

The EDM Producer's **CHORD** *Progression* Cheat Sheet

Chords that work
well in sequence



EDM Chord Progressions Cheat Sheet

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Remember: Chord progressions are how we build tension and emotion in our tracks.

The Roman Numeral System:

This cheat sheet uses the roman numeral system to show chords. It's a simple way of writing chord progressions down, so that other musicians can understand quickly.

They work regardless of what key the music is in, as they describe the relationships of chords rather than the notes themselves.

If there are 7 notes in a key (for example, in C Major there is "CDEFGAB"), the roman numeral system is used to describe seven chords, each of which is made using one of those notes as a root. The second and third notes in each chord are also from within the same key (AKA "diatonic"). The roman numerals go from 1 to 7 (or "I" to "VII") to represent these chords. Major chords use upper-case numerals, minor chords use lower-case, diminished chords use a superscript "°", augmented chords use a "+", and altered chords use a "#". [Click here](#) for more information on chords,

Tried and Tested Chord Progressions:

Some chords work well together, and some not so well. Here are some tried and tested chord relationships that work well in sequence, displayed using the roman numeral system:

MAJOR KEYS (I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, vii°):

I chords can appear anywhere in a progression

ii chords lead to I, V, or vii° chords

iii chords lead to I, ii, IV, or vi chords

IV chords lead to I, ii, iii, V, or vii° chords

V chords lead to I or vi chords

vi chords lead to I, ii, iii, IV, or V chords

vii° chords lead to I or iii chords

MINOR KEYS (i, ii°, III, iv, v, VI, VII):

i chords can appear anywhere in a progression

ii° or ii chords lead to i, iii, V, v, vii°, or VII chords

III or III+ chords lead to i, iv, IV, VI, #vi°, vii°, or VI chords

iv or IV chords lead to i, V, v, vii°, or VII chords

V or v chords lead to i, VI or #vi° chords

VI or #vi° chords lead to i, III, III+, iv, IV, V, v, vii°, or VII chords

vii° or VII chords lead to i chord

These ideas are just starting places . Experiment with different chord progressions, and remember that if you're using chords all from within the same key, you can't go far wrong!