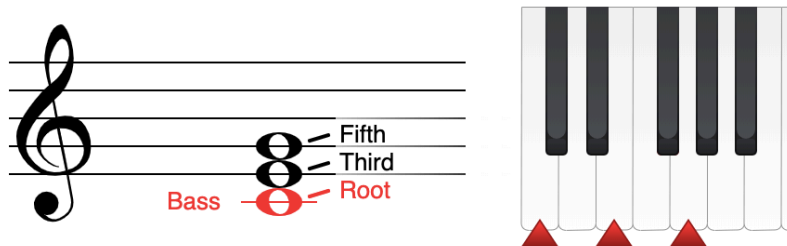


Musical knowledge 4: a cappella

Definitions and theory

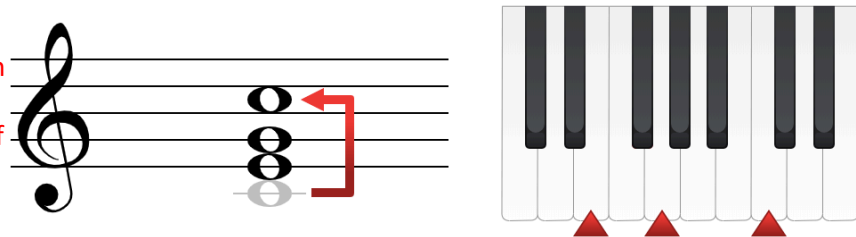
1. **A cappella** = music sung by voices alone: no instruments
2. **Key** = the set of notes used to create the music. Can be **major** (sounds happy) or **minor** (sounds sad)
3. **Inversion** = when you shuffle the order of the chord notes:

Root position chords follow the 4+3 or 3+4 pattern.

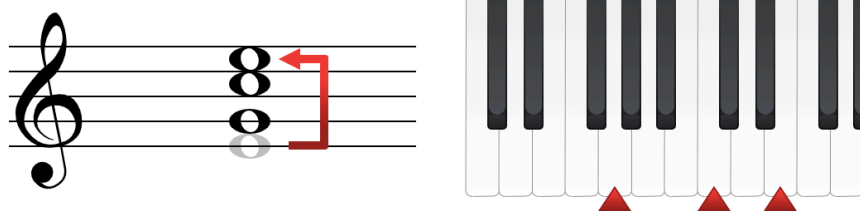


C major chord in **root position** (called this because the root note is in the bass (at the bottom))

C major chord in **first inversion** - now the **third** of the chord is in the bass.



C major chord in **second inversion** - now the **fifth** of the chord is in the bass.



These are all C major chords because they have C E and G in them.

Types of voices

1. **Soprano** = the highest female voice
2. **Treble** = a boy's unchanged voice
3. **Alto** = a lower female voice
4. **Tenor** = a high male voice
5. **Bass** = a low male voice

Articulation

Articulation is *how* the notes are played/sung.

ARTICULATION

Strummed – on a guitar or ukulele, playing

all the notes of a chord

Finger-picking – on guitar or uke, playing individual notes **one at a time**

Sustained – notes that are **held on**

Stab – a **short, accented chord**

Staccato – **short, detached** notes

Legato – notes that join **smoothly** together

Slurred – on a voice/wind instrument, going from one pitch to another **without articulating** the new note

Pizzicato – on a violin or cello, **plucking** the string

Arco – on a violin or cello, using the **bow**

Accents – notes that are **louder** than the surrounding notes