


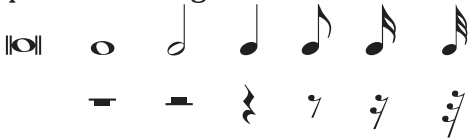



# Welcome to Grade 5

Here's a list of things you'll need to know as you get going on this book. They're all covered in *Improve Your Theory! Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4*. Tick all the things you already know, but don't worry if there are gaps – you probably know more than you think!

- The staff and bar-lines
- All notes in the ,  (alto),  clefs up to four ledger lines above and below the staff.
- These note-values and their rests: 
- Dotted notes, double-dotted notes, duplets and triplets
- These time signatures:

Simple			Compound		
Duple	Triple	Quadruple	Duple	Triple	Quadruple
	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{4}{8}$	$\frac{6}{4}$	$\frac{9}{4}$	$\frac{12}{4}$
$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{4}{4}$	$\frac{6}{8}$	$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{12}{8}$
$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{4}{2}$	$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{12}{16}$

- Grouping and beaming notes in all the above time signatures
- Double sharps (x) and flats (bb)
- Keys with up to five sharps or flats and their key signatures in the treble, alto and bass clefs
- How to construct major scales, harmonic and melodic minor scales, and chromatic scales
- Tones and semitones; the technical names of the notes in scales
- The intervals between any two notes in major and minor scales
- Tonic triads and chords on I, IV and V
- Composing simple four-bar rhythms; fitting words to rhythms
- Ornaments 
- A reasonable number of instruments, terms and signs

Ask your teacher to do some explaining before you get going on Stage 1.



Audio tracks for the Aural/listening activities are available to download from [www.fabermusicstore.com/ImproveYourTheory5](http://www.fabermusicstore.com/ImproveYourTheory5)



Answer sheets are available to download from [www.fabermusicstore.com/ImproveYourTheory5](http://www.fabermusicstore.com/ImproveYourTheory5)

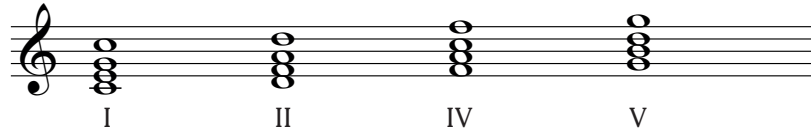
# Stage 8

## Naming chords and inversions

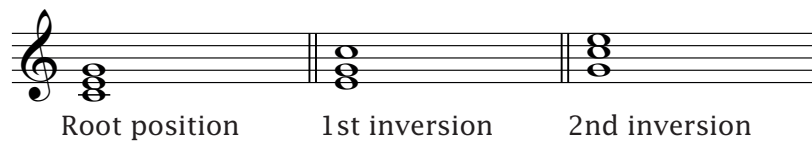


### Facts box

**Triads** are simple chords made up of three notes – the 1st (or root), the 3rd and the 5th notes of a scale. **Chords** can have more than three notes and are often formed on the tonic (I), supertonic (II), subdominant (IV) and dominant (V) degrees of the scale. The extra note(s) will be doubling the 1st, 3rd or 5th at a different octave. Four-note chords in C major include:



Chords can be written in three different **inversions**. The inversion depends on which note is the bass (lowest) note. Composers use different inversions to give variety, structure and strength to their music. Here is a C major chord in **root position**, **first inversion** and **second inversion**:



### How to label a chord

**Roman numerals** tell us whether the chord is the tonic (I), supertonic (II), subdominant (IV) or dominant (V) and **letters** indicate the inversion: **a** = root position; **b** = 1st inversion and **c** = 2nd inversion.



Ia in  
C major

IIb in  
F major

IVc in  
G major

Va in  
A major

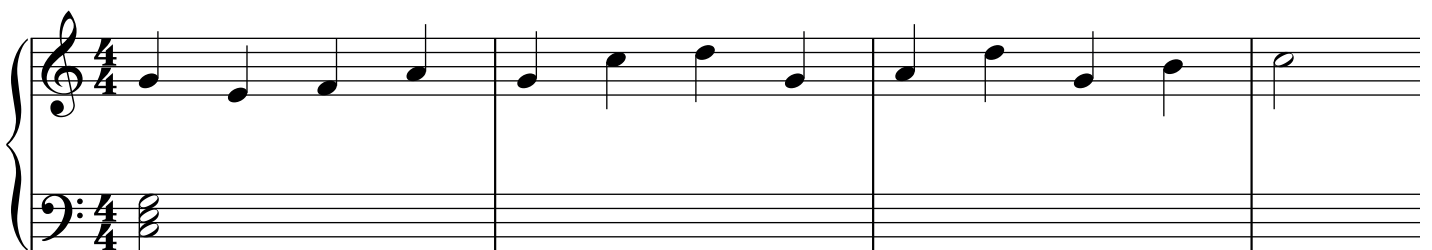
### Top tips

- What is the key?
- What are the notes in the chord? Put them in scale order.
- Which degree of the scale is it built on (I, II, IV or V)?
- Which note is the bass: the root (a), 3rd (b) or 5th (c)?
- Combine the numeral and the letter and, *hey presto*, you'll have the answer!



- 1 Create your own accompaniment to this melody by writing out the specified chords on the bass-clef stave as minims. The first chord has been written for you.

### Chorale for a Friday afternoon



IVc

Ia

Vb

IVb

Va

Ia

13 How many signs and symbols can you find in Theory World? (Can you spot Pesantesaurus, Theory Robot, Theory Monster and Theory Man too?)



Theory World created by Jean Cockburn