

TRIADS: The 1st Inversion



ANY ROOT POSITION TRIAD MAY BE INVERTED BY MOVING THE ROOT TO THE TOP.

ROOT

C E G BECOMES E G C



LETTER NAMES ARE THE SAME, BUT THE ROOT IS ON TOP.
THE 3rd OF THE TRIAD IS NOW ON THE BOTTOM!
This is called the 1st INVERSION.

1. In the measure following each ROOT POSITION triad, write the same triad in the 1st INVERSION.

2. Play the TOP LINE above with the R.H. Use 1 3 5 on the ROOT POSITION triads.
Use 1 2 5 on the 1st INVERSION triads.
3. Play the BOTTOM LINE above with the L.H. Use 5 3 1 on the ROOT POSITION triads.
Use 5 3 1 also on the 1st INVERSION triads.

Triads in the 1st INVERSION look like this:
When a triad has this appearance, the note at the TOP of the interval of a 4th is the ROOT!

ROOT

INTERVAL OF A 4th

INTERVAL OF A 3rd

4. Draw an arrow (←) pointing to the ROOT of each triad in No. 1, above.

Chorale

5. Using the notes given below as ROOTS, add 2 notes below each to make 1st INVERSION triads.
6. Play. Use R.H. 1 2 5 on the notes in treble clef. Use L.H. 5 3 1 on the notes in bass clef.

Adagio

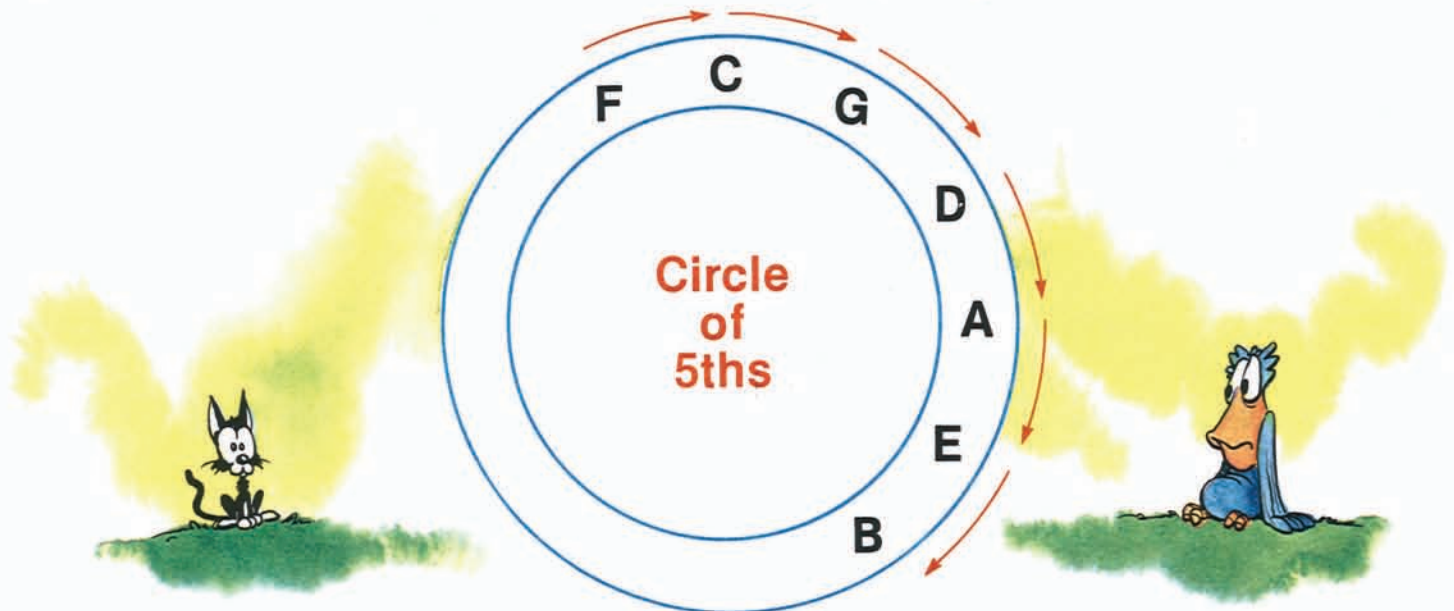
f-p

Beginning: The Circle of 5ths

Assign with pages 16-17.

The CIRCLE OF 5ths is useful in understanding scales, key signatures, and chord progressions. The notes of the circle of 5ths are a PERFECT FIFTH (7 half steps) apart.

The NATURAL NOTES in the circle of 5ths are **F C G D A E B**, moving **CLOCKWISE** around the circle.



Below are the NATURAL NOTES of the CIRCLE OF 5ths, moving **CLOCKWISE**, as they appear on the keyboard.

1. Write a WHOLE NOTE on the staff below for each key indicated on the keyboard, going up the keyboard in PERFECT 5ths. (A PERFECT 5th = 7 HALF STEPS.)
2. Play the notes, using L.H. or R.H. 3.

Fat Cats Go Down Alleys, Eating Bread!



3. MEMORIZE the natural notes of the circle of 5ths:

F C G D A E B

Inverting V⁷ Chords on the Keyboard

THE CHORDS IN THE LEFT COLUMN ARE V⁷ CHORDS WITH OMITTED 5ths.

- Write the letter names on the 2 keyboards in the next 2 columns, showing the 2 inversions of each chord.



ROOT POSITION	INVERSIONS	
L.H. 5 3 1 R.H. 1 2 5	L.H. 5 2 1 R.H. 1 4 5	L.H. 4 3 1 R.H. 1 2 4

- PLAY each chord in any convenient place on the keyboard, first with L.H., then with R.H. Use the fingering shown at the top of each column.

THE CHORDS IN THE LEFT COLUMN ARE V⁷ CHORDS WITH OMITTED 3rds.

- Write the letter names on the 2 keyboards in the next 2 columns showing the 2 inversions of each chord.

ROOT POSITION	INVERSIONS	
L.H. 5 2 1 R.H. 1 3 5	L.H. 4 2 1 R.H. 1 3 4	L.H. 5 4 1 R.H. 1 2 5

- PLAY each chord in any convenient place on the keyboard, first with L.H., then with R.H. Use the fingering shown at the top of each column.