

# Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

Bill Cunliffe

## 1 basic LH root movements

Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

## 2 Bud Powell "shell" voicings

Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

2

3 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

2 note 3-7 voicings

4 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

5 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Musical notation for exercise 5, first system. Treble clef: Am7 (A2, C3, E3), D7 (F#2, A2, C3), Gm7 (Bb1, D2, F2), C7 (E2, G2, Bb2), Fm7 (Ab1, C2, Eb2), Bb7 (Db1, F2, Ab2), Ebm7 (Gb1, Bb1, D2), Ab7 (Cb1, Eb2, Gb2), C#m7 (D#2, F#2, A2), F#7 (A#2, C#3, E3), Bm7 (D2, F#2, A2), E7 (G#2, B2, D3). Bass clef: Am7 (A2), D7 (F#2), Gm7 (Bb1), C7 (E2), Fm7 (Ab1), Bb7 (Db1), Ebm7 (Gb1), Ab7 (Cb1), C#m7 (D#2), F#7 (A#2), Bm7 (D2), E7 (G#2). Fingerings: 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, #4, #1, 4, 1.

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 5, second system. Treble clef: Bbm7 (Db1, Fb2, Ab2), Eb7 (Gb1, Bb1, D2), Abm7 (Cb1, Eb2, Gb2), Db7 (Fb2, Ab2, Cb3), F#m7 (A#2, C#3, E3), B7 (D3, F#3, A3), Em7 (G2, Bb2, D3), A7 (C#3, E3, G#3), Dm7 (F2, Ab2, C3), G7 (B2, D3, F#3), Cm7 (Eb2, Gb2, Bb2), F7 (A2, C3, E3), Bbmaj7 (Db1, Fb2, Ab2, Bb3). Bass clef: Bbm7 (Db1), Eb7 (Gb1), Abm7 (Cb1), Db7 (Fb2), F#m7 (A#2), B7 (D3), Em7 (G2), A7 (C#3), Dm7 (F2), G7 (B2), Cm7 (Eb2), F7 (A2), Bbmaj7 (Db1, Bb3). Fingerings: 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1.

hands reversed

6 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 6, first system. Treble clef: Am7 (A2, C3, E3), D7 (F#2, A2, C3), Gmaj7 (G2, B2, D3, E3), Gm7 (Bb1, D2, F2), C7 (E2, G2, Bb2), Fmaj7 (F2, A2, C3, E3), Fm7 (Ab1, C2, Eb2), Bb7 (Db1, F2, Ab2), Ebmaj7 (Eb2, Gb2, Bb3, D3), Ebm7 (Gb1, Bb1, D2), Ab7 (Cb1, Eb2, Gb2), Dbmaj7 (Db1, Fb2, Ab2, Bb3). Bass clef: Am7 (A2), D7 (F#2), Gmaj7 (G2), Gm7 (Bb1), C7 (E2), Fmaj7 (F2), Fm7 (Ab1), Bb7 (Db1), Ebmaj7 (Eb2), Ebm7 (Gb1), Ab7 (Cb1), Dbmaj7 (Db1). Fingerings: 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5.

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 6, second system. Treble clef: C#m7 (D#2, F#2, A2), F#7 (A#2, C#3, E3), Bmaj7 (B2, D3, F#3, A3), Bm7 (D3, F#3, A3), E7 (G#2, B2, D3), Amaj7 (A2, C3, E3, G#3), Bbm7 (Db1, Fb2, Ab2), Eb7 (Gb1, Bb1, D2), Abmaj7 (Eb2, Gb2, Bb3, D3), Abm7 (Cb1, Eb2, Gb2), Db7 (Fb2, Ab2, Cb3), Gbmaj7 (Gb1, Bb3, D3, Fb4). Bass clef: C#m7 (D#2), F#7 (A#2), Bmaj7 (B2), Bm7 (D3), E7 (G#2), Amaj7 (A2), Bbm7 (Db1), Eb7 (Gb1), Abmaj7 (Eb2), Abm7 (Cb1), Db7 (Fb2), Gbmaj7 (Gb1). Fingerings: 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5.

