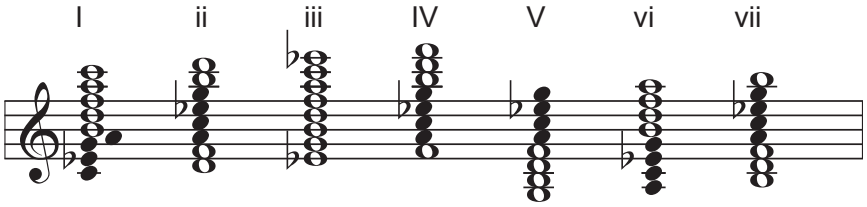
(Book 5) Lesson 14a.

Tower of Thirds Re: Minor Sixth Chords

These towers of thirds would be found in the ascending C Melodic minor (real melodic) or for the sake of simplicity, can be just thought of as the key of C with an altered third.

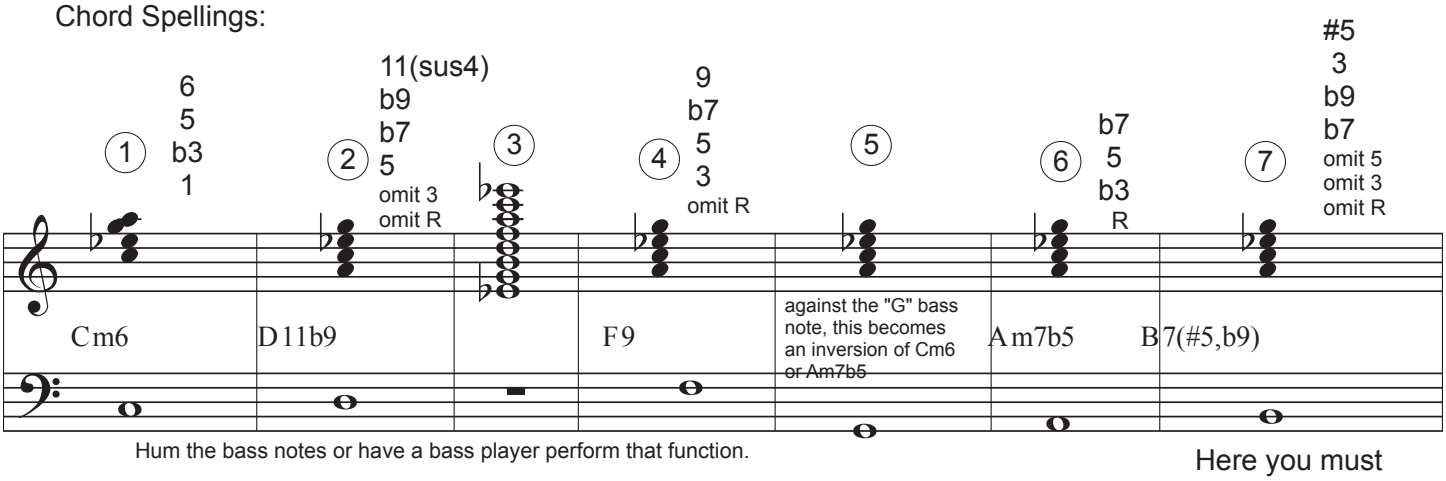
Notes C - Eb - G - A related to the tower of thirds in the key of "C" Major.



Notice that the notes C-Eb-G-A (A-C-Eb-G) occur in six of the seven towers. Note also, that the chord on iii is a new chord. In four parts, the chord on iii is an augmented triad with a Major Seventh. This chord while not an impossibility, is indeed rarely used.

As with the Major 6th series , the minor 6th series starts out not being difficult to hear and identify, but, as the upper partials get further away from the roots of the chords, the same aural problems as found in the Major 6th and Major 7th series are bound to recur.

Chord Spellings:

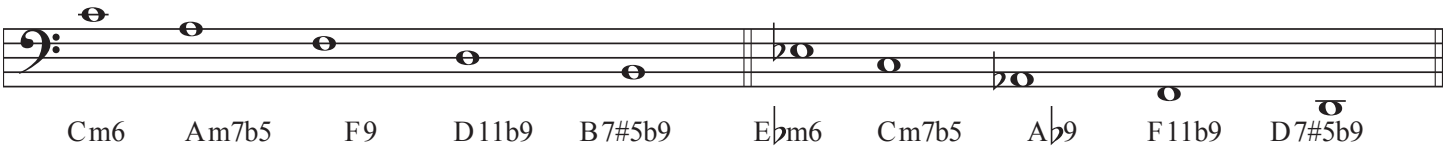


Hum the bass notes or have a bass player perform that function.

Notice that tower 3 does not contain the "A-C-Eb-G" in order.

Here you must rethink the Eb as a D# and the note G as an Fx.

Chart of Falling diatonic Thirds



Add this drill to the study period. You may find it more prudent to keep these different drills carefully separated, practicing only one per day. This is not necessary but certainly less confusing.