

Music 102—Chords and Functions

in diatonic harmony

		Major	Minor
Tonic	T	I, I ⁶	i, i ⁶
Dominant	D	V, vii ^o	V, vii ^o
Dominant Preparation	DP	ii, IV, vi	ii ^o , iv, bVI
Non-Functional	?	iii	bIII, bVII, v

- Root-position and first-inversion I chords and i chords are TONIC
- In most cases, inverting a chord does not affect its function
- However, second-inversion I and i chords are rather more complicated. (Sometimes they are non-functional, and sometimes they get grouped with dominants, but we'll deal with that later.)
- Dominants are chords with *leading tones* in them. In minor, a dominant must have the raised leading tone ($\hat{7}$) of the harmonic minor scale; note that V is dominant, while v is not
- Dominant preparation chords have $\hat{6}$ or $b\hat{6}$ in them
- Any of these triads can be made into a seventh chord by adding one note to the triad; adding a seventh does not change the function. So vii^o is dominant in function, and so is vii^{o7}
- The normal functional progressions are: T–D–T and T–DP–D–T