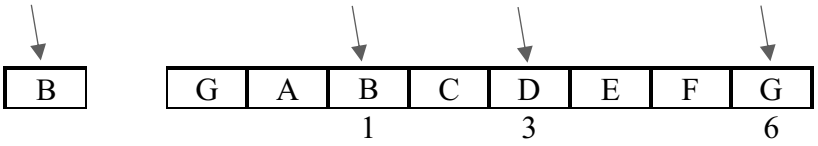
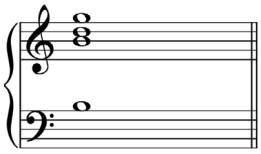
Sixth Chords

NUMBERS
The 3rd and 5th notes are played over an unnumbered bass note - a basic chord.

NUMBERS
If a bass note is numbered with a 6, the 6 represents the 5.
The 3rd and the 6th tone are played - a sixth chord.





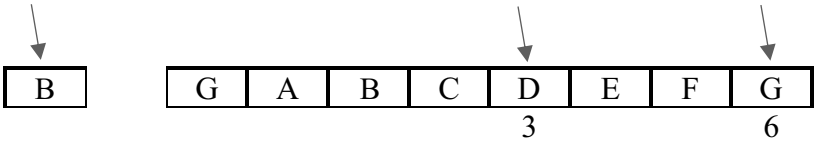
A G major chord is created on the bass note B.

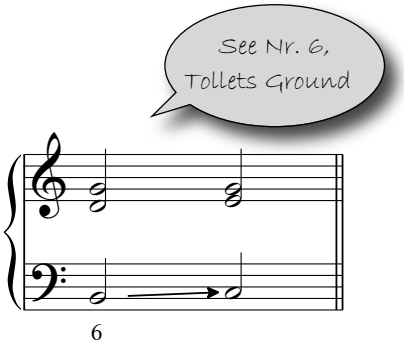
B is the third in the G major triad. The third gives the triad its character because it determines whether a chord is major or minor.

Dominant as a sixth Chord

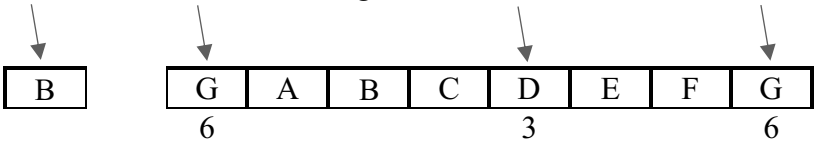
When a sixth chord has a dominant function, the leading note is in the bass.
In this case, the bass note is not doubled.

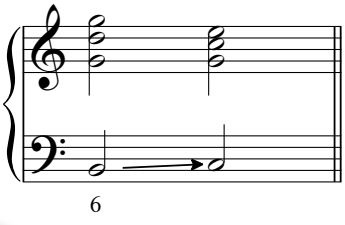
Such sixth chords can be performed in three voices:

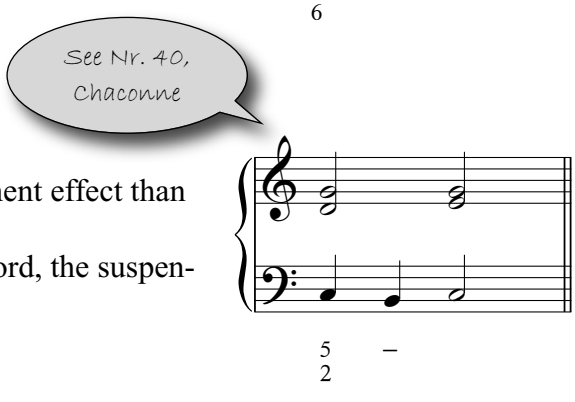




Or four voices in a wider register:







