

Modulating 4/5 Chord

(1, 4, 5 chords and the 4/5)

Example I. shows the 1, 4, 5 chords in every key, but also shows in the 1st beat of the second measure on each line the 4 chord with the 5 in the bass. This chord is highly useful in making smooth modulations and transitions. Example II, begininng in measure 40, shows ways to move from the key of C to every other key using the 4/5 chord and common tones to make the transition. Memorize these chords and study the simple, but effective modulation examples to make them your own.

Example I. Showing the 4/5 chord in all keys

The musical score consists of four staves, each representing a different key signature. The first staff (measures 1-3) is in C major (4/4 time). The second staff (measures 4-6) is in D minor (4/4 time). The third staff (measures 7-9) is in G major (4/4 time). The fourth staff (measures 10-12) is in E minor (4/4 time). Each staff contains six measures. In each measure, the top line shows a chord progression (C, F, G, F/G, Gsus, G, C; Db, Gb, Ab, Gb/Ab, Absus, Ab, Db; D, G, A, G/A, Asus, A, D; Eb, Ab, Bb, Ab/Bb, Bbsus, Bb, Eb) and the bottom line shows a bass line consisting of quarter notes. Measure numbers 1, 4, 7, and 10 are indicated above the staves.

(Modulating 4/5 chord)

3

13 E A B A/B B sus B E

16 F B♭ C B♭/C C sus C F

19 F♯ B C♯ B/C♯ C♯sus C♯ F♯

22 G C D C/D D sus D G

25 A♭ D♭ E♭ D♭/E♭ E♭sus E♭ A♭

(Modulating 4/5 chord)

28 A D E D/E Esus E A

31 A D E D/E Esus E A

34 B♭ E♭ F E♭/F F sus F B♭

37 B E F♯ E/F♯ F♯sus F♯ B

Example II. Showing how to use the 4/5 chord to modulate from C to every key.

40 C G♭/A♭ A♭sus A♭ D♭

(Modulating 4/5 chord)

5

43 C G/A A sus A D 8

46 C A♭/B♭ B♭sus B♭ E♭

49 C A/B B sus B E

52 C B♭/C C sus C F 8

55 C B/C♯ C♯sus C♯ F♯ 8

6

(Modulating 4/5 chord)

58 C C/D D sus D G

61 C D♭/E♭ E♭sus E♭ A♭

64 C D/E Esus E A

67 C E♭/F Fsus F B♭

70 C E/F♯ F♯sus F♯ B