

The EDM  
Producer's

**CHORD**



*Progression*

Cheat Sheet

Chords that work  
well in sequence





# EDM Chord Progressions Cheat Sheet

## Chords that work well in sequence

**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!**