

Handy Dandy Guide to Cadences

Authentic Cadence	AC	Some form of V or vii ^o followed by I or i
Perfect Authentic Cadence	PAC	Root position V ⁽⁷⁾ followed by a root position I or i with the melody on tonic over the I or i chord
Imperfect Authentic Cadence	IAC	Any authentic cadence that is not a PAC
Root Position IAC	RPIAC*	Root position V ⁽⁷⁾ followed by a root position I or i with the melody NOT on tonic over the I or i chord
Inverted IAC	IIAC*	V ⁽⁷⁾ -I or V ⁽⁷⁾ -i, with one or both chords inverted
Leading Tone IAC	LTIIAC*	Some form of vii ^{o(7)} followed by I or i
Plagal Cadence	PC	Almost always IV-I or IV-i
Half Cadence	HC	Last chord is V
Phrygian Half Cadence	PHC*	iv ⁶ -V
Deceptive Cadence	DC	V ⁽⁷⁾ followed by some chord other than I or i, usually VI or vi

**non-standardized abbreviation*