

Chord & Joy

Chord Practice Sets 1 + 2: sample pages

These preview pages are draft English translations of the Korean edition. The final English edition is in preparation; wording and layout may change.

Music notation, chord symbols, and keyboard diagrams are shown as they appear in the book.

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[Triads] Finding Chords the Easy Way

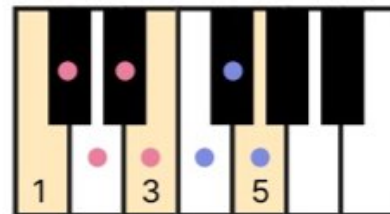
1. Major Chords

4+3

Root to 3rd = 4 half steps (major 3rd)

3rd to 5th = 3 half steps (minor 3rd)

Chord symbol: C



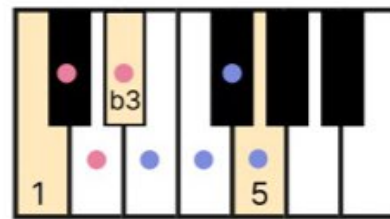
2. Minor Chords

Root to 3rd = 3 half steps (minor 3rd)

3rd to 5th = 4 half steps (major 3rd)

Lower the 3rd of a major chord by a half step (♭3)

Chord symbol: Cm



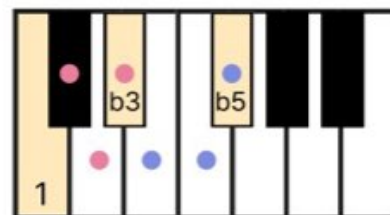
3. Diminished Chords

Root to 3rd = 3 half steps (minor 3rd)

3rd to 5th = 3 half steps (minor 3rd)

Lower the 3rd and 5th of a major chord (♭3, ♭5)

Chord symbol: Cdim or C°



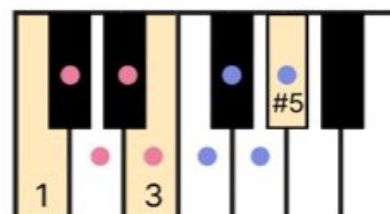
4. Augmented Chords

Root to 3rd = 4 half steps (major 3rd)

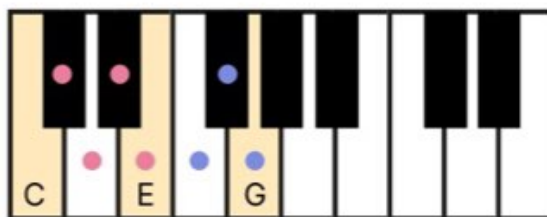
3rd to 5th = 4 half steps (major 3rd)

Raise the 5th of a major chord by a half step (♯5)

Chord symbol: C^{aug} or C⁺



C



- A major chord is 4 half steps from root to 3rd (major 3rd) and 3 half steps from 3rd to 5th (minor 3rd).
- As you learn the chord tones, practice the inversions too.



How to Get the Most Out of This Book

This book gives you one page a day, built on four practice steps.

Each step leads naturally into the next.

The goal is not just to understand chords but to get them into your hands.

Don't just follow the notes: learn the chord tones as you practice.

The better you know the chord tones, the more natural your playing becomes.

Step 1. Learn the Basic Chords

Read the chord symbol and the notation together to learn which notes make up each chord.

Go slowly, listen, and focus on getting the basic shape right.

Step 2. Inversions

Building on the basic chords, you learn the inverted shapes.

Many people find inversions hard,

but moving one note at a time with the music connects them naturally.

In this step you also practice a left-hand rhythm.

Step 3. Top-Note Practice

Only the highest note (the top note) is written; the other chord tones are left out.

Build the chord tones below the top note yourself

to grow your feel for chords.

Step 4. Arpeggios

The right hand keeps the inverted chord shape; the left hand spreads the chord tones as an arpeggio.

This step helps you connect chords more smoothly.

Day 3

STEP 1. Basic Chords

STEP 2. Inversions

STEP 3. Top-Note Practice

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The bass clef staff contains a bass line of quarter notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The system is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. Above the treble staff, the chords C, G/B, F/A, and C/G are indicated for each measure respectively.

