

Congratulations on Downloading the *One-Man-Band Pattern* Training Guide

You've just taken a huge shortcut toward sounding like a full band at the piano. This guide shows you the exact six chords used in hundreds of popular songs, how to play their inversions so chord changes sound smooth and musical, and how to apply the *One-Man-Band* rhythm pattern that turns simple chords into real-song accompaniment.

If you only learn what's inside these pages, you'll already be able to sit down and play dozens of hit songs that used to feel out of reach. But more importantly, you'll begin to see how music fits together—why so many songs share the same progression, and how pros can fake their way through new tunes instantly. Inside you'll find:

Clear graphics showing all six core chords and every inversion
A visual breakdown of the eighth-note “One-Man-Band” rhythm pattern
A reference list of 200+ well-known songs that use only these chords
You can use this as a daily practice reference, or as a quick-start roadmap to get out of “piano jail” — stuck reading notes, memorizing exercises, but never actually *playing songs*.

If you want to go deeper, this is just one of many piano patterns I teach inside the **Piano Genius** training program — each one focused on a real musical skill: how to play faster, improvise, add fills, and sound like a professional without spending years in traditional lessons.

Take a few minutes with the pattern now, try it on a few of the songs in the list, and you'll immediately hear how much more musical your playing sounds.



– Tim Gross
Creator, PianoGenius.com

6 Most Common Chords in C-Major

Tier 1 Chords: C, F, G

C Major



F Major



G Major



Tier 2: Am, Em, Dm

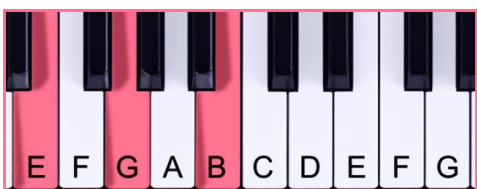
A minor



D minor



E minor



The most common song key to play on piano is C-Major, and these are the most common chords played in that key. They're all white-note chords and all in the same hand position, meaning if you keep your fingers in a "claw" shape you can play them all by sliding your hand up/down.

Three Inversions: Root Position, 1st Inversion, 2nd Inversion

On the next page you'll see all three inversions for each of the above chords. As long as the same notes are being played it's the same chord, regardless of the order. To understand Inversions better, watch my video on Inversions: <https://www.pianogenius.com/inversions>

On the page after is a printable graphic of the One-Man-Band "Perpetual Motion" pattern, followed by a list of over 200 songs that use the above six chords.

😊 Let's get started...



Most Common Chords & Inversions in C-Major

Tier 1 Chords: C, F, G (Includes Root, 1st Inversion, 2nd Inversion)

C Major -Root



C Major -1st



C Major -2nd



F Major -Root



F Major -1st



F Major -2nd



G Major -Root



G Major -1st



G Major -2nd



Tier 2: Am, Dm,

Em

A minor -Root



A minor -1st



A minor -2nd



D minor -Root



D minor -1st



D minor -2nd



E minor -Root



E minor -1st



E minor -2nd



To understand Inversions better and switch between these chords effortlessly, watch my video on Inversions: <https://www.pianogenius.com/inversions>



Simplified “Polka” Version

Here’s the simplified version, the 1-5-8 in blue indicate the notes of the chord to play (If it were “C”, 1=C, 5=G, 8=C an octave higher. The three red bars tell you to play the full chord at the same time. Just count “1, 2, 3, 4” with blue notes playing on 1 and 3, red notes playing on 2 and 4.

	1	2	3	4
Chords		G		G
		E		E
		C		C
8	C			
5			G	
1	C			

Full “One Man Band” Pattern

Here’s the full pattern below, with the added “and 4 and” where you’re using your thumb to play the bottom note of the chord on the “and” counts.

Another thing to note: These chords can be played in **any of the 3 inversions**, and the playing pattern is the same regardless. Meaning if you were playing a C chord in the second inversion G-C-E, you’d be playing the bottom “G” note on the “and” counts.

Your fingers just keep chugging along doing the same exact pattern regardless of what chord you’re playing or what inversion it’s in.

	1	&	2	&	3	&	4	&
Chords								
8								
5								
1								



List Of 200+ Songs Based On These Chords

C - Dm - Em - F - G Am

They're broken down into categories to some degree to try to help sort them.

