



Exercises: Chord Functions

Exercise 1 Label the function

In C major: C is ____ (tonic/subdominant/dominant)

F is ____

G is ____

Exercise 2 Match them

Tonic feels like: home / tension / departure

Dominant feels like: home / tension / departure

Subdominant feels like: home / tension / departure

Exercise 3 Write a progression by function

Write a progression that goes: Tonic Subdominant Dominant Tonic

In C: ____ ____ ____ ____

Exercise 4 Identify

In the progression C–Am–F–G, which chord is functioning as the dominant? ____

Exercise 5 Play and feel

Play I–V–I and then I–IV–I. Describe the difference in tension.

Practice tip

Say the function out loud as you play each chord — “tonic... dominant... tonic”.