STEP 4. Left-Hand Arpeggios

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 4/4. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 4/4. The melody in the treble staff is: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (half). The bass staff accompaniment is: C3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), G3 (half). The first measure is labeled with a 'C' above the treble staff. The second measure is labeled with a 'G/B' above the treble staff. The third measure is labeled with an 'F/A' above the treble staff. The fourth measure is labeled with a 'C/G' above the treble staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

Practice with Chord Symbols

Day1

C G Am Em

Day2

C Bdim E Am C

Day3

C G/B F/A C/G

Day4

C Am F G

Day5

C G Am F C G F

Day6

C F Em A Dm G

Day7

C G Am E F G C G

Day8

C G/B Am C/G F C/E Dm G

Day9

C D G D/F# Em C D G D/F# Em

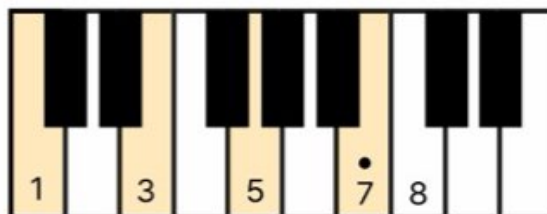
Day10

Am Dm G C

[Seventh Chords] Finding Chords the Easy Way

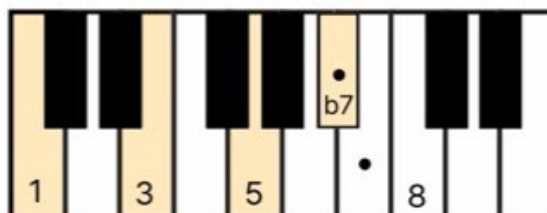
1. Major 7th Chords

- Add a major 7th to a major triad
- A half step below the root's octave (the 8th)
- Chord symbols: CM7, Cmaj7, CΔ7
- Say it: "C major seven"



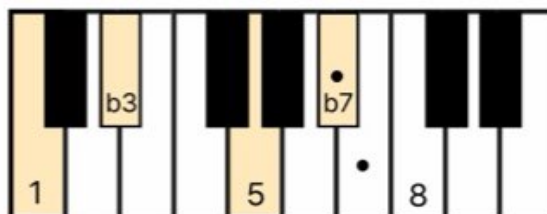
2. Dominant 7th Chords

- Add a minor 7th to a major triad
- A whole step below the root's octave (the 8th)
- Chord symbol: C7
- Say it: "C seven"



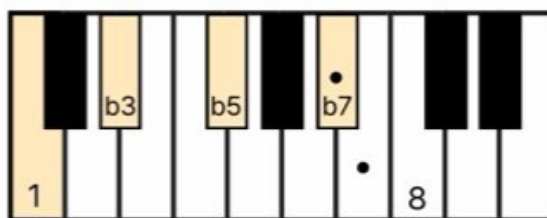
3. Minor 7th Chords

- Add a minor 7th to a minor triad
- A whole step below the root's octave (the 8th)
- Chord symbols: Cm7, C-7, Cmin7
- Say it: "C minor seven"



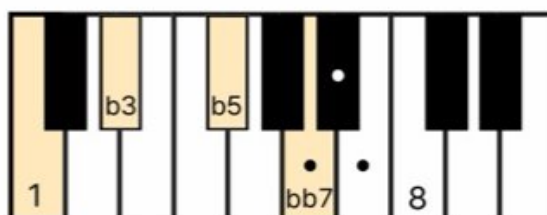
4. Half-Diminished 7th Chords

- Add a minor 7th to a diminished triad
- A whole step below the root's octave (the 8th)
- Chord symbols: Cm7(b5), Cø7
- Say it: "C minor seven flat five"
or "C half-diminished seven"



5. Diminished 7th Chords

- Add a diminished 7th to a diminished triad
- A step and a half below the root's octave (the 8th)
- Chord symbols: Cdim7, C°7
- Say it: "C diminished seven"