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 6, third system. Treble clef: F#m7 (A#2, C#3, E3), B7 (D3, F#3, A3), Emaj7 (E2, G#2, B2, D3), Em7 (G2, Bb2, D3), A7 (C#3, E3, G#3), Dmaj7 (D2, F#2, A2, C#3), Dm7 (F2, Ab2, C3), G7 (B2, D3, F#3), Cmaj7 (C2, E2, G#2, B2), Cm7 (Eb2, Gb2, Bb2), F7 (A2, C3, E3), Bbmaj7 (Db1, Fb2, Ab2, Bb3). Bass clef: F#m7 (A#2), B7 (D3), Emaj7 (E2), Em7 (G2), A7 (C#3), Dmaj7 (D2), Dm7 (F2), G7 (B2), Cmaj7 (C2), Cm7 (Eb2), F7 (A2), Bbmaj7 (Db1). Fingerings: 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5.

7 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Musical notation for exercise 7, first system. Treble clef: Am7 (A2, C3, E3), D7 (F#2, A2, C3), Gm7 (Bb1, D2, F2), C7 (E2, G2, Bb2), Fm7 (Ab1, C2, Eb2), Bb7 (Db1, F2, Ab2), Ebm7 (Gb1, Bb1, D2), Ab7 (Cb1, Eb2, Gb2), C#m7 (D#2, F#2, A2), F#7 (A#2, C#3, E3), Bm7 (D2, F#2, A2), E7 (G#2, B2, D3). Bass clef: Am7 (A2), D7 (F#2), Gm7 (Bb1), C7 (E2), Fm7 (Ab1), Bb7 (Db1), Ebm7 (Gb1), Ab7 (Cb1), C#m7 (D#2), F#7 (A#2), Bm7 (D2), E7 (G#2). Fingerings: 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 5.

Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

4

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

2 5 2 5 2 5 2 5

8 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

9 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

3 note voicings

10 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 10, first system. Treble clef contains triads for Am7, D7, Gmaj7, Gm7, C7, Fmaj7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Ebm7, Ab7, and Dbmaj7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5.

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 10, second system. Treble clef contains triads for C#m7, F#7, Bmaj7, Bm7, E7, Amaj7, Bbm7, Eb7, Abmaj7, Abm7, Db7, and Gbmaj7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4.

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 10, third system. Treble clef contains triads for F#m7, B7, Emaj7, Em7, A7, Dmaj7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Cm7, F7, and Bbmaj7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5.

11 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Musical notation for exercise 11, first system. Treble clef contains triads for Am7, D7, Gm7, C7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebm7, Ab7, C#m7, F#7, Bm7, and E7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5.

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 11, second system. Treble clef contains triads for Bbm7, Eb7, Abm7, Db7, F#m7, B7, Em7, A7, Dm7, G7, Cm7, F7, and Bbmaj7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5.

12 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 12, first system. Treble clef contains triads for Am7, D7, Gmaj7, Gm7, C7, Fmaj7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Ebm7, Ab7, and Dbmaj7. Bass clef contains single notes with fingerings: 2, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4, 1, 5, 4.

Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

13 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

14 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

15 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

4 note "rootless" voicings (inversion 1)

16 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

C#m7 F#7 Bmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

8

17 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Musical notation for exercise 17, measures 1-6. Treble and bass clefs with chords.

Bbm7 Eb7 Abm7 Db7 F#m7 B7 Em7 A7 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 17, measures 7-12. Treble and bass clefs with chords.

4 note "rootless" voicings (inversion 2)

18 Am7 D7 Gmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab7 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 18, measures 1-6. Treble and bass clefs with chords.

C#m7 F#7 Bbmaj7 Bm7 E7 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db7 Gbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 18, measures 7-12. Treble and bass clefs with chords.

F#m7 B7 Emaj7 Em7 A7 Dmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 18, measures 13-18. Treble and bass clefs with chords.

4 note "rootless" voicings (inversion 2)

19 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebm7 Ab7 C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7

Musical notation for exercise 19, measures 1-6. Treble and bass clefs with chords.



**B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 7    A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 7    F $\sharp$ m7 B7    Em7 A7    Dm7 G7    Cm7 F7    B $\flat$ maj7**

Musical notation for the first exercise, showing chords B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 7, A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 7, F $\sharp$ m7 B7, Em7 A7, Dm7 G7, Cm7 F7, and B $\flat$ maj7. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

**20 harmonic variation on #12**  
**Am7 D13    Gmaj7    Gm7 C13    Fmaj7    Fm7 B $\flat$ 13    E $\flat$ maj7    E $\flat$ m7 A $\flat$ 13    D $\flat$ maj7**

Musical notation for exercise 20, showing chords Am7 D13, Gmaj7, Gm7 C13, Fmaj7, Fm7 B $\flat$ 13, E $\flat$ maj7, E $\flat$ m7 A $\flat$ 13, and D $\flat$ maj7. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

