

3.12 Types of Mediant Relationships

Mediant relationship = chords or keys that are a major or minor third apart

1. Diatonic Mediant

This is the relationship between chords whose roots are a third apart *within* a given key.

1. Roots a **M3 or m3 apart**
2. **Contrasting** chord qualities (always one is **major** and the other is **minor** or vice-versa)
3. **Two** common tones

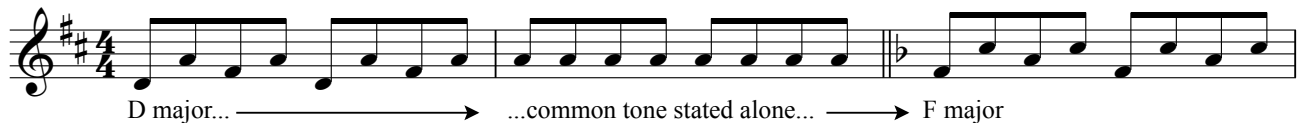


2. Chromatic Mediant

1. Roots a **M3 or m3 apart**
2. **Matching** triad qualities (always **BOTH major** or **BOTH minor**).
3. **One** common tone



Because chromatic mediant share a single tone, it is common to use them for common tone modulations:



3. Double Chromatic Mediant

The double chromatic mediant (or doubly-chromatic mediant) is the most distant mediant relationship. Tonal motions involving the double chromatic mediant are rare before the 19th-century.

1. Roots a **M3 or m3 apart**
2. **Contrasting** triad qualities (always one is **major** and the other is **minor** or vice-versa)
3. **NO** common tones

REMEMBER: **Double** chromatic mediant involves **two** chord types (major **and** minor) and **no** common tones.

