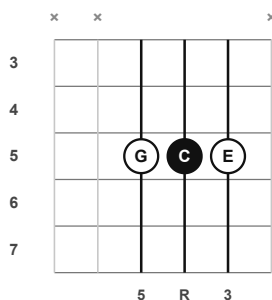
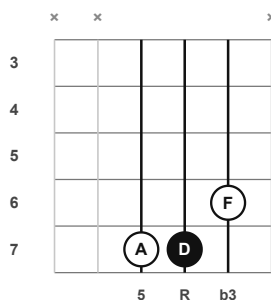


The seven diatonic triads of C major in one position

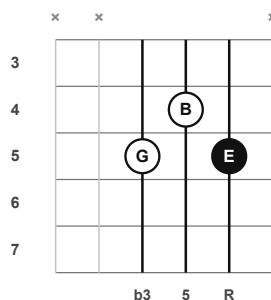
Strings D, G, B, frets 3 to 7. Every triad of the key has exactly one fingering here, and each shares two notes with the triads a third above and below it.



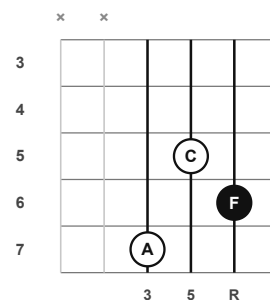
I C major. C, E, G, frets 5-5-5.



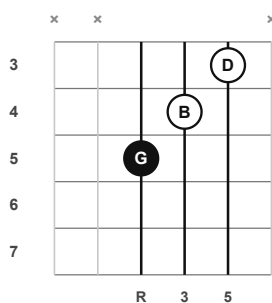
ii D minor. D, F, A, frets 7-7-6.



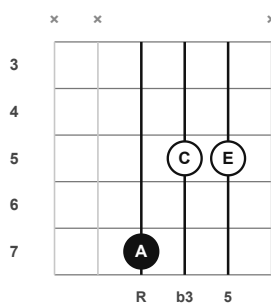
iii E minor. E, G, B, frets 5-4-5.



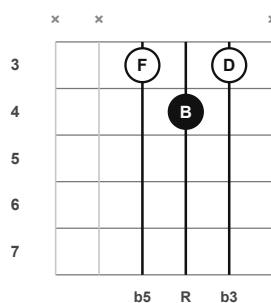
IV F major. F, A, C, frets 7-5-6.



V G major. G, B, D, frets 5-4-3.



vi A minor. A, C, E, frets 7-5-5.



vii° B diminished. B, D, F, frets 3-4-3.

Play this first. C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bdim, one after the other, in degree order from C up to Bdim, then back down. Slowly, one triad per beat, naming every note you play and which degree of the key it belongs to.

Listen for the quality of each: the major triads (C, F, G) bright, the minor triads (Dm, Em, Am) darker, the Bdim, the only diminished one, unstable.

"four five major two three six are minor and the only degree that is diminished is the seventh degree."

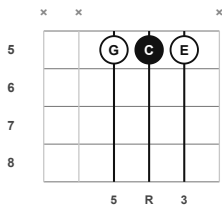
Daniel Weiss, in a lesson (3 August 2026)

Free lesson, weissguitar.com/master-diatonic-movement-guitar-chord-changes/. Standard tuning. Filled dot = root (R).

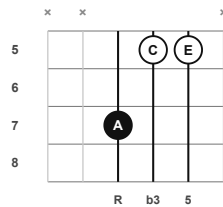
Not sure what to practice next? Take the free 3-minute assessment: weissguitar.com/diagnostic/?from=pdf_master-diatonic-movement-guitar-chord-changes

Voice leading: the I, vi, ii, vii chain

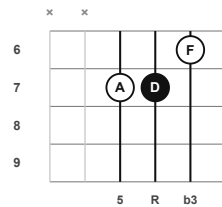
C, Am, Dm, Bdim and back to C. Keep the common tones where they are and move the rest by a step: one, two or three notes change each time, and you arrive at C in root position, higher on the neck.



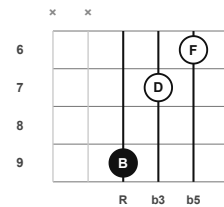
C major. G, C, E. Start here.



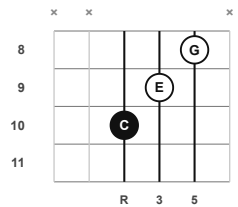
A minor. A, C, E. G up to A.



D minor. A, D, F. C up to D, E up to F.



B diminished. B, D, F. A up to B.



C major (up). C, E, G. B up to C, D up to E, F up to G.

Play this. C major at frets 5-5-5. Move the G up to A: A minor. Move C to D and E to F: D minor. Move the A up to B: B diminished. Then B to C, D to E, F to G, and you are back at C major, root position, higher on the neck, at 10-9-8. Start again from there.

Listen for the note that stays, and for how it changes meaning when the chord underneath it changes.

"I'm gravitating back to the same note, but I am giving it new meaning because the background has changed. So the human ear finds that very pleasing."

Daniel Weiss, in a lesson (3 August 2026)

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