

(Book 5.) Lesson 27a.

Dispersed voicing with the bass note on the 5th string will often be compromised due to the standard tuning of the guitar. Workable solutions can be invented by either adding a note, subtracting a note or perhaps by simply playing in a "pick and finger" style technique. Generally, adding a second Root or 5th is not harmful to the chord. A doubled 3rd, 6th or 7th produces less than stellar results. The colour notes are harmonically too powerful to be doubled in another octave. The "black note" chords are the optional fingerings.

Root Position Dispersed Voicing with Bass Note on "A" (Series 1.)

Notice that the optional chord omits the 3rd.

Five note chord is a common standard fingering

3rd Inv close voice

Observe the fingering carefully.

Doubling the #5 is also a possibility.

Chords shown: C6, C6 (optional), C7, C7b5, C7+5. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 on the strings.

Altered Roots:

The doubled 5th does not alter the image or this chord.

The 9th and #9th do not make particularly good bass notes. These chords may sound best in "passing" situations.

Chords shown: C7, C7b9, C9, C7#9. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 on the strings.

Altered 3rd: The Sus4 chord in Root Pos. is best played as a five note chord.

Chords shown: C7sus4, C7. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 on the strings.

NOTE: Depending on the size of your hand or the development of your stretches, not all of the chords shown on this page will be useful to you.

The frets being closer together in the higher positions will sometimes be of some help.

Major Series:

Chords shown: C, Cmaj7, C7, C6. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 on the strings.

Minor Series:

Notice that the 3rd has been moved down an octave and the Root is doubled.

Chords shown: Cm, Cm(maj7), Cm7, Cm6. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 on the strings.

All of the chords shown on this page should be worked out thoughtfully in all other keys. It is not good enough to just learn the fingerings. Without an awareness of which notes are needed in any one chord, the chord is simply a pattern that you might use to make some noise.