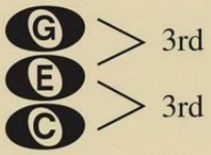
Playing a Chord

The word **chord** is derived from the Old French word *acorde*, meaning "to agree." Three or more tones played together form a chord.

The **C chord** is made of 3 tones built in *3rds* above C. A 3-note chord built in 3rds is also called a **triad**.

C chord (or triad)

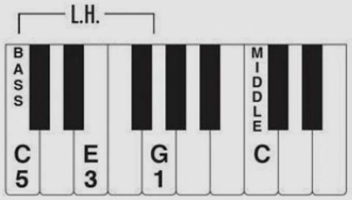


C Chord Warm-up

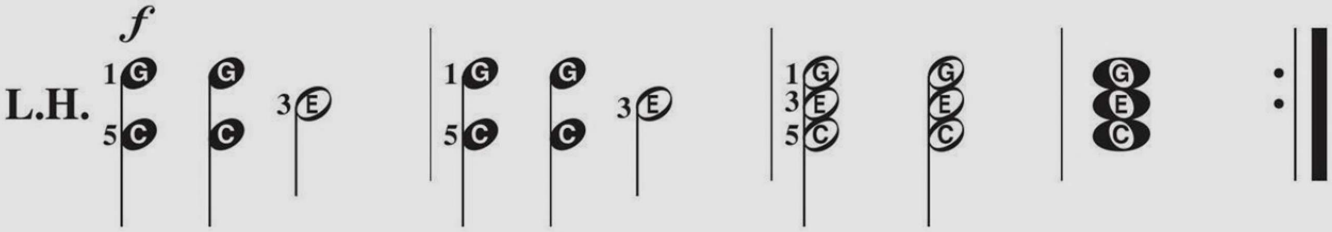
(for L.H. alone)

- On the closed keyboard cover, "silently" play *C Chord Warm-up*.
- On the piano, find the **Bass C Chord** shown on the keyboard to the right.
- Practice *C Chord Warm-up* with your L.H. until it is secure.

Bass C Chord Hand Placement



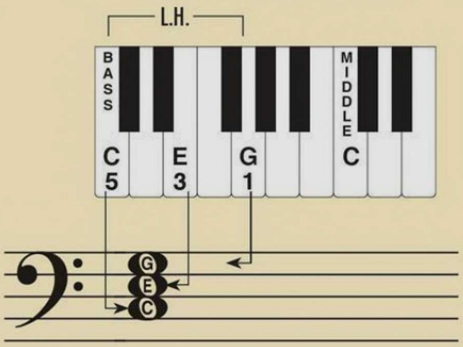
Rather slowly



Now play *C Chord Warm-up* with your R.H. higher on the keyboard. Use **fingers 1–5**.

The C Chord (C - E - G) on the Bass Staff

- Notice that on the **bass staff** the top 3 spaces spell the **Bass C chord**. (bottom to top: **C-E-G**)

Note: Though these bass notes will be introduced formally on page 62, you may now use L.H. C chords with many of your early pieces.

Bass C Chord Hand Placement