



Chrome Music Lab: Making More Music with Arpeggios

Ages: 7 - 18

Projected time: 15 - 25min

Supplies needed: Computer with internet access.

Project Intro: Students will learn about chords progressions by making music with the Chrome Lab online application called Arpeggios.

Vocabulary:

Chord: In music, it's a group of three or more notes sounded together.

Arpeggio: The notes of a chord played one after another.

Keys: In music theory, the key of a piece is the group of pitches that forms the basis of a music composition in classical, Western art, and Western pop music.

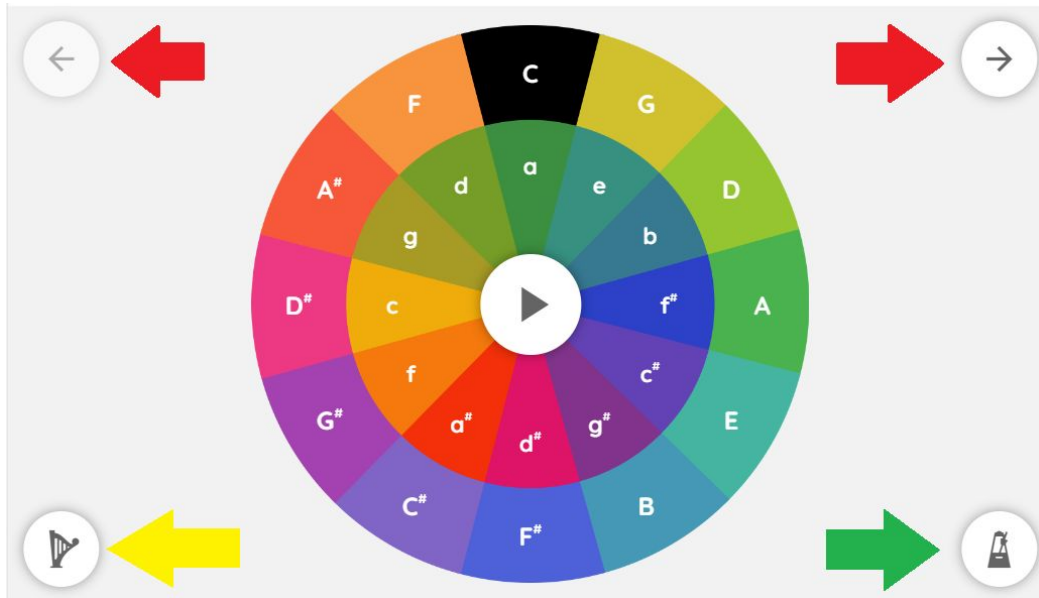
Circle of Fifths: A graphical representation of the relationship among the 12 tones of the chromatic scale, their corresponding key signatures, and the associated major and minor keys.

Major chord: a major chord is a chord that has a root, major third, and perfect fifth. When a chord has these three notes alone, it is called a major triad. Alone, a major chord can sound happy.

Minor chord: a minor chord is a chord having a root, a minor third, and a perfect fifth. When a chord has these three notes alone, it is called a minor triad. Alone, a minor chord can sound sad.

PART 1: The Arpeggios Window

Visit this website: [Chrome Music Lab: Arpeggios](https://chromemusiclab.com/arpeggios)



Red Arrows: Cycles through different arpeggios patterns.

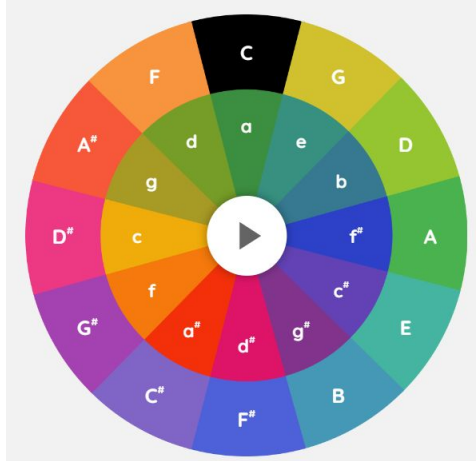
Yellow Arrow: Cycles through different sounds used for the arpeggios.

Green Arrow: Brings up the tempo window that lets you decide the tempo/speed.



Above the main window is your arpeggio window. This window shows you which notes, from the chosen chord, are being played by the arpeggio.

The notes are color coded using twelve different colors for twelve different notes.



The outer circle are all happy major chords.

The inner circle are all sad minor chords.

In the center you have the PLAY and PAUSE button.

PART 2: Making Music

1. The following chord progression comes from the famous Bach piece called *Prelude in C Major*.

Here's the piece performed by youtuber Rousseau: [Prelude in C Major, BWV 846](#)

2. The goal here is to attempt to recreate the prelude by using the Arpeggio app. We'll break it down into four sections before we play the whole thing.
3. Select C major on the circle of fifths and press play
4. When ready, take your time and play this progression left to right, top to bottom:

Cmajor - Dminor - Gmajor - Cmajor -

Aminor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor -

Aminor - Dmajor - Gmajor.

5. Practice step four until it becomes easy to play the progression.
6. Now play just the following progression:

Gminor - Dminor - Fminor - Cmajor -

Fmajor - Dminor - Gmajor - Cmajor.

7. Practice step six until it becomes easy to play the progression.

8. Now play just the following progression:

Fmajor - Aminor - Bminor - Gmajor -

Cmajor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cminor.

9. Again, practice until it becomes easy to play.

10. Now we can practice the final section:

Cmajor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor

Fmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor.

11. Now put it all together:

Cmajor - Dminor - Gmajor - Cmajor -

Aminor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor -

Aminor - Dmajor - Gmajor.

Gminor - Dminor - Fminor - Cmajor -

Fmajor - Dminor - Gmajor - Cmajor.

Fmajor - Aminor - Bminor - Gmajor -

Cmajor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cminor.

Cmajor - Dmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor

Fmajor - Gmajor - Cmajor.