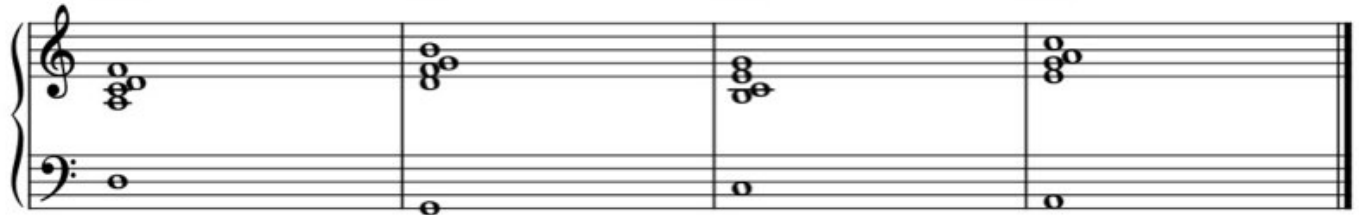
Day 6

Dm7 G7 CM7 Am7



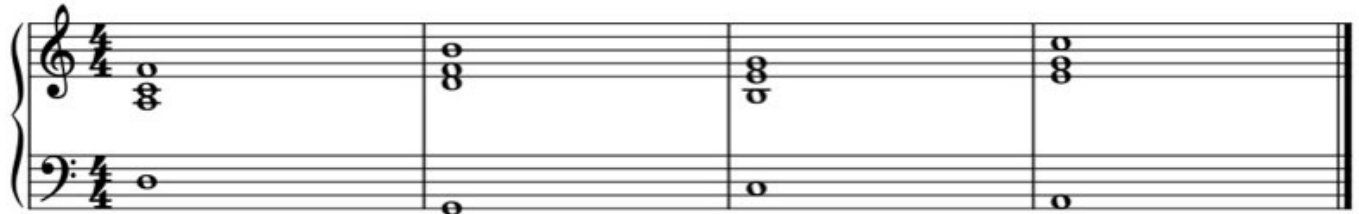
STEP 5. Melody Top-Note Practice

Dm7 G7 CM7 Am7



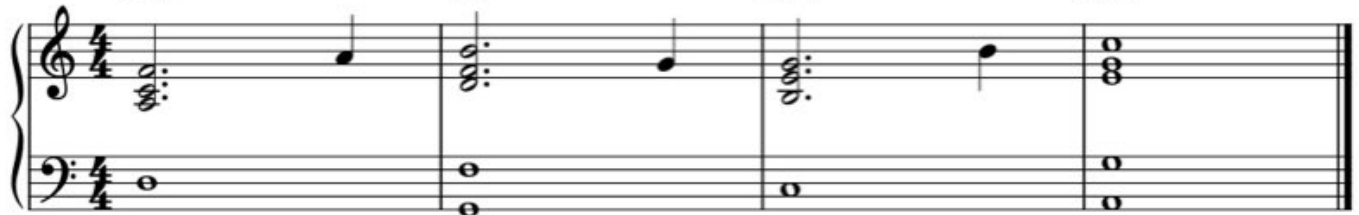
STEP 6. Rootless Voicings

Dm7 G7 CM7 Am7



STEP 7. Chords + Melody

Dm7 G7 CM7 Am7



STEP 8. Left-Hand Arpeggios

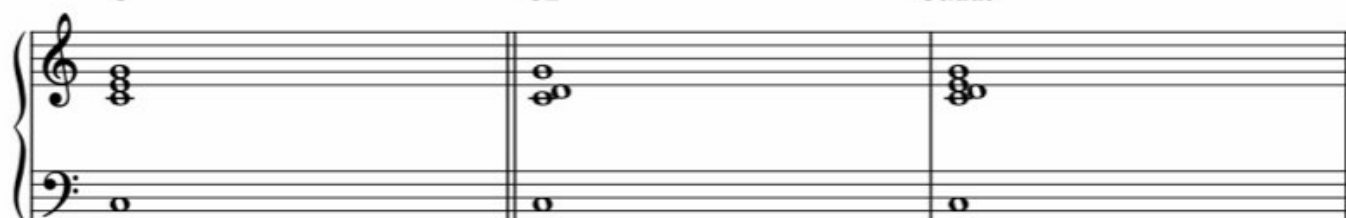
Dm7 G7 CM7 Am7



C

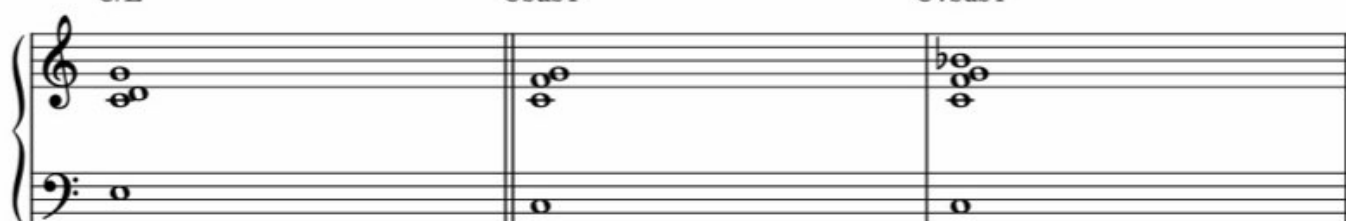
1. Chords Extended from Triads

C C2 Cadd9



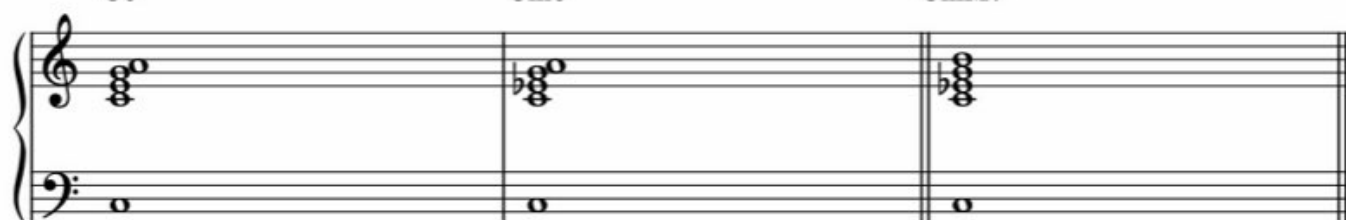
Musical notation for three chords in C major: C (C4, E4, G4), C2 (C3, E3, G3), and Cadd9 (C4, E4, G4, Bb4). Each chord is shown in a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The C chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The C2 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The Cadd9 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble.

C/E Csus4 C7sus4



Musical notation for three chords in C major: C/E (C4, E4, G4, C3), Csus4 (C4, E4, G4, C3), and C7sus4 (C4, E4, G4, Bb4, C3). Each chord is shown in a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The C/E chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The Csus4 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The C7sus4 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble.

C6 Cm6 CmM7



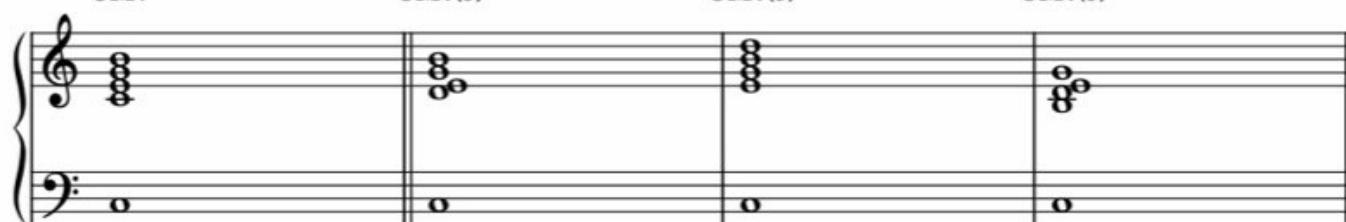
Musical notation for three chords in C major: C6 (C4, E4, G4, A4, C3), Cm6 (C4, E4, G4, Ab4, C3), and CmM7 (C4, E4, G4, Ab4, Bb4, C3). Each chord is shown in a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The C6 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The Cm6 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The CmM7 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble.

*5th may be omitted

*5th may be omitted

2. M7 Tension Chords

CM7 CM7(9) CM7(9) CM7(9)



Musical notation for four chords in C major: CM7 (C4, E4, G4, Bb4), CM7(9) (C4, E4, G4, Bb4, D5), CM7(9) (C4, E4, G4, Bb4, D5), and CM7(9) (C4, E4, G4, Bb4, D5). Each chord is shown in a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The CM7 chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble. The CM7(9) chord has a whole note in the bass and a triad in the treble.

*m7 built on the 3rd