

Triads, 7th Chords, Lead-sheet Symbols

Dr. B Music Theory

[VIDEO LINK](#)

Triad

The most common chords are triad. It's a 3 notes chord.

triad = tertial types/sonorities:

- major triad: (M3 P5) C E G
- augmented triad: (M3 A5) C E G#
- minor triad: (m3 P5) C Eb G
- diminished triad: (m3 d5) C Eb Gb

Lead sheet symbols

- A (+) for augmented
- M for major
- m for minor
- d (°) for diminished

The 1 is called the root, the 3 is called the 3rd and the 5 is called the 5th.

The root of the chord is always write in uppercase letter. For exemple:

- **Bb+** is B flat augmented triad.
- **Bb** is B flat major triad.
- **Bb-** or **Bbm** is B flat minor triad.
- **Bb°** is B flat diminished triad.

Seventh Chord

Using 4 notes. The interval between root and top note is a seven.

- MM7 = Major triad with Major seven / Major seven chord, notation **C^{MA7}**, **C^{MAJ7}**, **C^{Δ7}**.
- Mm7 = Major triad with Minor seven / Major minor seven chord (dominant 7), notation **C⁷**.
- mm7 = Minor triad with Minor seven / Minor seven chord, notation **C-7**, **Cm⁷**.
- dm7 = Diminished triad with Minor seven / Half diminished seven chord (Minor 7b5), notation **C^{Ø7}**, **C-7^{b5}**.
- dd7 = Diminished triad with Diminished seven / Diminished seven chord (fully diminished), notation **C^{°7}**.