

# CHORD LESSON

## CHORD RELATIONSHIPS

**A.** One of the very first lessons in the beginner Ukulele class is the introduction of the “TRIAD”... If you align the Root of any CHORD alphabetically in seven steps, ie...

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

That is the Key of C Family...

**B.** The Triad for any Root is 1 4 and 5... In the Key of C that would be

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| C |   |   | F | G |   |   |

There are a few rules in music theory, they are not hard fast rules but are “NORMAL” rules.

1. The chords from 1 to 7 have a “NORMAL” value.

|       |       |       |       |       |       |            |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7          |
| MAJOR | minor | minor | MAJOR | MAJOR | minor | Diminished |

2. The number 5 chord is “NORMALLY” a 7<sup>th</sup> chord

3. The number 6 chord is called the Relative Minor chord

4. The number 7 chord is NORMALLY a Diminished chord

|          |       |       |       |       |       |       |            |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
|          | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7          |
|          | MAJOR | minor | minor | MAJOR | MAJOR | minor | Diminished |
| Key of C | C     | Dm    | Em    | F     | G7    | Am    | Bdim       |
| Key of D | D     | Em    | Fm    | G     | A7    | Bm    | Cdim       |
| Key of F | F     | Gm    | Am    | Bb    | C7    | Dm    | Edim       |
| Key of G | G     | Am    | Bm    | C     | D7    | Em    | Fdim       |

## CHORD PROGRESSIONS

**A.** In most songs the normal chord progression is 1 4 5 6, meaning you can play most songs with those 4 chords once you know the Key of the song.

**B.** In many early 50's (ROCK & ROLL) songs the chord progression is 1 6 4 5, ie... BOOK OF LOVE, I WANT YOU I NEED YOU, IN THE STILL OF THE NIGHT, LET'S TWIST AGAIN, LOLLIPOP, SH-BOOM, SILHOUTTES, TEARS ON MY PILLOW, A TEENAGER IN LOVE, and many, many more... meaning you can “ROCK ON” with those 4 chords once you know the Key of the song.

**C.** There are many chords that step you to the second chord, no magic rule but the step from the root to the 4 chord can be done with the Root7, ie... C C7 F, F F7 Bb, G G7 C, D D7 G

**D.** A common vamp or intro is the chord progression of changing the 2 chord to a 7<sup>th</sup> then 5 and 1, ie. HUKILAU intro G7 C7 F, JUST BECAUSE intro D7 G7 C, ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT A7 D7 G,