

The Diatonic 7th Chords of C Major

<http://www.MordenGuitarLessons.ca>

In the previous lesson we discussed how chords are built from scales. We talked about triads, which are the simplest chords using only three notes from the scale (every other one). This time we are going to add one more note to each of the triads we created last time. This is known as an “extension” to a chord. Again we’ll be sticking with the C Major scale.

1

C D E F G A B C

T
A
B

3 0 2 3 0 2 0 1

The first chord we’ll make is going to be called C major 7.

Here it is:

This time we are using four notes instead of three, still skipping every other note. And the chord tones this time are: Root, 3rd, 5th and 7th.

Here’s our C Major 7 chord:

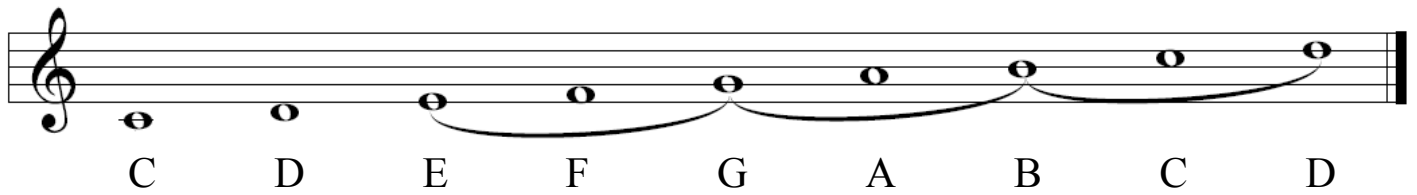
And the guitar version:

This one has two C’s (Root) and two E’s (3rd) but only one G (5th) and one B (7th)

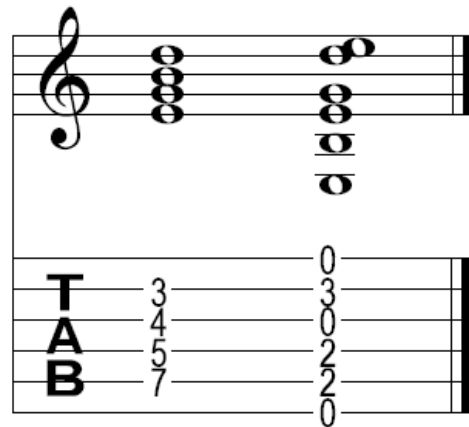
T
A
B

0
0
2
3

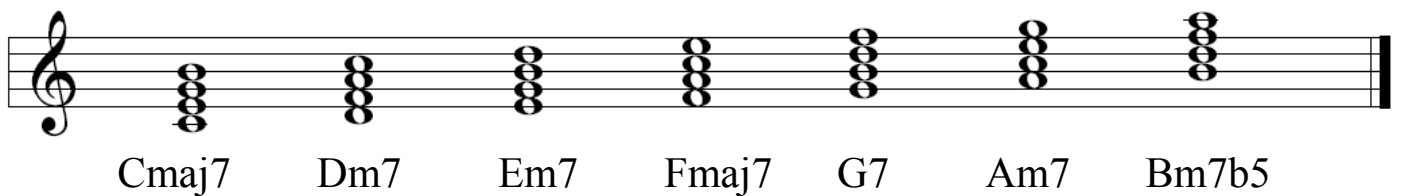
Now let's make an E minor 7 (Em7):



So here's our Em7 chord and the guitar version of the same:



Now here are the seven Diatonic 7th Chords of C Major:



Or, in guitar language:

