

# Cadence Types

Cadence comes from the Italian "per cadere," meaning "to fall." In the grammar of music, the cadence is a point of punctuation within the musical sentence. Hence, it is context that determines whether a given progression is, in fact, a cadence. For example, not every V-I progression is an authentic cadence, but only those progressions that articulate the form of a musical phrase or period.

**1. Authentic.** Any chord with leading tone moves TO TONIC.

**Perfect Authentic.**

1. V or V7 in ROOT POSITION moves to TONIC in ROOT POSITION.
2. SOPRANO ends with tonic pitch.

F: V I V I V I V<sup>7</sup> I

**Imperfect Authentic.** All authentic cadences that are not perfect.

F: V I V<sup>6</sup> I V I<sup>6</sup> vii°6 I

**2. Deceptive.** Any chord with LT moves to a chord OTHER THAN TONIC, usually vi/VI.

F: V vi vii°6 vi V IV<sup>6</sup>

**3. Half.** Any chord moves to a chord with the LT, usually V.

F: - V f: iv<sup>6</sup> V

**4. Plagal.** Any chord WITHOUT LT moves to TONIC, usually IV-I.

F: IV I IV I