:


## Consolidate

Try creating inversions of a F Major triad and an A minor triad Inversions

What happens if we change the order of the pitches in a triad?
C

| Cmajor |
| :---: |
| triad |


| Cmajor |
| :---: |
| triad |


| Cmajor |
| :--- |
| same it remains the same triad. |

There is no other triad pattern
that has the notes $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{E}$ and G .

## Trying out inversions

## F Major triad inversions



## A minor triad

 inversions

## Lesson 4 - Connect

## Title- The role of Chords

LI- Understanding chord inversions: Composing a successful 4-chord chord progression

## Lesson structure:

## Explore what is meant by 'voice leading'

Create your own chord sequence with inversions

## Test yourself



Below are some inversions. Can you spot which triads they are?
Example: F, D, A to get in the right pattern becomes D, F, A = D minor

1. Which triad is made up of the pitches $E, G, C$ ?
2. Which triad is made up of the pitches $C, F, A$ ?
3. Which triad is made up of the pitches $G, E, B$ ?

| G | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| E | F | G | A | B | C | D |
| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| I | ii | iii | IV | V | vi | vii |

1) 
2) 
3) 

## Activate

## Listen to the difference in sound with chords with inversions and without.

Why do we use inversions?
When you are playing triads on the keyboard it can be difficult to move from one triad to another. It also doesn't sound great! This is when inversions become very useful.

No inversions


Inversions

| $G$ | $A$ | $A$ | $B$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $E$ | $E$ | $F$ | $G$ |
| $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $D$ |

Now try playing chords with inversions and without!

## Playing inversions

$\square$
Play these chords without inversions, then with inversions. Extension: come up with as many ways as possible to move from the chord of $G-C$.

G major - C major (no inversions)


What are the two
benefits of playing
inversions?
G major - C major (inversions)


## Demonstrate

## Try singing/humming the individual notes of the chords below with Miss Charatan.

## Voice leading

We can think of the notes of the chords as individual voices or parts in a choir. Let's sing the parts now. Are they easy or difficult to sing?


## Voice leading

Let's now put the chords in inversion like we did earlier. Let's sing the parts again. What is the difference? Is it easier or more difficult to sing?


Voice leading


Voice leading is the way the individual 'voices' (pitches) move from chord to chord. The best voice leading is when all the individual voices move smoothly/by step. Poor voice leading is when there are wide leaps.


## Consolidate

Write down each chord inversion into the blank piano keys. Use the example of moving between A minor and C major below to help you. Stretch-try playing on a virtual keyboard!

## Voice leading puzzle

Change from the first chord to the second chord by only moving one pitch each time:


1. A minor - C major
2. F major - D minor
3. E minor - G major
4. F major - A minor

ACE CEG
The chords share C and E. I only need to move $G$.

A minor - C major
II III II
CDEFCABCDE


C D E F G A B C DE

## Voice leading puzzle

Change from the first chord to the second chord by only moving one pitch each time:


1. A minor - C major
2. F major - D minor
3. E minor - G major
4. F major - A minor

F Major to D minor
E minor to G Major


## Lesson 5 －Connect

## Title－The role of Chords

LI－To understand how to add interest and contrast to a
chord sequence

## Lesson structure： <br> Answer the quiz questions below：

Q2．How do we label the three notes in a triad？，III，V$1,2,3$

## 〇Root，3rd，5th

Q4．Which of these is an F major triad，in inversion？

## OCFA <br> 〇FAD <br> 〇ADF

Q6．What is voice leading？The way the individual＇voices＇（pitches）lead the chordsThe way the individual＇voices＇（pitches）lead the groupThe way the individual＇voices＇（pitches）move from chord to chord．
Q8．What note of the F major triad would you change to make the chord into a D minor triad？Use the keyboard to help you．

## \＃\＃\＃\＃\＃ <br> CDEFGABCDEFGABC

You would change the $F$ to $D$〇 You would change the A to D
Q9．When you decide on your inversions to make good voice leading，what is the main thing you need to consider？

What instrument should I play on？
What are the fewest notes I need to move from one chord to another？
O How do I make the chords jump around？

