

Intro to Seventh Chords

1 3 5 7

Major Seventh
(M7, maj7, Δ7)

{ Major Triad }
C E G B
{ Major Seventh Interval }

Minor Seventh
(m7, min7, -7)

{ Minor Triad }
C Eb G Bb
{ Minor Seventh Interval }

Dominant Seventh
(7)

{ Major Triad }
C E G Bb
{ Minor Seventh Interval }

Half-Diminished Seventh
(ø7, m7b5, -7b5)

{ Dim. Triad }
C Eb Gb Bb
{ Minor Seventh Interval }

Diminished Seventh
(°7, dim7)

{ Dim. Triad }
C Eb Gb Bbb
{ Dim. Seventh Interval }

Minor Major Seventh
(mM7, mMaj7, mΔ7)

{ Minor Triad }
C Eb G B
{ Major Seventh Interval }

Augmented Major Seventh
(+M7, maj7#5, +Δ7)

{ Aug. Triad }
C E G# B
{ Major Seventh Interval }

As you can see, we construct seventh chords by adding another third after the initial triad. We can keep track of the various types by understanding the interval formed by the root and the additional third:

C -> B = Major Seventh Interval
C -> Bb = Minor Seventh Interval
C -> Bbb = Diminished Seventh Interval