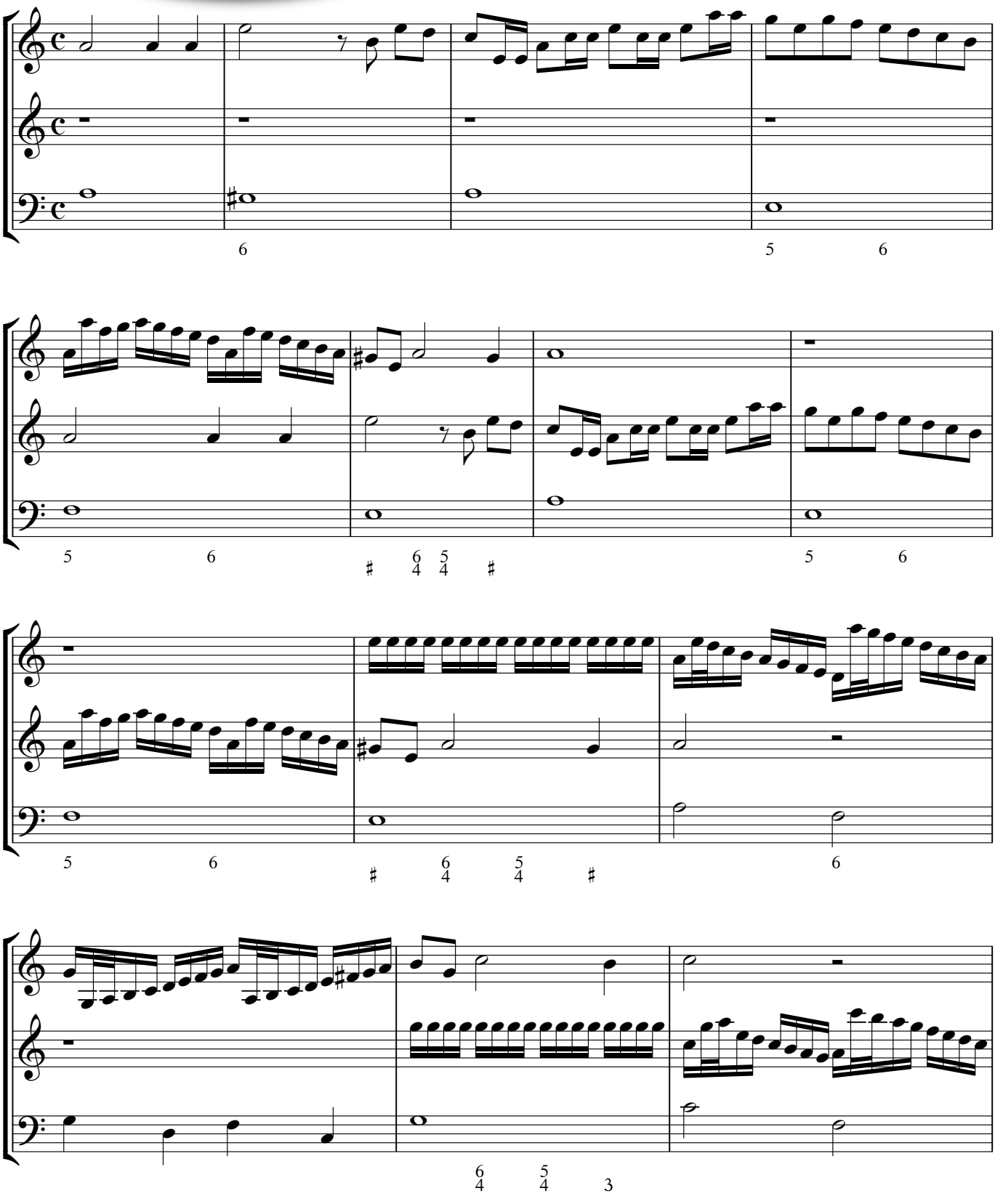
A dominant with a third in the bass has a less prominent effect than a dominant with the root in the bass.
If a fourth suspension is used in a dominant sixth chord, the suspension is in the bass:

11. La Treccia

Canzone

"La Trecchia" is composed for two violins, but this piece can also be played on recorders. For some of the lines, which exceed the range of the recorder, one has to find other melody progressions or octaves.

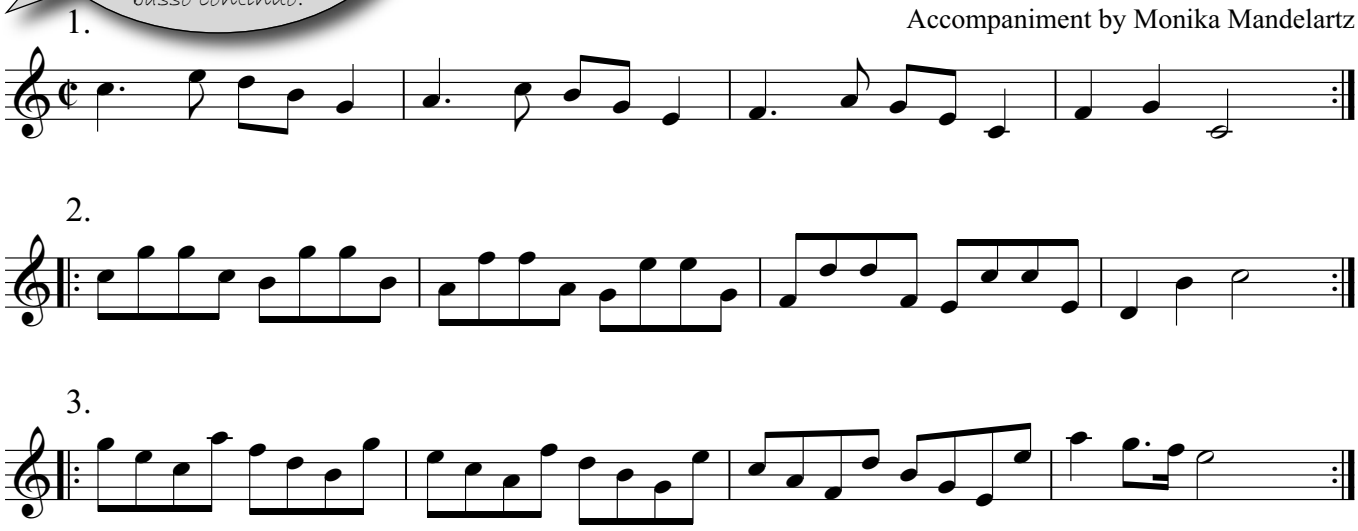
from"Canzoni overo Sonata Concertate", 1637
Tarquinio Merula (around 1594–1665)
Notation by Monika Mandelartz



