Noodlecafé

Every chord has a home

Every chord in a key has one of 3 jobs.

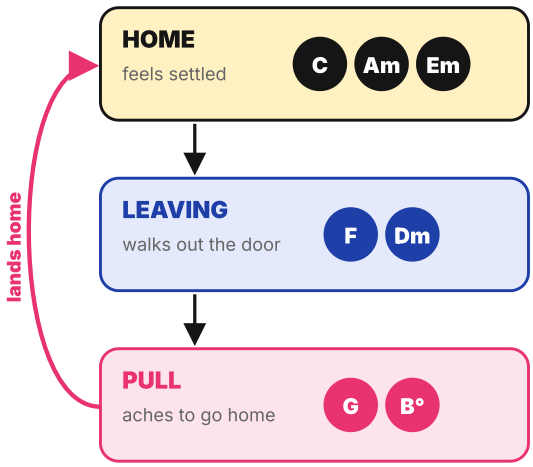
HOME · LEAVING · PULL

What each job does

job	numbers	in C	use it to
Home	I · vi · iii	C · Am · Em	start, rest, end
Leaving	IV · ii	F · Dm	move away, build
Pull	V · vii°	G · B°	create tension

I is the strongest home. vi and iii are softer homes.

The 3 jobs · key of C



The jobs in every guitar key

key	home · I vi iii	leaving · IV ii	pull · V vii°
C	C · Am · Em	F · Dm	G · B°
G	G · Em · Bm	C · Am	D · F#°
D	D · Bm · F#m	G · Em	A · C#°
A	A · F#m · C#m	D · Bm	E · G#°
E	E · C#m · G#m	A · F#m	B · D#°

6 progressions, by job

numbers	in C	jobs	
I IV V I	C F G C	home → leaving → pull → home	the classic
I V vi IV	C G Am F	home → pull → home → leaving	Let It Be
vi IV I V	Am F C G	home → leaving → home → pull	the sad pop loop
I vi IV V	C Am F G	home → home → leaving → pull	the 50s loop
ii V I	Dm G C	leaving → pull → home	the jazz ending
IV I	F C	leaving → home	the soft "amen" ending

Stuck? Swap a chord for one with the same job

swap	in C
I ↔ vi	C → Am
I ↔ iii	C → Em
IV ↔ ii	F → Dm
V ↔ vii°	G → B°

Write your own in 4 steps

1. **Start home:** I (C).
2. **Leave:** IV or ii (F or Dm).
3. **Pull:** V (G). Hold it a beat longer.
4. **Land:** I to finish, or vi (Am) for a twist.

End a song with V → I (strong) or IV → I (soft).

Try it now · 2 minutes

Play G, then C: it lands. Play C, then G: it hangs. Now play C, F, G, C and feel home, leaving, pull, home.

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