

Chord Types

A musical staff in 4/4 time showing four chords in the key of C. The first chord is Major C (C-E-G), the second is Minor Cm (C-Eb-G), the third is C- Cdim (C-Eb-Gb), and the fourth is Aug C+ (C-E-G#). Each chord is represented by a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a single measure of music with a whole note chord.

Major: big third - small third. Example: C -> E-E-G

Minor: small third – big third. Example: Cm -> C-Eb-G

Diminished: small third – small third: Example: Cdim or C- -> C-Eb-Gb

Augmented: g third – big third: Example: C^{aug} or C⁺ -> C-E-G[#]

A musical staff in 4/4 time showing four chords in the key of C. The first chord is C7 (C-E-G-Bb), the second is Cmaj7 (C-E-G-B), the third is C6 (C-E-G-A), and the fourth is C^{sus4} (C-F-G). Each chord is represented by a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a single measure of music with a whole note chord.

Dominant Sept-Chord: Example: C7 -> C-E-G-Bb

Major Sept-Chord: Example: Cmaj7 -> C-E-G-B

Sixth-Chord: Example: C6 ->C-E-G-A

Suspended Chord: Example: C^{sus4} (4th tone suspended) -> C-F-G

There are many more chord types. The above are the most common. Each chord has its own flavor and functionality and is used with a harmonic plan in **chord progressions**. For example a C^{sus4} is resolved in a C chord.