

Dominant 7th Chord

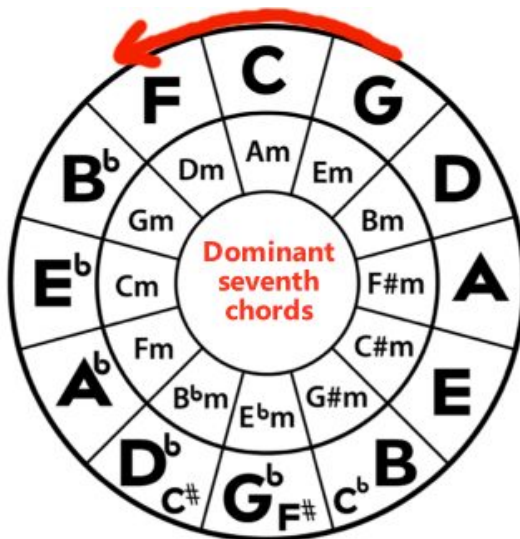
A **dominant seventh chord**, is a seventh chord composed of a root, major third, perfect fifth, and minor seventh. An example is the dominant seventh chord in C-major is built on G, written as G7, having pitches G–B–D–F:



Dominant seventh chords are built on the fifth scale degree (or dominant) of a key. For instance, in the key of C major, the note G is the fifth of the key, and the seventh chord built on G is the dominant seventh chord, G7 (shown above).

The dominant seventh chord includes the **leading tone** hence it tends to be resolved to the tonic chord. In our example G7 -> C.

In regards to the **circle of fifth** it asks for a counter clockwise motion. You can actually go around the whole circle of fifth by using the following chord progression: G7 -> C -> C7 -> F -> F7 -> Bb -> Bb7 -> Eb etc.



The dominant seventh chord (V7) resolves in a more compelling motion towards the Tonic Chord (I) than a pure Dominant (V) chord (without the 7).