

Jazz Chord Essentials: Open Triads

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Standard tuning

♩ = 120

Example 1 - Open Triads - how to construct

E-Gt

mf

T	5	8	13	17	5	8	13	17
A	5	9	12	17	5	10	9	17
B	5	10	14	17	3	7	10	15

Example 2 - Triads as chords in inversions

C

f

T	3	8	12	15	5	8	8	17	5	9	12	17
A	1	5	12	13	5	5	9	17	2	9	10	14
B	2	5	10	14	3	7	10	15	3	10	12	15

Dm

T	1	5	10	13	3	6	10	15	2	7	10	14
A	2	3	10	14	3	7	7	15	0	3	10	14
B	0	3	7	12	0	5	8	12	1	5	10	13

Bdim

T	1	7	10	13	3	6	7	15	4	7	10	16
A	0	7	10	12	3	4	7	15	0	7	9	12
B	0	3	9	12	2	5	8	14	0	8	10	13

Example 3 - Basic Cadences

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

Musical notation for Example 3 showing chords and guitar tablature. The tablature is as follows:

T	1	3	5	1	6	8	10	12	12
A	3	3	5	2	4	9	10	12	14
B	0	2	2	3	5	7	8	8	10

Example 4 - Altered dominant: use diminished triad from the 7th

Dm7 Bdim Cmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

Musical notation for Example 4 showing chords and guitar tablature. The tablature is as follows:

T	1	1	5	10	9	8	13	12	12
A	2	1	5	10	9	8	10	10	9
B	3	2	2	8	8	7	12	11	10

Example 5 - G7(b5) constructed from a Bdim

G7(b5)

Musical notation for Example 5 showing chords and guitar tablature. The tablature is as follows:

T	7	9	13	19	2	6	7	14
A	6	10	12	18	3	4	6	15
B	3	9	11	15	2	4	8	14

Example 6 - G7(#5) constructed from Bdim

G7(#5)

Musical notation for Example 6 showing chords and guitar tablature. The tablature is as follows:

T	7	11	13	19	4	6	7	16
A	4	10	12	16	3	4	8	15
B	3	9	13	15	2	6	8	14

Example 7 - G7#9 constructed from Fdim

Musical notation for Example 7 showing chords and guitar tablature. The tablature is as follows:

T	6	7	13	18	1	11	12	13
A	4	6	11	16	3	9	10	15
B	3	8	9	15	2	8	11	14

Example 8 - 11th instead of 5 on m7 chords and major 7th chords

Dm7

T	3	8	13	15	1	8	13	18
A	5	6	12	17	0	10	10	14
B	3	5	10	15	3	8	10	15

Example 9 - Cmaj7 #11 instead of 5 using Em triad

Cmaj7

T	2	7	12	15	5	7	12	17
A	4	5	11	16	4	9	9	16
B	2	4	9	14	2	7	9	14

Example 10 - C6 6 of 7 using Em triad

T	3	5	12	15	5	8	10	17
A	2	5	12	14	5	7	9	17
B	2	5	12	14	5	7	10	17

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T								
A								
B								