

## Chord Glossary

In this section you will look at the C major scale, harmonized C major scale, harmonized C major scale in sevenths, chord sounds, and chord formulas.

### C Major Scale

1/8	2/9	3/10	4/11	5/12	6/13	7
C	D	E	F	G	A	B
Do	Re	Mi	Fa	So	La	Ti

### Harmonized C Major Scale

I	II <sup>m</sup>	III <sup>m</sup>	IV	V	VI <sup>m</sup>	VII <sup>o</sup>
C	D <sup>m</sup>	E <sup>m</sup>	F	G	A <sup>m</sup>	B <sup>o</sup>

### Harmonized C Major Scale in Sevenths

I <sup>maj7</sup>	II <sup>m7</sup>	III <sup>m7</sup>	IV <sup>maj7</sup>	V <sup>7</sup>	VI <sup>m7</sup>	VII <sup>m7b5</sup>
C <sup>maj7</sup>	D <sup>m7</sup>	E <sup>m7</sup>	F <sup>maj7</sup>	G <sup>7</sup>	A <sup>m7</sup>	B <sup>m7b5</sup>

### Chord Sounds

Different chords create different sounds. Below is a list describing the sound associated with various chord qualities.

Chord Quality	Sound
Major	Stable, Positive, Upbeat, or Happy
Minor	Soft, Sad, Melancholic, Dark, or Unhappy
Dominant Seventh	Slightly dissonant, Harder Edged, Bluesy, or Funky
Major Seventh	Fuller, Bright, Jazzy, or Romantic
Minor Seventh	Mellow, Jazzy, or Somewhat Sad
Power	Hard Rock/Heavy Metal Music

### Chord Formulas

Chords are constructed with notes from the major scale. The notes in all major scales follow a “W-W-H-W-W-W-H” pattern where “W” represents a whole step and “H” a half step as shown in the C major scale shown below.

C		D		E		F		G		A		B		C
	W		W		H		W		W		W		H	

Any chord can be constructed from its corresponding major scale by applying the appropriate chord formula (middle column) shown in the box below. Examples presented in the key of C. The notes shown in brackets are optional.

Chord Symbol	Chord Formula	Notes
C (CM)	1 3 5	C E G
C5 (C power chord; C no 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	1 5	C G
C(b5)	1 3 b5	C E Gb
C6	1 3 5 6	C E G A
C6/9 (C6add9)	1 3 [5] 6 9	C E G A D
Cmaj7 (CM7)	1 3 5 7	C E G B
Cmaj7b5 (CM7-5)	1 3 b5 7	C E Gb B
Cmaj7#5 (CM7+5)	1 3 #5 7	C E G# B
Cmaj9 (CM9; CM7add9)	1 3 [5] 7 9	C E G B D
Cmaj11 (CM11; CMadd11)	1 [3] 5 7 [9] 11	C E G B D F
Cmaj13 (CM13; CM7add13)	1 3 [5] 7 [9] [11] 13	C E G B D F A
Cm	1 b3 5	C Eb G
Cm6 (C-6)	1 b3 5 6	C Eb G A
Cm6/9	1 b3 [5] 6 9	C Eb G A D
CmM7 (Cmaj7b3)	1 b3 5 7	C Eb G B
CmM9 (Cm+9)	1 b3 [5] 7 9	C Eb G B D
Cm7 (C-7)	1 b3 5 b7	C Eb G Bb
Cm7#5	1 b3 #5 b7	C Eb G# Bb
Cmadd9 (C-add9)	1 b3 [5] 9	C Eb G D
Cm9 (C-9)	1 b3 [5] b7 9	C Eb G Bb D
Cm11 (C-11)	1 b3 [5] b7 [9] 11	C Eb G Bb D F
Cm13 (C-13)	1 b3 [5] b7 [9] [11] 13	C Eb G Bb D F A
C7 (C dom)	1 3 5 b7	C E G Bb
Cadd9	1 3 5 9	C E G D
C7/6 (C7add6; C7/13)	1 3 [5] 6 b7	C E G A Bb
C7b5 (C7-5)	1 3 b5 b7	C E Gb Bb
C7#5 (C7+5)	1 3 #5 b7	C E G# Bb
C7b9 (C7-9)	1 3 [5] b7 b9	C E G Bb Db
C7#9 (C9+; C7+9; Caug9)	1 3 [5] b7 #9	C E G Bb D#
C7b5b9 (C7-5-9)	1 [3] b5 b7 b9	C E Gb Bb Db
C7#5b9 (C7+5-9)	1 [3] #5 b7 b9	C E G# Bb Db
C7b5#9 (C7-5+9)	1 [3] b5 b7 #9	C E Gb Bb D#
C7#5#9 (C7+5+9)	1 [3] 5# b7 #9	C E G# Bb D#
C7#11 (C11+; C9+11)	1 3 [5] b7 9 #11	C E G Bb D F#
C7b9#11 (C-9+11)	1 [3] [5] b7 b9 #11	C E G Bb Db F#
C9 (C7add9)	1 3 [5] b7 9	C E G Bb D
C9b5 (C9-5)	1 [3] b5 b7 9	C E Gb Bb D
C9#5 (C9+5)	1 [3] #5 b7 9	C E G# Bb D

C11 (C7add 11)	1 [3] 5 b7 [9] 11	C E G Bb D F
C11b9 (C11-9)	1 [3] [5] b7 b9 11	C E G Bb Db F
C13 (C7add13; C9/6)	1 [3] 5 b7 [9] [11] 13	C E G Bb D F A
C13b9 (C13-9)	1 [3] [5] b7 9 [11] 13	C E G Bb Db F A
C13b5b9 (C13-5-9)	[1] [3] b5 b7 b9 [11] 13	C E Gb Bb Db F A
C13+11	1 [3] [5] b7 9 #11 13	C E G Bb D F# A
C13b9#11 (C13-9+11)	[1] [3] [5] b7 b9 #11 13	C E G Bb Db F# A
C+ (Caug; C+5; C#5)	1 3 #5	C E G#
Co (Cdim; Cmb5; Cm-5)	1 b3 b5	C Eb Gb
Cm7b5 (half diminished)	1 b3 b5 b7	C Eb Gb Bb
Co7 (Cdim7)	1 b3 b5 bb7	C Eb Gb A
Csus2	1 2 5	C D G
Csus4 (Csus)	1 4 5	C F G
C7sus4 (C7sus; C7sus11)	1 4 5 b7	C F G Bb

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