Recap our knowledge of inversions and chords

Explore how to create extended chords

Learn how to change the rhythm of chords

Q3．What is an inversion？Playing the notes of the chord in orderPlaying the notes of a chord in a different orderPlaying two different chords and moving between them

Q5．What is one benefit of playing chords in inversion？
They sound major
They are easier to play
They suit the mood of the piece

Q7．What two notes do A minor and C major triads have in common？Use the keyboard to help you．

## 

CDEFGABCDEFGABC
OA and $C$
OC and E
OG and $A$

Q10．What would poor voice leading sound like？

Big leaps between chords
Small steps between chords
A mixture of big leaps and small steps

## Activate

Complete the listening task and answer the questions below

Crazy - Gnarls Barkley



- American soul duo
- CeeLo Green and Dangermouse
- 2007 hit single 'Crazy’


## Crazy - Gnarls Barkley

1
What is the time signature? (how many beats per bar)
2)

How many different chords are used?
3)

How long does each chord last?
Listen to the two
versions of "Crazy" see if you can find one difference and one similarity.

## Crazy - two ways

## Am

I remember when
I remember, I remember when I lost my $\underset{\text { mind }}{\underset{\text { F }}{\text { F }}}$
There was something so pleasant about that place
Even your emotions have an echo in so much space


| Am |
| :--- |
| I remember when |
| I remember, I remember when I lost my mind |
| Cmaj7 |
| There was something so pleasant about that place |
| Esus4 E |
| Even your emotions have an echo in so much space |

[^0]
## Demonstrate

Work out how to play $7^{\text {th }}$ chords and sustained $4^{\text {th }}$ chords from the tables below. Then play them on your virtual piano

## Major 7th chords

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Root

To create a Cmaj7 chord, I add the 7th pitch of the scale.
C major triad $=1,3,5=$ C E G
Can you work out these maj7 chords?
F chord $=1,3,5=$
Fmaj7 = 1, 3, 5, $7=$

| $F$ | $G$ | $A$ | $B b$ | $C$ | $D$ | $E$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

G chord $=1,3,5=$
Gmaj7 $=1,3,5,7=$

| $G$ | $A$ | $B$ | $C$ | $D$ | $E$ | $F \#$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

C chord = 1, 3, $5=$
Cmaj7 $=1,3,5,7=$

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Sus4 chords

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

- Normally, we use the root, 3rd and 5th in a chord.
- In a sus4 chord, we take away the 3rd and replace it with the 4th.
- Often sus chords are followed by a normal triad - why? 」


## Consolidate

## Read the DART and answer the quick quiz questions

## DART

## Sevenths

When a seventh is added to a chord this is known as a seventh chord. The dominant seventh of a V chord can be shown by the symbol V7.

For example, $G 7$ is made by taking the major triad of $G(G-B-D)$ and adding an $F(G-B-D-$ F).

## How chord inversions relate to basic chords

A chord inversion occurs when any note other than the root of a basic chord is played down at the bass. For example, a basic C major chord includes the notes C, E and G. C, the chord note name and root, is placed at the bottom of the chord. If you came across a chord in music where $G$ was in the bass note under other notes found in a C major chord, then you'd be looking at a C major chord inversion.

Quick quiz:
What is an extended chord?
A chord that is held for
longer

[^1]Quick quiz:
Which of these is an extended chord?


## Lesson 6 - Connect

## Title- The role of Chords

## LI- To understand how to add interest and contrast to a chord sequence

## Lesson structure:



## Answer the following:

1. Primary chords are made up of chords ii (2), iii (3) and vi (6)

TRUE
FALSE
2. Secondary chords are made up of chords I (1), IV (4) and V (5)

TRUE
FALSE
3. What instruments can play chords?
A. Flute
B. Guitar
C. Piano
D. Trombone
4. What is a melody
A. Two or more notes played at the same time
B. A succession of single notes (pitches)
C. Rhythmic accompaniment
5. What is an accompaniment?
A. An accompanying part to a main melody, using rhythm and harmony
B. A main melody
C. How loud or soft a piece of music is

## Activate

Look and listen to Miss Charatan's chord sequence with extended chords and answer the two questions.
Add extended chords to your chord sequence.