**C $\sharp$ m7 F $\sharp$ 13    Bmaj7    Bm7 E13    Amaj7    B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 13    A $\flat$ maj7    A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 13    G $\flat$ maj7**

Musical notation for the second exercise, showing chords C $\sharp$ m7 F $\sharp$ 13, Bmaj7, Bm7 E13, Amaj7, B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 13, A $\flat$ maj7, A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 13, and G $\flat$ maj7. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

**F $\sharp$ m7 B13    Emaj7    Em7 A13    Dmaj7    Dm7 G13    Cmaj7    Cm7 F13    B $\flat$ maj7**

Musical notation for the third exercise, showing chords F $\sharp$ m7 B13, Emaj7, Em7 A13, Dmaj7, Dm7 G13, Cmaj7, Cm7 F13, and B $\flat$ maj7. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

**21 Am7 D13    Gm7 C13    Fm7 B $\flat$ 13    E $\flat$ m7 A $\flat$ 13    C $\sharp$ m7 F $\sharp$ 13    Bm7 E13**

Musical notation for exercise 21, showing chords Am7 D13, Gm7 C13, Fm7 B $\flat$ 13, E $\flat$ m7 A $\flat$ 13, C $\sharp$ m7 F $\sharp$ 13, and Bm7 E13. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

**B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 13    A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 13    F $\sharp$ m7 B13    Em7 A13    Dm7 G13    Cm7 F13    B $\flat$ maj7**

Musical notation for the fourth exercise, showing chords B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ 13, A $\flat$ m7 D $\flat$ 13, F $\sharp$ m7 B13, Em7 A13, Dm7 G13, Cm7 F13, and B $\flat$ maj7. The notation is presented in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

Basic Keyboard Harmonic Exercises

10

22 Am7 D13 Gmaj7 Gm7 C13 Fmaj7 Fm7 Bb13 Ebmaj7 Ebm7 Ab13 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 22, measures 1-8. The exercise is in C minor. The first four measures are: Am7 (A2, C3, E3, G3), D13 (F2, A2, C3, E3, G3, Bb3), Gmaj7 (Bb2, D3, F3, Ab3), Gm7 (Bb2, D3, F3, Ab3). The next four measures are: Fmaj7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Fm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Bb13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4), Ebmaj7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3). The final two measures are: Ebm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Ab13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4), and Dbmaj7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3).

C#m7 F#13 Bmaj7 Bm7 E13 Amaj7 Bbm7 Eb13 Abmaj7 Abm7 Db13 Gbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 22, measures 9-16. The exercise is in C# minor. The first four measures are: C#m7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), F#13 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2, D#3, F#3), Bmaj7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Bm7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2). The next four measures are: E13 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2, D#3, F#3), Amaj7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Bbm7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Eb13 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2, D#3, F#3). The final two measures are: Abmaj7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Abm7 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), and Db13 (C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2, D#3, F#3).

F#m7 B13 Emaj7 Em7 A13 Dmaj7 Dm7 G13 Cmaj7 Cm7 F13 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 22, measures 17-24. The exercise is in F# minor. The first four measures are: F#m7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), B13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Emaj7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), Em7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2). The next four measures are: A13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Dmaj7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), Dm7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), G13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2). The final two measures are: Cmaj7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), Cm7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), and Bbmaj7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2).

23 Am7 D13 Gm7 C13 Fm7 Bb13 Ebm7 Ab13 C#m7 F#13 Bm7 E13

Musical notation for exercise 23, measures 1-8. The exercise is in C minor. The first four measures are: Am7 (A2, C3, E3, G3), D13 (F2, A2, C3, E3, G3, Bb3), Gm7 (Bb2, D3, F3, Ab3), C13 (F2, A2, C3, E3, G3, Bb3). The next four measures are: Fm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Bb13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4), Ebm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Ab13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4).

Bbm7 Eb13 Abm7 Db13 F#m7 B13 Em7 A13 Dm7 G13 Cm7 F13 Bbmaj7

Musical notation for exercise 23, measures 9-16. The exercise is in C minor. The first four measures are: Bbm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Eb13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4), Abm7 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3), Db13 (Ab2, C3, Eb3, Gb3, Bb3, D4). The next four measures are: F#m7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), B13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Em7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), A13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2). The final two measures are: Dm7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), G13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2), Cm7 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2), and F13 (F#2, A#2, C#2, E#2, G#2, B#2).