

# TRIAD CHORD CONSTRUCTION

## SECTION ONE: “Consonance & Dissonance”

The terms “CONSONANCE & DISSONANCE”, refer to the relative emotional qualities of musical sounds.

CONSONANCE: May be described as a feeling of stability or relaxation.

DISSONANCE: May be described as a feeling of activity or tension.

### CONSONANT INTERVALS:

P8 P4 P5  
Ma & Mi 3rd  
Ma & Mi 6th

### DISSONANT INTERVALS:

Ma & Mi 2nd  
Ma & Mi 7th  
All Augmented & Diminished

Memorize all of the Consonant & Dissonant Intervals.

## SECTION TWO: “Triad Chords”

A chord is the result of 3 or more tones sounding together. A triad is a 3 note chord consisting of the intervals of a 3rd & 5th above the lowest pitch tone, (called the root). A triad's name is established when analyzing all of the triad's tones from its root note.

There are 2 consonant triads.

### **CONSONANT:**

1) The Major Triad: A consonant triad consisting of a Major third and a Perfect 5th above the root.

Example: “C Major” triad = C E G  
  1 3 5

2) The Minor Triad: A consonant triad consisting of a Minor third and a Perfect 5th above the root.

Example: “C Minor” triad: C Eb G  
  1 b3 5

There are 2 dissonant triads.

**DISSONANT:**

3) The Augmented Triad: A dissonant triad consisting of a Major third and an Augmented 5th above the root.

Example: "C Augmented" triad = C E G#  
1 3 #5

4) The Diminished Triad: A dissonant triad consisting of a Minor third and a diminished 5th above the root.

Example: "C Diminished" triad = C Eb Gb  
1 b3 b5

The 4 triad types are based on the different qualities of the 3rd and 5th tones.

**SECTION THREE: "Written Assignments"**

Write the name of each Triad notated on the music staff:



Notate the Triad types that are indicated under the staff:



Check your answers with the, "Triad Lesson Answer Key."