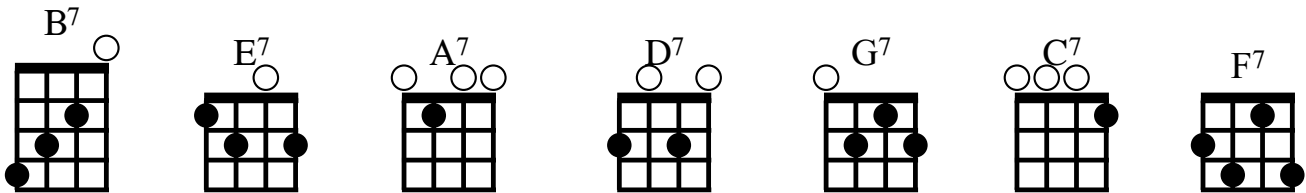


Dominant Chords in Cycle of 4ths

(7 out of 12 keys)

By Gordon Lustig



These types of chords, the ones with a letter and 7, create tension that want to resolve. Each "dominant" chord wants to resolve 4 scale tones forward. If the resolution chord is also a dominant chord then THAT chord will want to resolve up 4 scale tones too! The resolution feels more settled when we land on a chord that is NOT a dominant chord, ie C or Am.

These dominant chords are the "MOTOR" of music that keep propelling the music forward.

MEMORIZE this pattern:

B - E - A - D - G - C - F

The rest of the pattern would be:

Bb - Eb - Ab - Db - Gb or F# then back to B - E - A etc.

If you place these 12 chords in a circle you have the

CIRCLE OF 4THS/5THS!!!