This canon is notated without an accompaniment. Since this collection also contains canons with basso continuo, feel free to add a basso continuo.

16. A Chiding Catch

from "The Second Book of the Catch Club" around 1700
Accompaniment by Monika Mandelartz



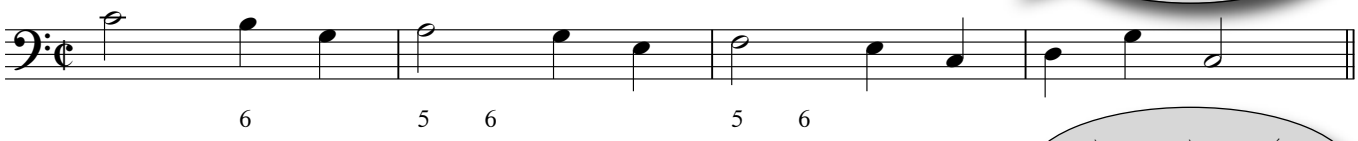
1.
Fy! nay! prithee, John!
Do not quarrel man!
Let's be merry, and drink about;

2.
You're a rogue, you've cheated me!
I'll prove before this company,
I caren't a farthing, sir,
for all you are so stout!

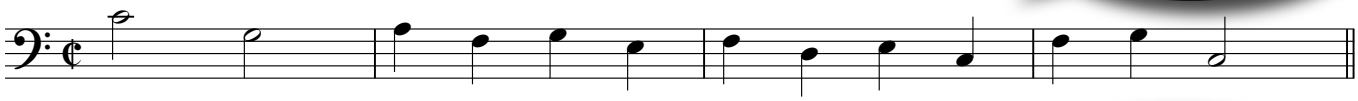
3.
Sir, you ly, I scorn your word,
or any man that wears a sword,
For all you huff who cares a damn,
or who cares for you?

Four ways to accompany the canon

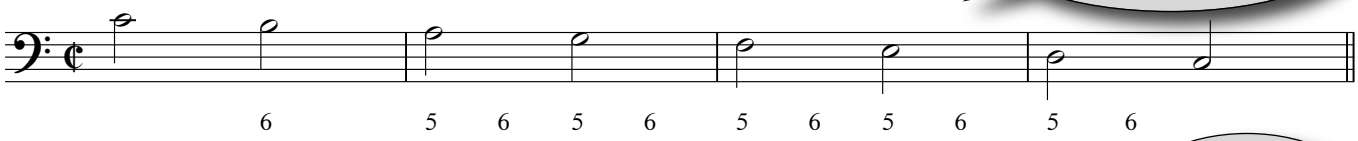
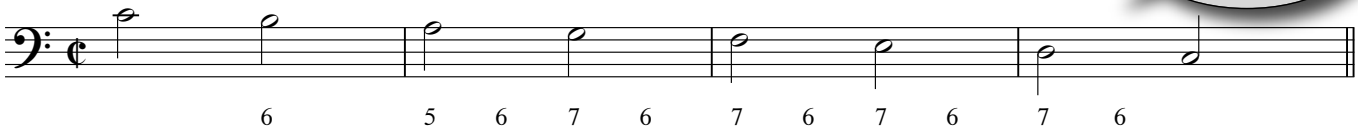
The bass notes and harmonies come from the three-part canon.



The same harmonies each notated as root chords.



The same harmonies over a descending bass line: 5-6 chains.



Supplemented by suspended sevenths.