

# diatonic tonic chord

Some of the elements of the [Chromatic System](#) were known 200 years ago. The [Diatonic scale](#), being called the "Natural scale," implied that the [chromatic chords](#) were considered to be artificial; but the notes of the [chromatic chords](#), from their [PROXIMITY](#) to the [notes](#) of the [tonic chord](#), fit to them like hand and glove. Nothing in [music](#) is more sweetly natural and pleasingly effective than such [resolutions](#); and hence their extensive use in the hands of the Masters. The [chromatic chords](#) have close relations to the whole [system of music](#), making the [progressions](#) of its [harmonies](#) easy and delectable, and producing effects often enchanting and elevating, as well as often subtle and profound; and while they are ever at hand at the call of the Composer, they are ever in loyal obedience to the [laws](#) of their own structure and system. When a [diatonic chord](#) precedes another [diatonic chord](#) belonging to the same [scale](#), it has one [note](#) moving in [semitonic progression](#);<sup>1</sup> but when a [chromatic chord](#) precedes a [diatonic chord](#), it may have three [semitonic progressions](#).<sup>2</sup> The primary [chromatic chord](#) resolves into 8 of the 24 **diatonic tonic chords**, with 3 [semitonic progressions](#). These identical notes of the [chromatic chord](#), with only some changes of names, resolve into another 8 of the 24 [tonic chords](#), with 2 [semitonic progressions](#) and one [note in common](#); and when they resolve into the third and last 8 of the 24 [tonic chords](#), they move with one [semitonic progression](#) and 2 [notes in common](#). So to the [chromatic chord](#) there are no foreign keys.<sup>3</sup> And as it is with the first [chromatic chord](#), so with the other two. [[Scientific Basis and Build of Music](#), page 51]

See Also

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