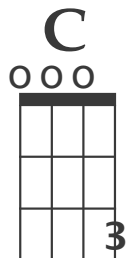


- 8 *It may be too soon for your class to focus on Chord Family structure; then again, it only involves counting, on the fingers, to either **4** or **5** in the Major Scale. Students with keyboard experience might like the tie-in. Otherwise, skip to the **F** and **G** chords on page 9.*

C Chord Family: The Major Chords

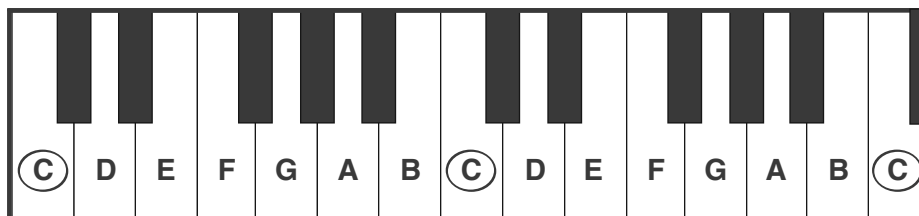


Let's take a moment to luxuriate in the aural splendor of the C chord.

What a lofty, lush and lovely sound! Some of this sweetness is due the Re-entrant Tuning, which (not to get too technical) allows denser and richer clusters of notes than Linear Tuning. It's more like a piano, where you can more easily play notes that are closer together.

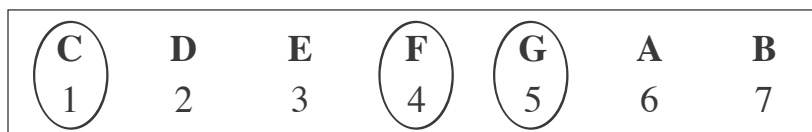
Anyway, I plan to reveal bits and pieces of music theory to you as we go along, more or less on a Need To Know basis, and among the first things you need to know is: *What **other chords** will most naturally combine with the C chord to create simple songs?*

A smidgen of backstory.....Here's a picture of the piano keyboard:



Ignoring the black keys, what you see are 2 **octaves** of the **C Major Scale**. There are 7 notes in the Musical Alphabet, and the **C scale** starts on the C note. To play the notes from C to C is to play one octave (8 notes counting both Cs). C is the note that sits just to the left of the set of 2 black keys.

Let's pull out one octave of the **C scale**, minus the final C note, and assign numbers:



*In any Chord Family, the chords having the Major Chord Quality are: the **1 chord**, the **4 chord** and the **5 chord**, or **1 - 4 - 5** for short.*

*So for the **C Chord Family**, the 3 chords having the Major Chord Quality are **C**, **F** and **G**.*