Fast / driving (great for your 1-8-5-8 groove)

- All Shook Up — Elvis Presley
- Barbara Ann — The Beach Boys
- Bad Moon Rising — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Bye Bye Love — The Everly Brothers
- Do You Believe in Magic — The Lovin' Spoonful
- Fun, Fun, Fun — The Beach Boys
- Great Balls of Fire — Jerry Lee Lewis
- Hey Good Lookin' — Hank Williams
- Hound Dog — Elvis Presley
- I Saw Her Standing There — The Beatles
- I'll Fly Away — Traditional
- Jambalaya — Hank Williams
- La Bamba — Ritchie Valens
- Peggy Sue — Buddy Holly
- Surfer Girl — The Beach Boys
- Surfin' USA — The Beach Boys
- That'll Be the Day — Buddy Holly
- Three Little Birds — Bob Marley
- Twist and Shout — The Beatles
- Tutti Frutti — Little Richard
- Wake Up Little Susie — The Everly Brothers
- Wild Thing — The Troggs

Classic pop/rock (I-V-vi-IV family & close rotations)

- All You Need Is Love — The Beatles
- Apologize — OneRepublic
- Blowin' in the Wind — Bob Dylan
- Brown Eyed Girl — Van Morrison
- Can You Feel the Love Tonight — Elton John
- Can't Buy Me Love — The Beatles
- Cecilia — Simon & Garfunkel
- Complicated — Avril Lavigne
- Demons — Imagine Dragons
- Eight Days a Week — The Beatles
- Good Riddance (Time of Your Life) — Green Day
- Have You Ever Seen the Rain — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Homeward Bound — Simon & Garfunkel
- If I Were a Boy — Beyoncé
- I Shall Be Released — Bob Dylan
- Leaving on a Jet Plane — John Denver
- Let It Be — The Beatles
- Let It Go — Idina Menzel

- Love Story — Taylor Swift
- Mrs. Robinson — Simon & Garfunkel
- No Woman, No Cry — Bob Marley
- Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da — The Beatles
- Paperback Writer — The Beatles
- Perfect — Ed Sheeran
- Photograph — Ed Sheeran
- Proud Mary — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Runaround Sue — Dion
- She Will Be Loved — Maroon 5
- Sweet Caroline — Neil Diamond
- Teach Your Children — Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young
- The Boxer — Simon & Garfunkel
- Ticket to Ride — The Beatles
- Torn — Natalie Imbruglia
- Where You Will Go — The Calling
- With or Without You — U2
- Yellow Submarine — The Beatles
- Zombie — The Cranberries

Country / folk (diatonic verse-chorus loops)

- 500 Miles — Traditional
- Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain — Willie Nelson
- Brown Eyed Girl — Van Morrison
- Buffalo Gals — Traditional
- Cecilia — Simon & Garfunkel
- City of New Orleans — Steve Goodman
- Friend of the Devil — Grateful Dead
- Have You Ever Seen the Rain — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- I'll Fly Away — Traditional
- I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry — Hank Williams
- Keep on the Sunny Side — Carter Family
- Leaving on a Jet Plane — John Denver
- Long Black Veil — Lefty Frizzell
- Oh My Darling Clementine — Traditional
- Peaceful Easy Feeling — Eagles
- Proud Mary — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Red River Valley — Traditional
- Ring of Fire — Johnny Cash
- Roll in My Sweet Baby's Arms — Flatt & Scruggs
- She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain — Traditional
- Sweet Caroline — Neil Diamond



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- Peaceful Easy Feeling — Eagles
- Proud Mary — Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Red River Valley — Traditional
- Ring of Fire — Johnny Cash
- Roll in My Sweet Baby's Arms — Flatt & Scruggs
- She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain — Traditional
- Sweet Caroline — Neil Diamond
- Take Me Home, Country Roads — John Denver
- Teach Your Children — Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young
- Tom Dooley — The Kingston Trio
- Turkey in the Straw — Traditional
- Wabash Cannonball — Traditional
- Wagon Wheel — Old Crow Medicine Show
- Will the Circle Be Unbroken — Traditional
- Worried Man Blues — Traditional
- You Are My Sunshine — Jimmie Davis

Singer-songwriter / modern acoustic

- All of Me — John Legend
- Budapest — George Ezra
- Counting Stars — OneRepublic
- Ho Hey — The Lumineers
- I Won't Give Up — Jason Mraz
- Riptide — Vance Joy
- Someone Like You — Adele
- Stay With Me — Sam Smith
- The A Team — Ed Sheeran

Classic sing-along staples

- Eleanor Rigby — The Beatles
- House of the Rising Sun — Traditional
- I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For — U2
- Knockin' on Heaven's Door — Bob Dylan
- Lean on Me — Bill Withers
- Let's Twist Again — Chubby Checker
- Stand by Me — Ben E. King
- What a Wonderful World — Louis Armstrong

