

1 ~ 6 ~ 4 ~ 5 Chords Progressions

Chord progressions, and the examples illustrated here, are a way of defining a musical structure of a song.

The **"1"**, is a way of defining the ROOT note
(or KEY, or starting point), of a song.

The **"4"**, **"5"** and **"6"** are the positions of the note within
the specific Scale, away from the root or starting note.

Lets examine the "E" string of a Guitar, and pick out the the 1-4-5 progression in the Key of "G"

6			1					4		5		
<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>

Lets now examine all the Keys or starting points and pick out the 1-6-4-5 progression in each Key.
We only ever use the notes that form the Scale within a key as the counting sequence.
Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do represents the intervals to the next note.

Do (1)		Re (2)		Mi (3)	Fa (4)		So (5)		La (6)		Ti (7)	Do (8)
1					4		5		6			
<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>G#</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C#</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D#</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F#</i>	<i>G</i>

	Quick breakdown of 1-6-4-5 notes			
KEY	1	6	4	5
<i>A</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>F# m</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>G# m</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F#</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>A m</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>B m</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>C# m</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>D m</i>	<i>Bb</i>	<i>C</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>E m</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>
	The 6 th chord is always to be a "Minor" chord.			

IMPORTANT: In this Chord Progression, a “minor” chord is used with the “6th”

After becoming clear on the structure that makes a 1-6-4-5 song,
try these simple but well known songs in **Any Key**,
using the information provided in the tables.

STAND BY ME – Ben E. King <i>Standard Chord Notation</i>	as a 1 – 6 – 4 – 5 Progression
When the D night has come, And the Bm land is dark And the G moon, is the A only, light we'll D see No I won't be afraid, Oh, I won't be afraid, D Bm G A D Just as long as you stand, stand by me	When the 1 night has come, And the 6(minor) land is dark 4 5 1 And the moon, is the only, light we'll see 1 6(minor) No I won't be afraid, Oh, I won't be afraid, 4 5 1 Just as long as you stand, stand by me

EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE – Sting & The Police <i>Standard Chord Notation</i>	as a 1 – 6 – 4 – 5 Progression
G Every breath you take. Em Every move you make. C Every bond you break. D Every step you take. G I'll be watching you.	1 Every breath you take. 6(minor) Every move you make. 4 Every bond you break. 5 Every step you take. 1 I'll be watching you.

MISTER POSTMAN – Various Artists <i>Standard Chord Notation</i>	as a 1 – 6 – 4 – 5 Progression
D Mister Postman, look and see, Bm If there's a letter in your bag for me. G Why's it takin' such a long time, A For me to hear from that boy of mine.	1 Mister Postman, look and see, 6(minor) If there's a letter in your bag for me. 4 Why's it takin' such a long time, 5 For me to hear from that boy of mine.

Cheers,
Adrian Newington.