

Harmonies by bass scale degree

Kris Shaffer

Common harmonies for diatonic chords (most passing chords omitted)

Bass scale degree	Functional bass	Figured bass	Roman numeral
<i>do</i>	T1		I
	S1	4/2	II
<i>re</i>	S2		II
	D2(p)	6/4/(3)	V
		6/(5)	VII
<i>mi/me</i>	T3	6	I
			III
<i>fa</i>	S4		IV
		6/(5)	II
	D4	4/2	V
<i>sol</i>	D5	(7)	V
		6/4	Cad. or V
	T5(p)	6/4	I (pass.)
<i>la/le</i>	S6	6	IV
	Tx6		VI
<i>te</i>	D7		(b)VII
		6	V
<i>ti</i>	D7	6/(5)	V

Common harmonies for chromatically altered chords

N.B.: For expediency's sake, a sharp sign below means *raised*—whether it is sharp, natural, or double-sharp depends on the key. Likewise, a flat sign (“b”) means *lowered*—whether it is flat, natural, or double-flat depends on the key.

Bass scale degree	Functional bass	Func. bass layer 2	Figured bass	Roman numeral
<i>do</i>	[S1]	D4/V	(#)4/2	V/V
	[T1]	D5/IV	(7)	V/IV
<i>di</i>	[T+1]	D7/II	6/(5)	V/II
			(7)	VII/II
<i>re</i>	[S2]	D5/V	(7)	V/V
<i>ri</i>	[D+2]	D7/III	6/(5)	V/III
<i>mi</i> (in minor)	[T+3]	D7/IV	6/(5)	V/IV
<i>fa</i>	[S4]	N.	b6	N.
<i>fi</i>	[S+4]	D7/V	6/(5)	V/V
<i>si</i>	[D+5]	D7/VI	6/(5)	V/VI
<i>le</i>	[S6]	It.	#6	It. +6
		Fr.	#6/4/3	Fr. +6
		Ger.	#6/5	Ger. +6
<i>te</i>	[T-7]	D4/IV	(#)4/2	VII

Combined chart

N.B.: For expediency's sake, a sharp sign below means *raised*—whether it is sharp, natural, or double-sharp depends on the key. Likewise, a flat sign (“b”) means *lowered*—whether it is flat, natural, or double-flat depends on the key.

Bass scale degree	Functional bass	Func. bass layer 2	Figured bass	Roman numeral
<i>do</i>	T1			I
	S1		4/2	II
	[S1]	D4/V	(#)4/2	V/V
	[T1]	D5/IV	(7)	V/IV
<i>di</i>	[T+1]	D7/II	6/(5) (7)	V/II VII/II
	<i>re</i>	S2		II
D2(p)			6/4/(3) 6/(5)	V VII
[S2]		D5/V	(7)	V/V
<i>ri</i>	[D+2]	D7/III	6/(5)	V/III
<i>mi/me</i>	T3		6	I III
	<i>mi</i> (in minor)	[T+3]	D7/IV	6/(5)
<i>fa</i>	S4		6/(5)	IV II
	D4		4/2	V
	[S4]	N.	b6	N.
<i>fi</i>	[S+4]	D7/V	6/(5)	V/V
<i>sol</i>	D5		(7) 6/4	V Cad. or V
	T5(p)		6/4	I (pass.)
	<i>si</i>	[D+5]	D7/VI	6/(5)
<i>la/le</i>	S6		6	IV
	Tx6			VI
<i>la</i> (in minor)	[S6]		6	IV
<i>le</i>	[S6]	It. Fr. Ger.	#6 #6/4/3 #6/5	It. +6 Fr. +6 Ger. +6
	<i>te</i>	D7		(b)VII V
		[T-7]	D4/IV	6 (#)4/2
<i>ti</i>	D7		6/(5)	V