

Roman Numerals

Each chord in a key can be ID'd by a roman numeral associated with its ROOT: (use uppercase for Major, use lowercase for minor or diminished)

Generic major key:

Fifth	G	A	B	C	D	E	F
Third	E	F	G	A	B	C	D
Root	C	D	E	F	G	A	B
Solfege of root	Do	Re	Mi	Fa	So	La	Ti
Roman numeral	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°

(Memorize these, which ones are major and which ones are minor is pretty set for major, assuming there's no accidentals thrown in.)

Generic minor key: (LOTS of variation because of the la/le, ti/te situation:

Fifth	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
Third	C	D	D	E	E	F	F#	G#	A	A	B	B
Root	A	B	B	C	C	D	D	E	F	F#	G	G#
Solfege of root	Do	Re	Re	Me	Me	Fa	Fa	So	Le	La	Te	Ti
Roman numeral	i	ii°	ii	III	III+	iv	IV	V	VI	vi°	VII	vii°

(Obviously, this is a lot more to memorize! At least memorize the ones in **bold**, but be prepared for anything.) Note the the V chord is major and there's no version shown with a G, indicating "te" as the third. This is because in the "common practice style" of Bach, THIS WILL NEVER HAPPEN. They'll always slap an accidental in there to give you "ti", so that the V chord can be major.

Can a roman numeral be a seventh chord? **WHY YES IT CAN.** It can be shown with an inversion sign, just like when you're giving the letter names of chords. It is quite common to find a Mm7 chord on V, making it a V7.....

These roman numerals can now be substituted for chord names when you're analyzing chords in a song. **Make sure to add inversion signs if needed!**