

CHORD SYMBOLS EXPLAINED

Triads

3 notes - built in thirds

C Cm C° C+ Csus

major triad minor triad diminished triad augmented triad suspended 4th
(4th replaces the 3rd)

Seventh Chords

4 notes - built in thirds

start by considering the dom 7th

▶'minor' effects the third

▶'major' effects the seventh!

C7

the **(dominant) seventh**

...a major triad with a flattened 7th added (flattened when compared to the note you would expect from the major scale)

flatten the 3rd

raise the 7th

Cm7

the **minor seventh**

...the 'm' means that the third is lowered a semitone

CΔ

the **major seventh**

...the Δ raises the (flattened) 7th to the 7th note of the major scale

CmΔ Cø C°7 CΔ+

the **minor major seventh**
...minor 3rd **and** major seventh

the **half diminished**
...the symbol means flatten the 3rd and 5th of the dominant 7th

the **diminished seventh**
...take a dominant seventh chord and flatten the 3rd, 5th and 7th

Other chords

C6 C9 Cm6 Cm6⁹ CΔ#5 CΔ+