

Beginning Chords Class

SHORT HISTORY OF MUSIC

WHAT IS A CHORD

HOW TO LEARN CHORDS

NAMING CHORDS

*PRACTICE

USE CHORDS IN MUSIC

*PRACTICE

SONGS

History

When playing a tone on the piano, there are other tones that are sympathetic, in other words, other tones that ring at the same time. This system of sympathetic tones is called the overtone series.

When studying the overtone series and how it applies to the foundation of music you will begin to have an idea of how a composer's mind works. Yes, the "Great Composers" have a thorough knowledge of music and the fascination is that they can use music "math", building great structures, and at the same time build such beautiful sounds and melodies. COMBINING MUSIC THEORY WITH CREATIVITY

The overtone scale series was built from nature and its development to the tempered piano came into existence only in the last 300 years. We use tempered instruments today, which means that they were tampered with to give us the 12 major scales. The overtone scale we use today actually comes from the fundamental C string. There are overtone scales that we can not use with our system of twelve major scales.

View of the Overtone Series



If you strike the low C, the C above sounds, then the G sounds, then middle C sounds, and then the E above sounds.

Music is the study and application sounds vibrating. Now how does this relate to Chords?

If you put the notes together from the example above, you have 3 different notes, C-E-G. These tones are all sympathetic to each other and "sound together".

History

We also have to think of the instrument used to create these vibrations.

BACH



Bach's instrument was mainly the organ. Now the organ doesn't have strings, it uses air rushing in through pipes. When we strike a tone on the organ, as soon as we lift our finger off the key, it disappears. Therefore, Bach would have to hold tones with 1 finger while playing other tones so that tones could be played and would sound together.

Mozart



The pianos in Mozart's time were just the opposite. Once you struck a key, it rang and rang. If there were many tones struck at the same time. Therefore, Mozart wrote more linear to avoid the vibrations of tones that would not sound together.

Beethoven



The pianos in Beethoven's time included the pedal. Oh, this meant we could play controlled vibrations, holding tones together, or stopping the vibration of tones by lifting the pedal.

With the pedal we can play groups of notes and move from 1 group to the next without sympathetic vibrations. Jazz is a very popular form of movement stretching the limits of the overtones.

Synopsis: In our era, music is written according to the overtone series, including the 12 major and minor scales, plus, the evolutions of our musical instruments.

What are chords?

Chords are a group of notes that are named by a symbol. See the symbol and you know what notes to play.

In traditional classical music, the music is always written out in notes on the sheet music.. Due to our jazz history, we have come to simplify the writing of notes, and use a symbol to tell us which group of notes to play, and all of the notes do not have to be written on the sheet music.

This is very easy to learn.....

When we see the symbol C, we automatically will play C-E-G together as a group of notes. When we see the symbol G, we automatically will play G-B-D together as a group of notes. When we see the symbol D, we automatically will play D-F#-A together as a group of notes.

The music theory behind chords comes from scales, there are 12 major scales and 12 major chords. This simple theory is taught in the Intermediate Lessons.

But.....we can start to learn chords just by memorizing the symbol and the notes in the chords and again, it's very easy.

Since you are beginners, we want to get you playing the piano:

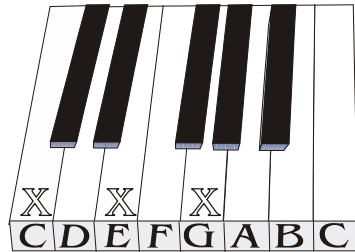
- Playing hands together
- Developing hand and eye control by playing greater distances on the piano
- Perfecting Rhythm
- Strengthen hands and fingers.

Once we learn chords, we will be able to analyze all music and it will be simpler to learn because we are thinking in groups of notes, not reading single notes. All composers write in chords whether linear or blocked.

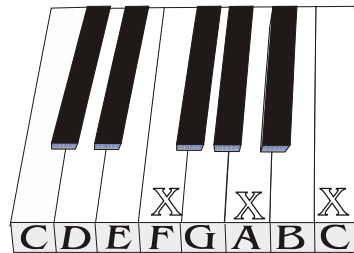
How to learn chords

In this class we are going to learn the simplest chords, learn how to practice them, and play them with songs. SO HERE WE GO:

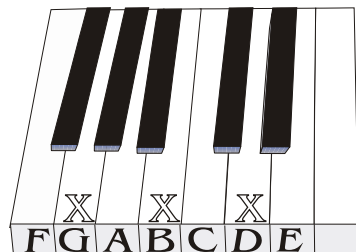
C CHORD = C-E-G



F CHORD = F-A-C



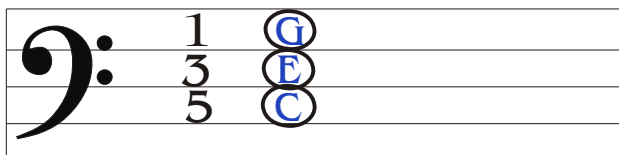
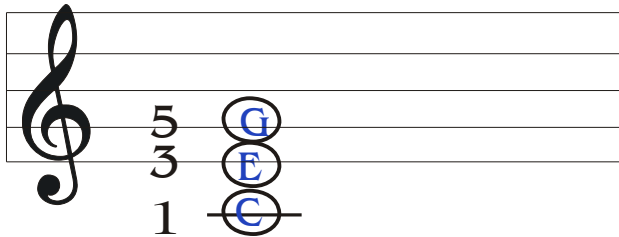
G CHORD = G-B-D



How to learn chords

Notice that the chords use every other white note.

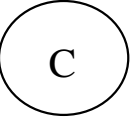
Therefore, using every other finger is easy on the hand.

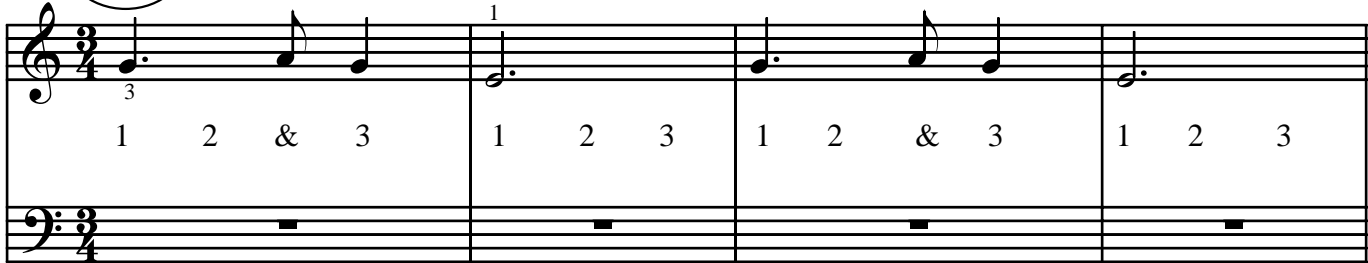


We use these fingers because it is easy on the hand and balances the fingers.

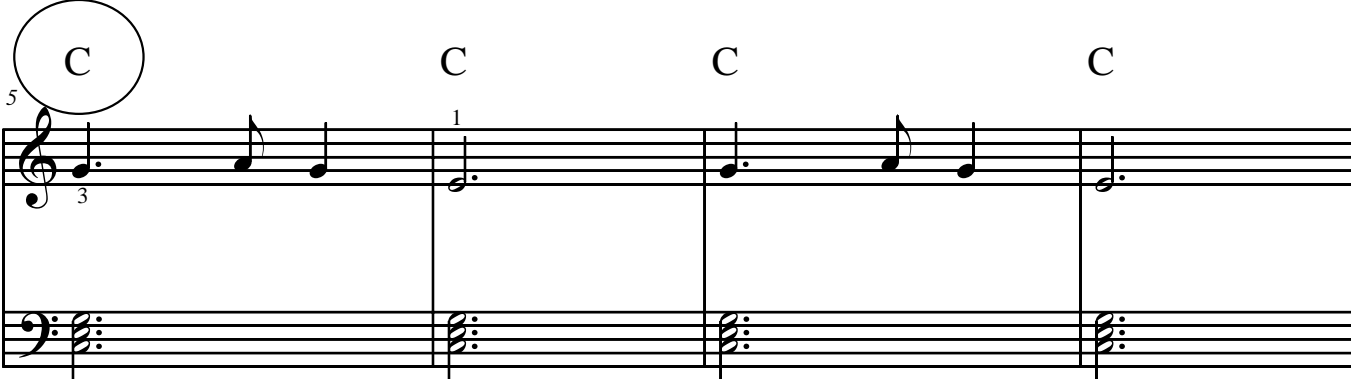
How to play Chords

The Chord symbol C represents a group of notes called C Chord.
You will play C-E-G together

1. 



2. This is what you will play in the left hand.



How to play Chords

PRACTICING THE CHORDS IN THE LEFT HAND

9 C F G

C-E-G F-A-C G-B-D

Practicing the chords in the left hand

1. Start by moving only the 5 finger

12

5 5 5

2. Next practice the complete chords in the left hand

15 C F G

1 3 5 1 3 5 1 3 5

RULE: Change the pedal every time you change a chord.

How to play Chords

Silent Night

18

C C C C G G

1 2 & 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3

24

C C F F C C G

31

G C C C G C