## Simple <br> Chords



Extended
Chords


Now make your own chord sequence with extended chords. You may use one you have made in a previous lesson and adapt it with extended chords if you wish.

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Demonstrate

Now you have your chord sequence have a go at playing it with different rhythms on a virtual piano


Stretch- Try

## recording it onto a DAW like Garageband

Answer the following questions once you have finished:

## Checklist

How did you change your chord progression?

What rhythm did you choose and why?

How else could you vary your chord progression?

## Consolidate

Listen to Miss Charatan playing different styles of her chords.

How am I making my accompaniment
more interesting?

- I have broken up the notes of the chords.
- I have made a walking bass line.


Now think of three different ways to break up your chords and write underneath

How am I making my accompaniment more interesting?



1) $\qquad$
2) $\qquad$
3) $\qquad$

## Lesson 7 - Connect

## Title- The role of Chords

## LI- To understand how words are set to music, and explore

 how to compose lyrics in a structure Lesson structure:Q1.What is an inversion?

Playing the notes of the chord in order

Playing the notes of a chord in a different orderPlaying two different chords and moving between them Q3.Which of these is an extended chord?C majorC minor

Q5.How can you vary the accompaniment?Break up the chords so one note is played after anotherAdd a melodyPlay it faster

Q7.Which one of these is a Fmaj7 chord? Use the keyboard to help you.

##  <br> CDEFGABCDEFGABC

〇fade
○face
-
Q9.What is a walking bass?
When the bass line moves between the root notesWhen the bass line ascends and descends every bar
When the bass line is inverted

Q2.What is an extended chord?A chord that is held for longerA chord that is stretched out
A chord with extra pitches
Q4.Having two chords in the bar instead of one increases the $\qquad$

Tempo
Rhythm

Q6.Which one of these is a C6 chord? Use the keyboard to help you.


```
CDEFGABCDEFGABC
```

○cega
○cegb
〇Cegr
Q8. Which one of these is a Csus4 ? Use the keyboard to help you.

## \#\#\#\#\#

CDEFGABCDEFGABC
○ceg
○cfg
'Q10.What are chords with added pitches called?Added chordsExtended chords
O Inverted chords

## Activate

The two most important parts of a song are the verse and chorus:

## verse 1

verse 2
chorus

## chorus

If you had to choose two of the most important
Now parts of a song, what would they be?
spot where the verse and chorus are in this song
Which is the verse and which is the chorus?
How do you know?
If you need me call me no matter where you are
No matter how far don't worry baby
Just call my name l'll be there in a hurry
You don't have to worry
'Cause baby there ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough
To keep me from getting to you babe
Features of verse and choruses. Draw a line from each description into the correct box.

Put the features in the correct box


## Demonstrate

## Syllabic and melismatic word setting

## What is a syllable?

Words can be divided into syllables.
For example -
Cheese $\mathbf{= 1}$ syllable
Mush-room= 2 syllables
To-ma-to $=3$ syllables


How many syllables does pepperoni have?

> Twinkle, Twinkle, little star has syllabic word setting- one note per syllable

Syllabic and melismatic
Syllabic word setting is great for verses, as it means ideas can be communicated quickly - we don't hang around on the words.

Melismatic word setting is when you have more than one pitch per syllable. This takes more time, but its expressive and can help emphasise a word.


## Consolidate

Listen to Hallelujah and identify what parts are syllabic and melismatic - write your answers next to the two boxes underneath:

## Which bits are syllabic or melismatic?

Find one example of melismatic word setting.

```
I'd heard there was a secret chord
That David played and it pleased the Lord
But you don't really care for music, do you?
```

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Answer the two quick quiz questions to finish!

What is syllabic word setting?

What is the term for many pitches per syllable?


Congratulations you have completed your music Summer Term A booklet!


[^0]:    Find one similarity and one difference about the chords in these two versions. Stretch: what effect does the chord choice have?

[^1]:    A chord that is stretched out

