

Guide for Using the Chord Symbols, Formulas, and Names Tool

This tool is used to identify chord symbols and their corresponding chord formulas and names. The tool is organized by chord family.

- Step 1.** Search down the first two left hand columns to find the chord symbol you are working with. Note that the “C” is just a placeholder for the root note. The chord you are looking for may have a different root note.
- Step 2.** In the column directly to the right of the chord symbol, you will find the chord formula, and to the right of this column, you will find the chord name.
- Step 3.** Identify the chord family by noting the chord family name in bold font across the top of each chord family section.



Play & Do...

- Find Cmaj7(#11) chord in the first column of the tool.
- Look across the row to locate the chord formula.
- Say the chord formula.
- Say the name of the chord.

CHORD SYMBOLS, FORMULAS AND NAMES TOOL

CHORD SYMBOL	OTHER CHORD SYMBOLS	CHORD FORMULA	CHORD NAME	OTHER NAMES
Major Chords				
C	N/A	1-3-5	C	C major
Cmaj7	N/A	1-3-5-7	C major 7	
Cmaj9	N/A	1-3-5-7-9	C major 9	
Cmaj13	N/A	1-3-5-7-9-13	C major 13	
C6	N/A	1-3-5-6	C six	
C6/9	N/A	1-3-5-6-9	C six nine	C six over nine
Cmaj7(#11)	N/A	1-3-5-7-#11	C major 7 sharp 11	
Cmaj9(#11)	N/A	1-3-5-7-9-#11	C major 9 sharp 11	
Cmaj13(#11)	N/A	1-3-5-7-9-#11-13	C major 13 sharp 11	
Cadd9	N/A	1-3-5-9	C add 9	
Minor Chords				
Cm	N/A	1-b3-5	C minor	
Cm7	N/A	1-b3-5-b7	C minor 7	
Cm9	N/A	1-b3-5-7-9	C minor 9	
Cm11	N/A	1-b3-5-7-9-11	C minor 11	
Cm13	N/A	1-b3-5-7-9-11-13	C minor 13	
Cm6	N/A	1-b3-5-6	C minor six	
Cm6/9	N/A	1-b3-5-6-9	C minor six nine	
Cm7b5	Cmin7(b5), C-7(b5), Cø7	1-b3-5-b7	C minor 7 flat 5	Half diminished
Cm(add9)	Cmin(add9), C-add9	1-b3-5-9	C major 9 sharp 11	
Dominant Chords				
C7	N/A	1-3-5-b7	C 7	C dominant 7
C9	N/A	1-3-5-b7-9	C 9	C dominant 9
C13	N/A	1-3-5-b7-9-13	C 13	C dominant 13
C7(#11)	N/A	1-3-5-b7-#11	C 7 sharp 11	
C7(b9)	N/A	1-3-5-b7-b9	C 7 flat 9	
C7(b13)	N/A	1-3-5-b7-b9-11-b13	C 7 flat 13	
C7alt	C7 with and any combination of b5, #5, b9, #9, #11, b13	1-3-b5-#5-b7-b9-#9-#11-b13	C altered	C alt.
Suspended Chords				
Csus2	N/A	1-2-5	C suspended 2	C sus 2
Csus4	Csus	1-4-5	C suspended 4	C sus 4
Diminished Chords				
Cdim	N/A	1-b3-b5	C diminished	
Cdim7	N/A	1-b3-b5-b7	C diminished 7	
Augmented Chords				
Caug	C+	1-3-#5	C augmented	
Slash Chords				
C/E	N/A	3 (voiced as the bass note)-1-5	C over E	
C/G	N/A	2 (voiced as the bass note)-1-5	C over G	
Cm/Eb	N/A	3 (voiced as the bass note)-1-b5	C minor over E flat	
Cm/G	N/A	2 (voiced as the bass note)-1-b5	C minor over G	
C/B	N/A	1 (voiced as the bass note)-3-5	C over B	
C/Bb	N/A	1 (voiced as the bass note)-3-5	C over B flat	
C/A	N/A	6 (voiced as the bass note)-1-3-5	C over A	
C/Ab	N/A	b6 (voiced as the bass note)-1-3-5	C over A flat	