

SEVENTH CHORDS - FOUR NOTE VOICINGS

SEVENTH CHORDS GET THEIR NAME FROM THE ADDITIONAL NOTE THAT IS ADDED TO THE TRIAD (OUR BASIC THREE NOTE CHORDS). FOR MORE ON THIS, REFER TO MY 'BUILDING CHORDS' PDF. TO CREATE A SEVENTH CHORD WE TAKE A TRIAD, WE WILL USE 'C' CHORD AS OUR EXAMPLE, AND ADD AN INTERVAL OF A THIRD ABOVE THE EXISTING TRIAD. SO 'C' CHORD (NOTES: C, E, G) BECOMES C, E, G, B. THIS CREATES A C MAJOR 7 CHORD.

THERE ARE FIVE CHORD QUALITIES I WILL SHOW HERE. C MAJOR 7, C DOMINANT 7, C MINOR 7, C HALF-DIMINISHED 7 (OR C MINOR 7 FLAT 5), AND C DIMINISHED 7. THE PROCESS BY WHICH WE CREATE THESE CHORDS WILL BE EXPLAINED BELOW. FOR NOW, HERE IS A SEQUENCE OF C TYPE CHORDS THAT WILL REPRESENT SEVENTH CHORDS WITH THE ROOT ON THE 5TH STRING. LIKE BARRE CHORDS, THESE ARE MOVABLE.

	C MAJ ⁷	C ⁷	C MIN ⁷	C MIN ^{7(b5)}	C DIM ⁷
GUITAR					

THE SEQUENCE ABOVE STARTS WITH A C MAJOR 7. MOVING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, WE LOWER ONE NOTE AT A TIME TO GET THE NEW CHORD QUALITY. FOR EXAMPLE C MAJ7 (C, E, G, B) BECOMES C7 (C, E, G, B FLAT) WHEN WE LOWER THE 7TH (THE 'B'). TO CREATE THE C MIN 7 WE LOWER THE 3RD (C, E FLAT, G, B FLAT). THE C HALF DIMINISHED 7 IS CREATED BY FLATTING THE FIFTH (C, E FLAT, G FLAT, B FLAT), AND THE C DIMINISHED 7 IS CREATED BY FLATTING THE 7TH AGAIN (C, E FLAT, G FLAT, B DOUBLE FLAT).

NOW THAT WE HAVE THE PROCESS, HERE IS THE SAME SEQUENCE WITH THE ROOT ON THE 6TH STRING. TO KEEP THINGS SIMPLE I WILL USE THE 'C' CHORDS FOR MY EXAMPLE AGAIN.

GTR.					
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