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Non-Diatonic Chords - L30



A diatonic chord is one that fits the standard progression. Lets take a C major diatonic progression. Its **C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bdim**. Fancy playing chords that don't fit in with the standard diatonic chord progressions to make it sound more unique?

Start by playing the open (and barre chords) of a C major progression - **C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bdim**. Now lets make a tune from those chords; **C, G, Am, F, C, F, C x4**- we'll leave the rhythm for you to be inventive.

The most common non-diatonic chords are changing the 4th and 5th steps to minors, so making the F and G both minors and using them almost as passing chords. With this in mind try this progression; **C, Em, F, Fm, Gm, G x5**

Now lets change the 3rd, 6th and 7th degrees and convert them to major and take them down a semi-tone. So instead of the Em, Am and Bdim we will have an Eb, Ab and a Bb. Here are the chords tabbed in a simple way to play them;

Em Bb Ab

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E|3---1-----|
B|4---3--1--|
G|3---3--1--|
D|-----1--|
A|-----|
E|-----|
```

Try these chords in a progression;

C, Ab, F, C, Bb, Eb F

Homework.

Try this in other keys.