

types of cadences:

- authentic: V → I, V⁷ → I
- half: anything → V, anything → V⁷
- plagal: IV → I
- deceptive: V → vi or IV → vi

a cadence describes a sequence of chords, usually two chords, in relation to a key.

Bb Major

1. find first chord's step in the key: V⁷
2. find second chord's step: I
3. consult chart at top: Authentic cadence.

Advanced cadence recognition

Sometimes you are not given the key. In a lot of cases, you can still figure out the cadence given the qualities of the chords.

- Major: I ii iii IV V vi vii^o I (M m m M M d M)
 minor: i ii^o III⁺ iv V VI vii^o i (m d A m M d m)
 (harmonic)

only V and vii^o remain the same across key qualities

For each chord:
 find its quality, and its step in the key for both the major & minor keys.

chord	quality	(step) Major	(step) minor	options:
α	Maj.	IV	VI	IV → I (Major) I → III (minor)
β	Maj.	I	III	

choose the option (Major/minor) that matches the qualities.

if this example is in e minor, the scale degrees would be I (Maj.) → III (Maj.), but the first step in a minor key is minor (i, not I) and the third is Augmented (III⁺, not III). X

if this example is in G Major, the scale degrees would be IV → I, which matches what we would expect. ✓

answer: plagal cadence in G Major.

another example:

and another:

V⁷ cheat:

α: four-note chord can only be V⁷ (or inversion), so β must be I. Authentic cadence, A Major

chord	q	(F)	(d)
α	M	III	V
β	m	VI	i

if Maj: III → VI X
 if min: V → i ✓

answer: authentic cadence, d min.