
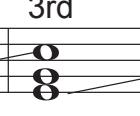
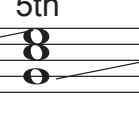
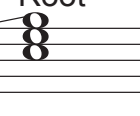


Chord Inversions

Any chord (triad) can be inverted two times. The process involves raising the lowest note of the chord by one octave. Notice that when the chord is inverted for the third time, we have arrived again in Root Position but over-all, an octave higher from where we began. The three component notes of the chord are referred to as the "Root, 3rd and 5th."

Root Position	First Inversion	Second Inversion	Root Position
5th 3rd Root	Root 5th 3rd	3rd Root 5th	5th 3rd Root
			
R	3rd	5th	R

Standard practice is to name the inversion by the lowest note of the chord. If the Root is at the bottom, the chord is in Root Position. 3rd at the bottom is First Inversion and 5th in the bass is Second Inversion. The above chords are in "closed" voicing because they are as close together as possible.

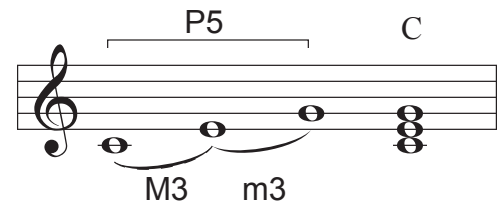
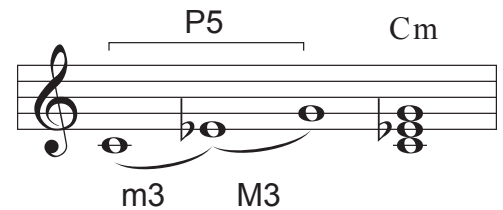
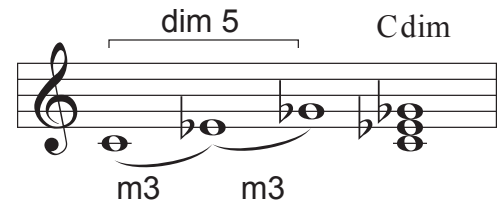
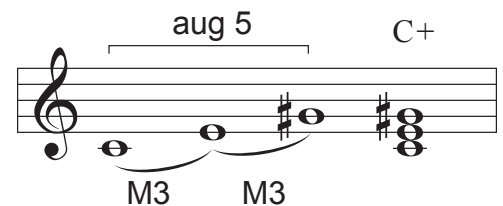
Chord Types

Triads are basically three note stacks where the notes are separated by an interval of a third. There are really only two types of thirds. The consequence is that we can create four types of triads from these parameters. Notice that the Major chord consists of a Maj 3rd and a Min 3rd. The interval from the Root to the 5th is a Perfect 5th.

Minor chords consist of a Minor 3rd and a Major 3rd. From the Root to the 5th is also a Perfect 5th. Notice that the major and minor chords are distinguished by the difference in the 3rd. The "3rd" of the chord is often referred to as the "colour note."

Diminished chords are a pair of stacked Minor 3rds. From the Root to the 5th is a diminished 5th.

Augmented chords are a pair of Major 3rds. From the Root to the 5th is an Augmented 5th.

The easiest thought process is to think of the other three types of triads as alterations to the basic major chord. Minor chords contain a "flatted 3rd." Diminished chords contain a "flatted 3rd and 5th." The Augmented chord contains a "sharped 5th."

ie: "A" major=A--C#--E so "A" minor=A--C--E so "A"diminished=A--C--Eb and "A" aug=A--C#--E#
 "Bb" maj=Bb--D--F so "Bb" min=Bb--Db--F so "Bb" dim=Bb--Db--Fb and "Bb" aug=Bb--D--F#