

COMMON CHORD CHEAT SHEET

(Just using C, but applies to all chords)

Each chord symbol has the corresponding scale(s), as well as the name of the scales above. We will just use C chords, but they apply to all chords as well.

Cmaj7

C major scale

C major be-bop scale



The image shows two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the C major scale, starting on middle C (C4) and ascending to C5. The second staff contains the C major be-bop scale, which is the C major scale with a natural 9th (E) and a natural 11th (F#), ending on a whole note C5.

C7

4 C Mixolydian (which is F major starting on the 5th)

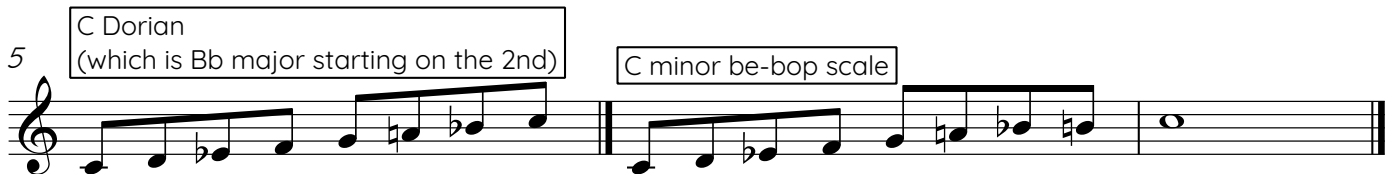


The image shows a single musical staff in treble clef starting on the 4th line (F4). It contains the C Mixolydian scale, which is the F major scale starting on its 5th degree (C4). The scale is shown as a continuous line of notes across the staff.

Cm7

5 C Dorian (which is Bb major starting on the 2nd)

C minor be-bop scale



The image shows two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff starts on the 5th line (C5) and contains the C Dorian scale, which is the Bb major scale starting on its 2nd degree (C4). The second staff contains the C minor be-bop scale, which is the C minor scale with a natural 9th (E) and a natural 11th (F#), ending on a whole note C5.

Cm7(b5)

(A.K.A. C minor half-diminished)

8 C half-whole diminished scale

C Locrian (which is just Db major starting on the 7th)



The image shows two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff starts on the 8th line (C6) and contains the C half-whole diminished scale, which is a sequence of alternating half and whole notes: C, Bb, Ab, G, F, E, D, C. The second staff contains the C Locrian scale, which is the Db major scale starting on its 7th degree (C4).

$C^{\circ 7}$

(C diminished 7)

11 C Whole-Half Diminished Scale



C^+

(C Augmented)

13 C augmented Scale

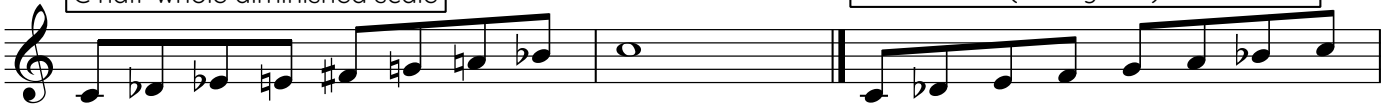
C whole-tone



$C7(b9)$

15 C half-whole diminished scale

C dominant (mixolydian) with a flat 9

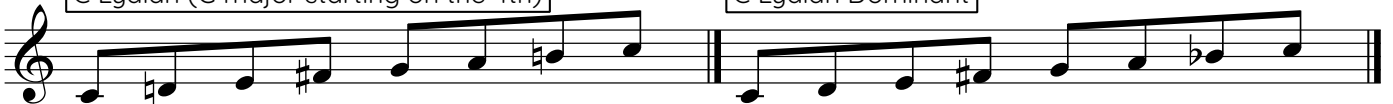


$C^{maj7}(\#11)$

$C7(\#11)$

18 C Lydian (G major starting on the 4th)

C Lydian Dominant



$Cm7(b9)$

20 C Phrygian (Eb major starting on the 6th)



$Cm7(b13)$

21 Natural Minor



Cm(maj7)

22 C harmonic minor ***Eb Augmented (the augmented scale of the 3rd)

C7alt.

24 C altered scale (explained below each note)

1 b9 #9 3 #11 b13 b7 1

C7(SUS4)

25 C Dominant (C Mixolydian) Scale (avoiding the 3rd)