Contemporary pop (safely diatonic versions)

- Brave — Sara Bareilles
- Chasing Cars — Snow Patrol
- Clocks — Coldplay
- Count on Me — Bruno Mars
- Firework — Katy Perry
- Grenade — Bruno Mars
- Halo — Beyoncé
- Ho Hey — The Lumineers
- Just the Way You Are — Bruno Mars
- Love Me Like You Do — Ellie Goulding
- Perfect — Pink
- Photograph — Ed Sheeran
- Pompeii — Bastille
- Price Tag — Jessie J
- Radioactive — Imagine Dragons
- Riptide — Vance Joy
- Roar — Katy Perry
- Royals — Lorde
- Set Fire to the Rain — Adele
- Shake It Off — Taylor Swift
- Shape of You — Ed Sheeran
- Shivers — Ed Sheeran
- Someone Like You — Adele
- Stay With Me — Sam Smith
- Story of My Life — One Direction
- The Lazy Song — Bruno Mars
- Thinking Out Loud — Ed Sheeran
- Unwritten — Natasha Bedingfield
- Viva La Vida — Coldplay
- Wake Me Up — Avicii
- Yellow — Coldplay

Folk standards / Doo-wop

- Amazing Grace — Traditional
- Bingo — Traditional
- Blue Moon — The Marcels
- Book of Love — The Monotones
- Come Go with Me — The Del-Vikings
- Down in the Valley — Traditional
- Duke of Earl — Gene Chandler
- Earth Angel — The Penguins
- Frère Jacques — Traditional
- Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight — The Spaniels



- Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight — The Spaniels
- Guantanamera — Traditional
- If I Had a Hammer — Peter, Paul & Mary
- John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt — Traditional
- Kumbaya — Traditional
- Little Darlin' — The Diamonds
- London Bridge Is Falling Down — Traditional
- Michael Finnegan — Traditional
- Michael, Row the Boat Ashore — Traditional
- Mulberry Bush — Traditional
- Oh! Susanna — Traditional
- Polly Wolly Doodle — Traditional
- Rock Around the Clock — Bill Haley & His Comets
- Row, Row, Row Your Boat — Traditional
- Shenandoah — Traditional
- Sh-Boom — The Chords
- Silhouettes — The Rays
- Skip to My Lou — Traditional
- Teenager in Love — Dion and the Belmonts
- The Farmer in the Dell — Traditional
- This Little Light of Mine — Traditional
- When Johnny Comes Marching Home — Traditional
- When the Saints Go Marching In — Traditional
- Why Do Fools Fall in Love — Frankie Lymon & The Teenagers
- Yankee Doodle — Traditional

There You Have It, 200 Songs

These songs are in a variety of playing styles etc, some will work with this “One Man Band” playing style, others use other style patterns, like:

- **“Picking Acoustic Guitar” style**
- **“Elton John” style**
- **“Lennon/McCartney” style**
- **“Do-Wop” style**
- **“Standard ballad” style**
- **...and more**

From my experience, it's having multiple playing patterns under your belt and being able to switch between them as needed, combined with having your favorite go-to “fills” to throw in as needed, all of which I teach in the Piano Genius training.

Patterns. Formulas. Shortcuts. My Handful of Fills & Flourishes. That's How I Play

I hope you've enjoyed this One-Man-Band “Perpetual Motion” pattern and approach to playing certain fast songs.

If that way of playing and learning appeals to you, I suggest trying out the rest of the training at PianoGenius.com to see if it's a good fit.



The next page breaks down what these four boxes represent, the four most important elements to focus on as someone trying to get up speed as quickly as possible.





Number System
Scales/Chords structure

1) Shortcut your piano notes/chords learning curve by using the Number System

Simple Chord Charts
To Play Complex Songs

4) Instead of learning complicated sheet music, play entire songs with the simplest of chord charts

Finger Dexterity
Most Common Moves

2) Instead of practicing scales, focus on having your fingers do what they actually do the most when you're playing songs

Train Your Ear
Play What You Hear

3) Train Your Ear to tell when something sounds right or wrong so you know what comes next

Combined, these four elements drastically shortcut the time it takes for you to play piano better and sound like YOU want to sound. It's not magic, it's just smart use of your time, energy, and focus.

And of course there are all kinds of "tips" and "tricks" to show you along the way... Unique things I've learned the hard way playing keyboards onstage over 7,000 hours in a wide variety of circumstances.

When you're ready to take the next step start here:

PianoGenius.com/continue

