

# Easy Piano Chord Substitutions (at the end of a song)

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Here is an easy way to add some cool endings to a song by substituting different chords for the usual ending one. To do this, it's helpful to think of chord NUMBERS instead of names (our example will use the family of chords in the key of C).

## Here are the 7 chords built on the note of the C scale: CHORDS IN THE KEY OF C:

<b>Chord number:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>(8)</b>
<b>Chord name:</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Dm</b>	<b>Em</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>Am</b>	<b>Bdim</b>	<b>(C)</b>

### Let's start with the last 3 chords of a typical song (in the key of C:

Chord number -     1     5     1  
Chord name -     C     G     [ C ] ← ENDING CHORD  
                  I'll   Fly   away.

### Now let's replace the ending C chord with some other ones: (write the chord names next to each chord number)

1. Amen ending:     4 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jazz             6 \_\_\_\_\_     4 $\Delta$  \_\_\_\_\_     2 \_\_\_\_\_     5 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Broadway        b6 \_\_\_\_\_     b7 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Rock            b3 \_\_\_\_\_     4 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Funky            b7 \_\_\_\_\_     4 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Gospel           4 \_\_\_\_\_     4/5 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Walk down       4 \_\_\_\_\_     3 \_\_\_\_\_     2 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Torch Song       b2 \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Poignant         4(minor) \_\_\_\_\_     1 \_\_\_\_\_
10. Surprise key change     6(major) \_\_\_\_\_

**Now let's replace the ending 1 chord with some other ones in OTHER KEYS (such as, the key of G)**

See Suz's factsheet how to transpose a song in major keys for a complete list of chord families in every key. You can download it here:

<https://app.box.com/s/c58df9b360793a5f01f1>

**Transpose a typical song (in the key of C) to a new key:**

Chord number - 1 5 1  
Original Chord name - C G [ C ] ← ENDING CHORD

New Key chord name - G D [ G ] ← ENDING CHORD  
I'll Fly away. (NEW KEY)

**Write the chord names next to each chord number in the key of: \_\_\_\_\_**  
*(write the name of the 1 chord here)*

1. Amen ending: 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jazz 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 4Δ \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Broadway b6 \_\_\_\_\_ b7 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Rock b3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Funky b7 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Gospel 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 4/5 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Walk down 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Torch Song b2 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Poignant 4 minor \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
10. Surprise key change 6(major) \_\_\_\_\_