

NCA09 - Creating Chord Progressions

An example

Replacing with the parallel chord:

When you have a **Major** chord go down two steps in the scale

When you have a **Minor** chord go up two steps in the scale

Replacing with a dominant:

Replace the chord with the dominant for the next chord

The Process

1. First we go down in fifths and end with a II-V-I Cadence with a sus4 variation

C / F / Bdim / Em / Am / Dm / Gsus4 / G

2. We don't like the Bdim chord so much, so we're replacing it with its parallel chord G (We go down two steps in the scale from B to G and find a G major chord there):

C / F / **G** / Em / Am / Dm / Gsus4 / G

That's going to be our first piece

Spicing it up

3. The second time around we're going to put in some dominant chords to spice things up. Let's first replace the fourth chord E-Minor with the dominant for the A-minor.

We go up five steps in the scale from A to E and put an E-Major chord there (The Dominant chord is always a Major chord)

C / F / G / **E** / Am / Dm / Gsus4 / G

4. Then we notice that if we take out the G-Chord the F and E chord will be only one half step apart. Going down a half step is a strong connection so we leave out the G chord:

C / F / **E** / Am / Dm / Gsus4 / G

5. Now we only have 7 chords in the progression so we need to put in one more to close the loop. So let's put in a dominant to the G chord. We go up five steps in the scale from G to D and play a D-Major chord right before the G chord:

C / F / G / E / Am / Dm / **D** / Gsus4 / G

7. Now we have two chord progressions. We're going to put them together like this:

I: C / F / **G** / Em / Am / Dm / Gsus4 / G

C / F / **E** / Am / Dm / D / Gsus4 / G :I

- and then put an extra cadence in the end when we finish it:

F / Fm / C

(This is the Subdominant Major to Minor substitution cadence from NCA08)