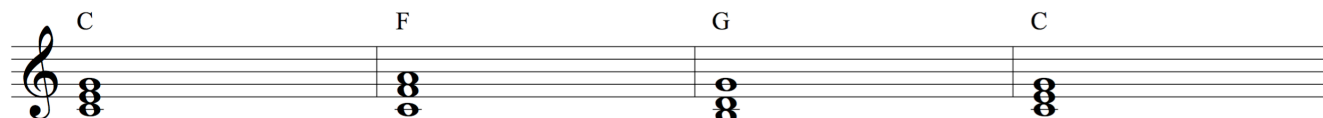


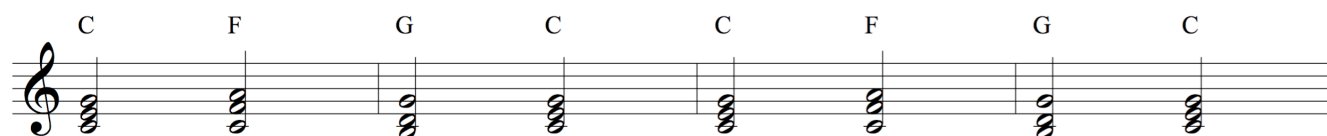
## Harmonic Rhythm

So far, in every chord progression we have used each chord has lasted for exactly one measure. In reality, there is no rule which says this has to be so. Chords do not always have to last for one bar. They can last for less than one measure, or longer than one measure. The rate at which the chords change is called *harmonic rhythm*. Harmonic rhythm is important for adding interest and excitement to a song.

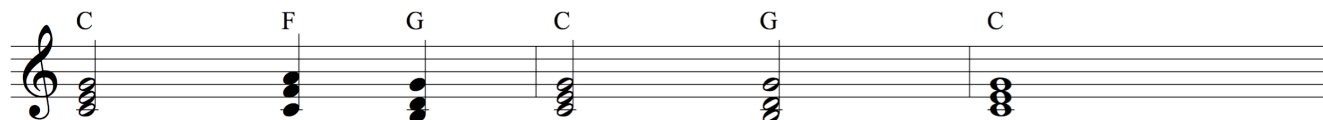
Below is a chord progression where the chords last for one measure (4 beats) each.



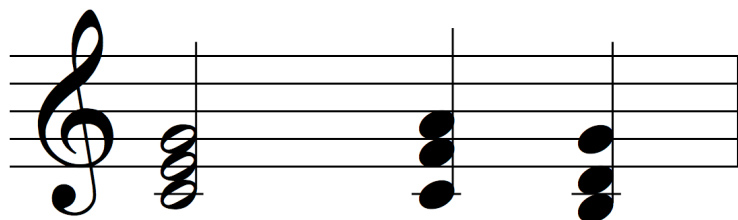
Here is a progression where the chords last for 2 beats each:



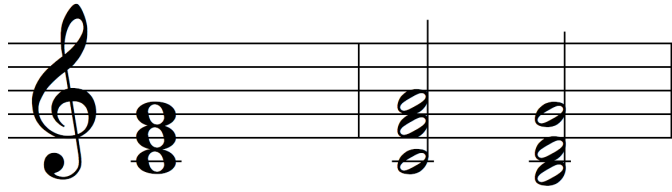
It is perfectly acceptable to mix and match different chord durations in the same progression. This progression uses whole notes, half notes, and quarter notes:



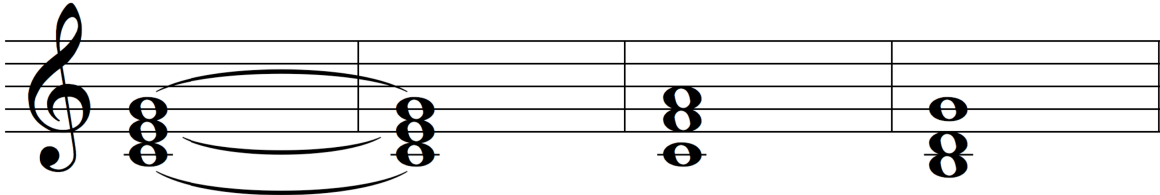
We can actually use our available list of rhythmic patterns to create interesting harmonic rhythms. To do this we choose a beat length which is longer, such as a quarter note, half note, or whole note. For example, if we take the progression C, F, G, combine it with the rhythmic pattern below and set the beat length to a quarter note, this is the result:



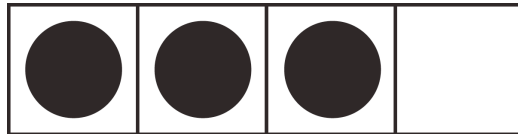
Similarly, if we use this rhythmic pattern but set the beat length to a half note, here is the result:



We can also set the beat length to a whole note:



In the next few examples, take the given rhythmic pattern along with the chords C, F, G and write out a chord progression using a three different beat lengths:



Quarter Notes



Half Notes



Whole Notes

