

# What is a Key?

♩ = 80

Acoustic Guitar

C   D   E   F   G   A   B   C

Notes in the key of C Major

2

Use the 1st, 3rd, and 5th scale degrees to make a C major triad (C E G)  
Then continue with that pattern starting on each degree of the scale (CEG, DFA, EGB...etc)  
This will give you all the triads in the key of C. Each one is designated with a Roman Numeral

3

C   D<sub>m</sub>   E<sub>m</sub>   F   G   A<sub>m</sub>   B<sup>o</sup>   C

G	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
E	F	G	A	B	C	D	E
C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii	I

I, IV, and V are major chords  
ii, iii, and vii are minor chords  
vii is a diminished chord

5

\*\*This pattern is the same in all Major keys.  
I major, ii minor, iii minor, IV major, V major, vi minor, vii diminished