

# Triads Moving In Half Steps

To internalize this most effectively, do the two following prep exercises until you are comfortable, before moving on to the main four exercises.

Remember to exercise your mind and not your hands. Don't move your hands faster than you can think!

Play these exercises with a metronome but not any faster than you can visualize. Remember that it is your brain that you are training, not your fingers.

Do not rely on muscle memory. Mentally identify note names and chord names before you play them. This will be slow at first but if you exercise your mind it will get faster.

I have written this for major triads but the routine needs to also be done using minor triads. After you can play this using major and minor triads, you need to go through: major seventh, dominant 7, minor 7, minor 7(b5) chords.

When working on seventh chords the seventh will be played instead of the root as the top note of the chord. For the purposes of this document I am using the natural range of the saxophone.

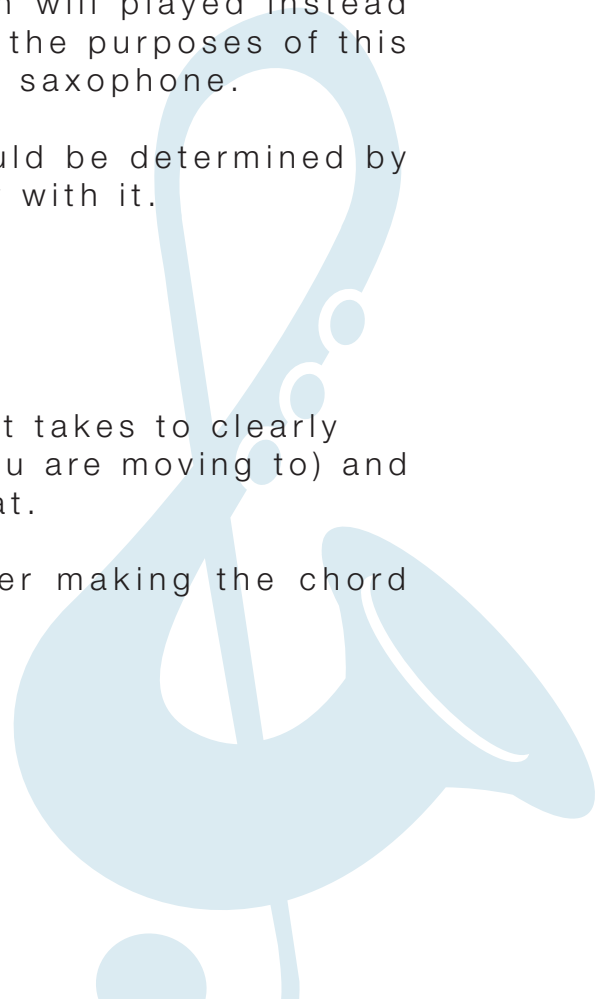
The upper and lower notes that you use should be determined by the limits of your instrument and your facility with it.

## ***Prep. Exercise.***

Repeat each triad (4x), or as many times as it takes to clearly visualize (note names and chord name that you are moving to) and move to the next triad without dropping a beat.

When you need to take a breath take it after making the chord change.

## ***Make it musical.***



# Triads Moving In Half Steps

①

Exercise 1 consists of four staves of musical notation in treble clef. Each staff contains a sequence of triads moving in half steps. The first staff starts with a C major triad (C-E-G) and moves through various keys including D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The second staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The third staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The fourth staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major.

②

Exercise 2 consists of four staves of musical notation in treble clef. Each staff contains a sequence of triads moving in half steps. The first staff starts with a C major triad (C-E-G) and moves through various keys including D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The second staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The third staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major. The fourth staff continues with D major, E major, F major, G major, A major, B major, and C major.

# Triads Moving In Half Steps

## The Next Step

①



Musical notation for exercise 1, consisting of five staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The subsequent staves are in bass clef. The exercise consists of a sequence of triads moving in half steps across the five staves.

②



Musical notation for exercise 2, consisting of five staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The subsequent staves are in bass clef. The exercise consists of a sequence of triads moving in half steps across the five staves.

# Triads Moving In Half Steps

③



Musical score for exercise 3, consisting of five staves of music in treble clef. The music features a sequence of triads moving in half steps, with various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) indicating the specific notes of each triad. The sequence starts with a C major triad and moves through various chromatic alterations.

④



Musical score for exercise 4, consisting of five staves of music in treble clef. The music features a sequence of triads moving in half steps, with various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) indicating the specific notes of each triad. The sequence starts with a C major triad and moves through various chromatic alterations.