

EXERCISE 1.2 BUILDING DOMINANT CHORDS

TRADITIONAL BLUES USES DOMINANT CHORDS. CREATING DOMINANT CHORDS IS EASY! EXPLORE THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

1. HALF STEPS: MEASURE HALF STEPS FROM THE ROOT OF THE CHORD - UP 4, UP 3, UP 3

3 HALF STEPS
3 HALF STEPS
4 HALF STEPS

C⁷ F⁷ G⁷

2. MAJOR TRIADS: BEGIN WITH A MAJOR TRIAD, ADD AN OCTAVE ABOVE THE ROOT, THEN DESCEND TWO HALF-STEPS TO ADD THE FLAT-SEVEN (DOMINANT SEVEN)

C C^{MA7} C⁷ F F^{MA7} F⁷ G G^{MA7} G⁷

3. MAJOR SCALES: FROM ANY GIVEN MAJOR SCALE, BUILD A DOMINANT CHORD BY USING 1, 3, 5, AND LOWERED 7 ("FLAT-7")

1 3 5 7

C MAJOR SCALE F MAJOR SCALE G MAJOR SCALE

LOWERED SEVENTH

C⁷ F⁷ G⁷