

## More About Modulating

What if you want to modulate up a half step, or a whole step, or go from the Key of Eb to the Key of C? In each of these cases, the same rule applies -- find the **V7** chord in the new key, and use it to lead into the new song. However, in these cases, using a simple chord may sound too abrupt; therefore, you may also have to use a "walking" bass line or create a simple melody to "bridge the gap" between the two keys. Study these examples:

Modulating up a half step:

Musical notation showing a modulation up a half step from G major to Ab major. The key signature changes from one sharp (F#) to one flat (Bb). The bass line walks down two whole steps: G4, F#4, F4, E4. Chords shown above the staff are G, Eb7, and Ab.

Notice that the bass line walks down two whole steps. You can use this method any time you want to modulate up a half step. Chords are shown above being played with the right hand, but they can also be played with the left hand or a combination of the two hands:

Musical notation showing two ways to play chords for a half-step modulation from G major to Ab major. The first way shows chords G, Eb7, and Ab in the right hand. The second way shows the same chords in the left hand. The text "or..." is written between the two examples.

Modulating up a whole step:

Musical notation showing a modulation up a whole step from G major to A major. The key signature changes from one sharp (F#) to two sharps (F# and C#). The bass line walks down three half steps: G4, F#4, F4, E4. Chords shown above the staff are G, E7, and A.

Notice that this bass line walks down three half steps. You can use this method any time you want to modulate up a whole step.

### Taking it a step further:

Now go back to page 26 and play the *New World Symphony* again, modulating up by half steps for several keys, and then again by whole steps for several keys.