Introduction to Chapter 4

There are nine different Bass Keyboard Diagrams shown in the following chapter, but it is only necessary for the student to study and memorise that one which is suitable to his instrument.

It is not sufficient for the student to have merely a passing knowledge of the Keys on the Bass Keyboard. He must get to know them thoroughly, for without such knowledge he can never hope to render any composition correctly and convincingly.

A little tedious work may be experienced by the student at first in trying to locate some of the Bass Keys. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that the vision is obscured when the instrument is in a playing position. Therefore, this little hint may prove useful to beginners:

Mark a little cross on the Key (C) on the Row of Fundamental Basses with a nail file or some other instrument. (e.g., ©) Just sufficient to allow you to feel it when the instrument is in a playing position. Then use the marked Bass Key as a landmark to obtain your other basses and chords. This hint may seem primitive but it is, however, none the less effective.

Concerning those Piano Accordion Bass Keyboards which include rows of Dominant and Diminished 7ths, I might at this point save a considerable amount of confusion.

The chords are not the Dominant and Diminished 7th chords of their equivalents on the Row of Fundamental Basses but take their designations from their equivalents on that Row. (See diagram of 108 Bass Keyboard Stradella's-System)

For instance the chord of the Dominant 7th of C is \[ \frac{7}{8} \] but the chord of C seventh is \[ \frac{7}{8} \]
The construction of the notation employed on this Bass Keyboard is known as "Stadella's System" and in the one which is principally in use.

### Bass Keyboard (Stadella's System)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Diminished 7th
- E GC E GC E GC
- A C E G A C E
- D F G C D F G
- G C E G A C E
- C E G C E G C
- A C E G A C E

#### Dominant 7th
- E GC E GC E GC
- A C E G A C E
- D F G C D F G
- G C E G A C E
- C E G C E G C
- A C E G A C E

#### Minor Chords
- E GC E GC E GC
- A C E G A C E
- D F G C D F G
- G C E G A C E
- C E G C E G C
- A C E G A C E

#### Major Chords
- E GC E GC E GC
- A C E G A C E
- D F G C D F G
- G C E G A C E
- C E G C E G C
- A C E G A C E

#### Fundamental Basses
- Major Basses
- Counter Basses (Major Thirds)
above Row 1 and would contain the Minor Complements of Minor Thirds.

Sometimes another row of keys is utilized in the Sostrani and Stadella Systems. This row, if included, would be situated in the inverse order of Stadella System.

The construction of the notation on the Bass Keyboard is known as Sostrani System, and as it will be seen, is arranged

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diminished 7th</th>
<th>Dominant 7th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minor Chords</td>
<td>Major Chords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamental Basses</td>
<td>Counter Basses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

108 Bass Keyboard (Sostrani System)
96 Bass Keyboard (Stradella's System)
### Bass Keyboards of the "Stradellas American System"

The following four instruments (140, 120, 80, and 48 Bass Keyboards) are very popular in America. They are excellent musical possibilities, and are manufactured by R. Galanti & Bros., of New York. The most practical and complete with regard to instruments for the needs of the average player are nevertheless supplied with all keys necessary for the needs of the average player.

#### Major Chords
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Minor Chords
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Fundamental Basses (Major Thirds)
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Diminished 7th Bass
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Dominant 7th Bass
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Fundamental Basses (Minor Thirds)
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Minor Counter Basses (Major Thirds)
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Minor Counter Basses (Minor Thirds)
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

#### Seven Rows

140 Bass Keyboard (Stradellas American System)
This Bass System is employed on the HOHNER Instruments and numerous other makes.

120 Bass Keyboard (Stedelia American System)

DIMINISHED 7th
DOMINANT 7th
MINOR CHORDS
MAJOR CHORDS
FUNDAMENTAL BASSES
CONJUGATE BASSES
(MAJOR THIRDS)
This Bass System is employed on the HOHNER instruments and numerous other makes.

80 Bass Keyboard (Stadels American System)
Row of Dominate 7ths. Those Keyboards would therefore read:

Some 48 Bass Keyboard Accordsions do not possess a row of Counterbasses; but have instead a

This Bass System is employed on the Hohner Instruments and numerous other makes.
60 Bass Keyboard (Stradella System)
The same system of notation is employed on the whole. Although in the case of rows 8 and 9, the false and 13th notes form the whole tone scale of C, also the 7th, 12th, 19th and 20th notes form the whole tone scale of C. It will be seen that the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th and 17th notes form the whole tone scale of C. The rows commence on different notes.

Notation in Row 1 - Commencing Bottom End

DIMINISHED 7THS
MINOR CHORDS
MAJOR CHORDS
FUNDAMENTAL BASSES
COUNTER BASSES
MAJOR COUNTER BASSES
MINOR COUNTER BASSES

120 Bass Keyboard (One of the Pianola Models)