

Bite size Composition

THEME - Building chords from other modes & Harmonic Rhythm.

Yes, you guessed it, same process as before, this time using any **mode** of your choosing. If you are unsure about what a mode is check out day 3 - Modal Noodling.

For this exercise, set your levers to C Major - (no sharps or flats) but instead of starting on no.1 of C Major (C) we start on no.2 (D) this will give us the **Dorian Mode** so we now have a scale that goes:

D E F G A B C D.

1. Make your chord chart for that key = **write out the scale** you are working with and stacking up the root position shape on each

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

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

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

note, for the scale above it will

look like this:

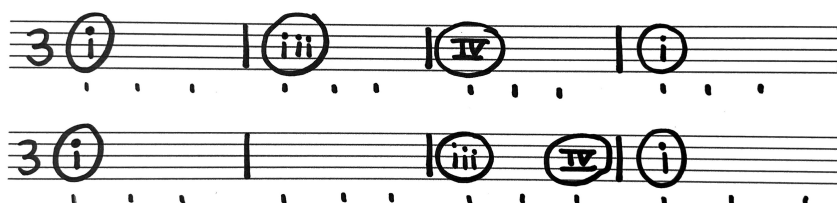
(By writing out the scale of the key we have chosen to work in, putting numbers underneath and then stacking the tonic triads on top we can see the chords we have available within our key and their place by number)

2. Play up and down the scale listening to the chords, as before 1 is the most important chord for establishing the key and resolving at the end.

3. Play some common chord progressions. Try playing these common chord progressions to get you started **i - VII - i** (drunken sailor) **i - III - IV - i**. (Lots of folkie things)

4. Create your own chord progression - play around with jumping chord to chord to find a pattern you like the sound of. **Jot them down**, Roman numerals are often used to show chords and using upper & lower case helps show the type of chord (Major/minor/etc) but don't worry too much about that, if you're not sure just focus on the numbers.

5. **Harmonic Rhythm** - think about how often you'd like the chords to change, first beat of every bar? Every other bar, every beat? It is totally up to you, here are some examples of different harmonic rhythms. I've used 3 beats in a bar with this one but try different times too.



In the second example chord 1 carries on until the next chord symbol, but you can write it in the next bar too if you want to, generally it's assumed to be the same chord until a change is made.