



Classic Chord Chart

by John Falstrom

As a bassist you must "own" the Root of the chord changes in a song, i.e. Know Your Chords.

Chords

<u>Chord Name</u>	<u>Chord Type (Definition)</u>	<u>Notes in Chord</u>	<u>Chord Symbol (Example)</u>
Major Chord	Basic major chord.	R, 3rd, and 5th	C
Major 7th Chord	Adding the major 7th note to a basic major chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, and 7th	Cmaj7
Dominant 7th Chord	Adding the minor 7th note to a basic major chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, and b7th	C7
Minor Chord	Basic minor chord.	R, b3rd, and 5th	C-
Minor 7th Chord	Adding the minor 7th note to a basic minor chord.	R, b3rd, 5th, and b7th	C-7
Diminished Chord	Like basic minor chord but with the 5th note lowered one half step down.	R, b3rd, and b5th	Co
Half Diminished 7th Chord	Adding the minor 7th note to a diminished chord.	R, b3rd, b5th, and b7th	Cø7



Chords

<u>Chord Name</u>	<u>Chord Type (Definition)</u>	<u>Notes in Chord</u>	<u>Chord Symbol (Example)</u>
Fully Diminished 7th Chord	Lowering the minor 7th note one half step down in a half diminished 7th chord.	R, b3rd, b5th, and bb7th	Co7
Augmented Chord	Like basic major chord but with the 5th note raised one half step up.	R, 3rd, and #5th	C+
Major 6th Chord	Adding the major 6th note to a basic major chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, and 6th	C6
Minor 6th Chord	Adding the major 6th note to a basic minor chord.	R, b3rd, 5th, and 6th	C-6

- * Any note can be the root of a diminished or an augmented chord type.
- * A double flat means to lower a note one whole step down in pitch. The symbol for double flat is (**bb**). All seven natural notes can be double flatted.
- * A double sharp means to raise a note one whole step higher in pitch. The symbol for double sharp is (**x**). All seven natural notes can be double sharped.



Chords

<u>Chord Name</u>	<u>Chord Type (Definition)</u>	<u>Notes in Chord</u>	<u>Chord Symbol (Example)</u>
Major 9th Chord	Adding the major 9th (2nd) note to a major 7th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th	Cmaj9
Dominant 9th Chord	Adding the major 9th (2nd) note to a dominant 7th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, b7th, and 9th	C9
Minor 9th Chord	Adding the major 9th (2nd) note to a minor 7th chord.	R, b3rd, 5th, b7th, and 9th	C-9
Major 11th Chord	Adding the perfect 11th (4th) note to a major 9th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th	Cmaj11
Dominant 11th Chord	Adding the perfect 11th (4th) note to a dominant 9th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, b7th, 9th, and 11th	C11
Minor 11th Chord	Adding the perfect 11th (4th) note to a minor 9th chord.	R, b3rd, 5th, b7th, 9th, and 11th	C-11
Major 13th Chord	Adding the major 13th (6th) note to a major 11th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, and 13th	Cmaj13



Chords

<u>Chord Name</u>	<u>Chord Type (Definition)</u>	<u>Notes in Chord</u>	<u>Chord Symbol (Example)</u>
Dominant 13th Chord	Adding the major 13th (6th) note to a dominant 11th chord.	R, 3rd, 5th, b7th, 9th, 11th, and 13th	C13
Minor 13th Chord	Adding the minor 13th (6th) note to a minor 11th chord.	R, b3rd, 5th, b7th, 9th, 11th, and b13th	C-11(b13)
Suspended Chord	Playing the perfect 4th note in place of the major 3rd note in a basic major chord.	R, 4th, and 5th	Csus
Suspended 7th Chord	Adding the minor 7th note to a suspended chord.	R, 4th, 5th, and b7th	Csus7
Split Chord(s)	The 1st note letter is the chord type. The 2nd note letter is the bass note that is played either as the first note of the chord or as the lowest pitched note of the chord (double stop or a strummed or plucked chord on the bass guitar).	(Depends on chord type)	Examples: C/E, C-7/F



Chords

Important: The major 6th, major 7th, major 9th, major 11th, and major 13th chord(s) were all (built) from the equivalent to the Major Scale.

The dominant 7th, dominant 9th, dominant 11th, and dominant 13th chord(s) were all (built) from the equivalent to the Mixolydian Mode, (see The Modal System, pages 61-76).

The minor 6th chord was (built) from the equivalent to the Dorian Mode, (see The Modal System, pages 61-76).

The minor 7th, minor 9th, minor 11th, and minor 13th chord(s) were all (built) from the equivalent to the Natural Minor Scale.