

Chord Formulas



Formulas for Any Chord

Learn the Basics – The Rest is Simple

<http://www.learn-guitar-asap.com/chord-formulas.shtml>

Chord Formulas

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Chord Formulas

The Major Scale will be used to build the chords below.

Each scale note will also have a number that you will use.

The first table will be a list of the major scales.

The b means flat(down 1 fret) and the # means sharp(up 1 fret).

Major Scales							
Scale	1/Root	2/9	3	4/11	5	6/13	7
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B
F	F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E
Bb	Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A
Eb	Eb	F	G	Ab	Bb	C	D
Ab	Ab	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F	G
Db	Db	Eb	F	Gb	Ab	Bb	C
Gb	Gb	Ab	Bb	Cb	Db	Eb	F
F#	F#	G#	A#	B	C#	D#	E#
B	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#
E	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#
A	A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#
D	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#

The Gb and F# are the same scale/pitch just written different.

Each chord will have a set number of notes depending on its name

Just pick the 1 or Root note and follow it across to find the notes for the chord you want

You will have to go through the scale twice for some chords some notes have two numbers

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Basic Triads			
Chord Type			
Major	1	3	5
Minor	1	b3	5
Augmented	1	3	#5
Dminished	1	b3	b5

This is as simple as a chord can get.

When you play a major or minor chord you will use more notes as in barre chords but they will just be octaves of the same basic notes.

Suspended Chords					
Chord					
sus 2	1	2	5		
sus 4	1	4	5		
sus 2/6	1	2	5	6	
sus 4/6	1	4	5	6	
sus 4/9	1	4	5	9	
7sus2	1	2	5	b7	
7sus4	1	4	5	b7	
7sus4/6	1	4	5	6	b7

Suspended chords suspend the 3rd of a chord and replace it with a 2 or a 4.

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Major Chords						
Chord	A chord that has the name maj in it will always have a major 7 th in it not a flatted 7 th like dominants.					
maj	1	3	5			
add9	1	3	5	9		
6	1	3	5	6		
6/9	1	3	5	6	9	
maj7	1	3	5	7		
maj7/6	1	3	5	6	7	
maj9	1	3	5	7	9	
maj13	1	3	5	7	9	13

Minor Chords						
Chord	The difference between major and minor chords is the minor has a flatted 3rd					
min	1	b3	5			
madd9	1	b3	5	9		
m6	1	b3	5	6		
m6/9	1	b3	5	6	9	
m7	1	b3	5	b7		
m7/11	1	b3	5	b7	11	
m9	1	b3	5	b7	9	
m11	1	b3	5	b7	9	11
m7b9	1	b3	5	b7	b9	
m/maj7	1	b3	5	7		
m7b5	1	b3	b5	b7		

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Dominant Chords							
Chord	Dominant chords are built on the 5 th note of the major scale and have a flatted 7th						
7	1	3	5	b7			
7/6	1	3	5	6	b7		
7/11	1	3	5	b7	11		
7/6/11	1	3	5	6	b7	11	
9	1	3	5	b7	9		
11	1	3	5	b7	9	11	
11/13	1	3	5	b7	9	11	13
13	1	3	5	b7	9	13	
13b9	1	3	5	b7	b9	13	
13 sus4	1	4	5	b7	9	13	

These chords are also built from the melodic a harmonic minor scales.

Altered Chords							
Chord	Altered notes are the 5 th , 9 th and 11 th notes only but can be combined						
7b5	1	3	b5	b7			
7#5	1	3	#5	b7			
7b9	1	3	5	b7	b9		
7#9	1	3	5	b7	#9		
7#11	1	3	5	b7	#11		
9b5	1	3	b5	b7	9		
9#5	1	3	#5	b7	9		
13b9	1	3	5	b7	b9		13

Chord Formulas

Combined Altered Chords						
Chord						
7b5b9	1	3	b5	b7	b9	
7#5#9	1	3	#5	b7	#9	
7#5b9	1	3	#5	b7	b9	
7b5#9	1	3	b5	b7	#9	
7#5b5	1	3	b5	#5	b7	
13b5b9	1	3	b5	b7	b9	13

There are probably others but this is enough for now.
Here are some links to my site for scale and chord theory

Basic Chord Stuff

<http://www.learn-guitar-asap.com/guitar-chords.shtml>

Basic Scale Stuff

<http://guitar-scales.learn-guitar-asap.com/guitar-scales.shtml>

Scales for Altered Chords

<http://www.learn-guitar-asap.com/symmetrical-scales.shtml>

The page for this book.

<http://www.learn-guitar-asap.com/chord-formulas.shtml>

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