

Lets study a phrase from My Romance taken from the Piano Success Playbook and then apply the theory at the piano.

Bb^{maj}7 Cm7 Dm7 Dbdim7 Cm7 F7 Bbdim7

In the staff below, add the key signature and make a *chordmap* for the 7th chords of the diatonic scale in the key of Bb major. Fill in the notes and label the name and number for each triad.

Bb^{maj}7 Cm7 Dm7 Eb^{maj}7 F7 Gm7 A^{dim}7 Bb^{maj}7

I^{maj}7 ii7 iii7 IV^{maj}7 V7 vi7 vii^o7 I^{maj}7

From the chord map label the progression of chords for My Romance.

Bb^{maj}7 Cm7 Dm7 Dbdim7 Cm7 F7 Bbdim7

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Bb^{maj}7 Cm7 Dm7 D^{dim}7 Cm7 F7 Bb^{dim}7

I^{maj}7 ii7 iii7 ii7 V7 I^{dim}7

Minor 7th chords create a distinctive sound. Notice the Secondary **minor 7th** chords that have been used rather than Primary triads to introduce My Romance.

These minor chords are there because it is natural for chords to move in a progression of whole or half steps. (In the case of I^{maj7} to ii⁷ to iii⁷) But they are there for other reasons too. They substitute for Primary triads because they share common tones with the primary and so they function (move and relate) to other chords around them in the same way as the primary chords. All predominant chords move towards the V chord whether secondary or primary. Let's take a closer look at the I⁷-ii⁷-iii⁷ progression.

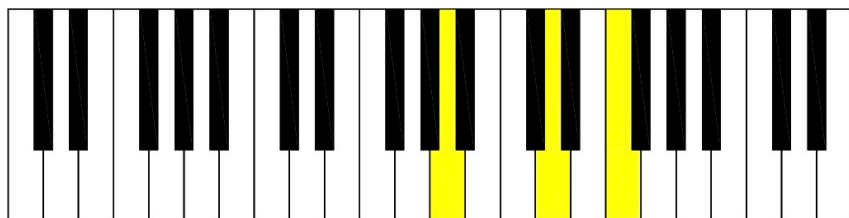
I⁷-ii⁷-iii⁷ is nothing more than I-V-I because:

- ii substitutes for the V⁷ chord.
- iii substitutes for the I⁷ chord.

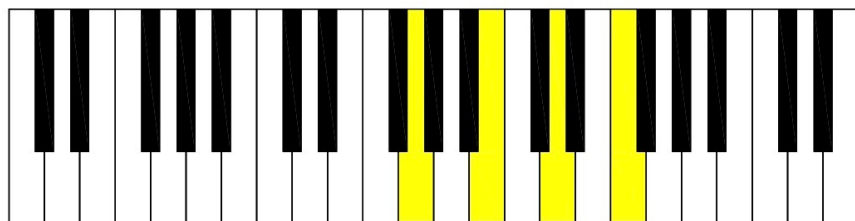


How does the ii chord substitute for the V chord? The ii (Dm) chord shares two common tones with the V⁷ (G⁷) chord. What are they?

- The root of ii (D) is the 5th of V.
- The 3rd of ii (F) is the dominant 7th of V.

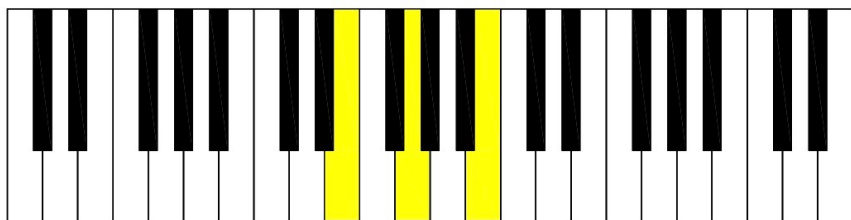


Dm₆ (inversion) ii Chord

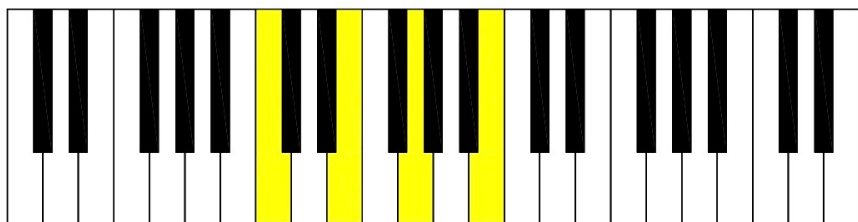


G⁷ V⁷ Chord

How does the iii chord substitute for the I chord? The iii chord **is** a Imaj7 chord. It is the exact same chord less the root.



Em7 iii Chord



Cmaj7 I7 Chord