

Ear Training: Triad Inversions

Read the chord name before listening. R = root position; 1 = first inversion; 2 = second inversion. C4 = middle C. For Bass, write a letter; octave numbers are optional. The key includes octaves to identify the exact played note.

1 · KNOWN MAJOR TRIADS

Each item: named chord in root position → pause → question chord twice. Write R, 1 or 2. The bass-letter blank is optional in this round.

1. C major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

3. G major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

5. C major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

2. F major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

4. F major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

6. G major

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

2 · NAMED MAJOR AND MINOR TRIADS

After the root-position chord, hear bass choices A, B, C in the printed order. Then hear the question twice. Write the bass note name (not its choice label) and R, 1 or 2.

7. A minor

A: E4 · B: A3 · C: C4

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

9. D minor

A: A3 · B: D3 · C: F3

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

11. E minor

A: B3 · B: E3 · C: G3

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

8. C major

A: G3 · B: C3 · C: E3

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

10. F major

A: C4 · B: F3 · C: A3

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

12. G major

A: D4 · B: G3 · C: B3

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

3 · FIND THE BASS INSIDE A PHRASE

Each phrase is I-IV-V-I, one chord per bar. The printed bar is your target; upper notes vary. Write its bass letter and inversion. Each bar has four beats. The first chord is only a reference. After the pause, start counting bars 1-4 with the first chord of the phrase; start again at 1 when the phrase repeats.

13. C major: C-F-G-C · bar 2 (F major)

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

15. C major: C-F-G-C · bar 1 (C major)

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

14. C major: C-F-G-C · bar 3 (G major)

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

16. C major: C-F-G-C · bar 4 (C major)

Bass: _____ Inversion: _____

Hint

Hum the lowest note. Bass = root → R; third → 1; fifth → 2. Cover the flipped key until you have answered. After answering, open "Check yourself" for that item: hear its bass alone, then its chord. For Round 3, this is the target chord only. Compare with the flipped key.

Listen: tissimo.co/worksheets/ear-training-triad-inversions
Listening examples · quarter-note tempo 100 BPM



16: C3 · R	15: G3 · 2	14: G3 · R	13: A3 · 1
			
12: G3 · R	11: G3 · 1	10: C4 · 2	9: D3 · R
			
8: E3 · 1	7: E4 · 2	6: D4 · 2	5: C3 · R
			
4: A3 · 1	3: G3 · R	2: C4 · 2	1: E3 · 1
			

Answers · actual bass (engraved) and inversion