

SCALE SYLLABUS

LEGEND: H = Half Step, W = Whole Step.; Δ = Major 7th; + or # = raise H; b or - = lower H; Ø = Half-diminished; -3 = 3H (Minor Third)

CHORD/SCALE SYMBOL	SCALE NAME	WHOLE & HALF STEP CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
C	Major	W W H W W W H	C D E F G A B C	C E G B D
C7	Dominant 7th (Mixolydian)	W W H W W H W	C D E F G A Bb C	C E G Bb D
C-	Minor (Dorian)	W H W W W H W	C D Eb F G A Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
CØ	Half Diminished (Locrian)	H W W H W W W	C Db Eb F Gb Ab Bb C	C Eb Gb Bb
C°	Diminished (8 tone scale)	W H W H W H W H	C D Eb F Gb Ab A B C	C Eb Gb A (Bbb)
FIVE BASIC CATEGORIES				
1. MAJOR SCALE CHOICES	SCALE NAME	W & H CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
CΔ (Can be written C)	Major (don't emphasize the 4th)	W W H W W W H	C D E F G A B C	C E G B D
C	Major Pentatonic	W W -3 W -3	C D E G A C	C E G B
CΔ+4	Lydian (major scale with +4)	W W W H W W H	C D E F# G A B C	C E G# B D
CΔ	Bebop (Major)	W W H W H H W H	C D E F G# A B C	C E G# B D
CΔb6	Harmonic Major	W W H W H -3 H	C D E F G Ab B C	C E G B D
CΔ+5, +4	Lydian Augmented	W W W W H W H	C D E F# G# A B C	C E G# B D
C	Augmented	-3 H -3 H -3 H	C D# E G A B C	C E G B D
C	6th Mode of Harmonic Minor	-3 H W H W W H	C D# E F# G A B C	C E G B D
C	Diminished (begin with H step)	H W H W H W H W	C Db D# E F# G A Bb C	C E G B D
C	Blues Scale	-3 W H H -3 W	C Eb F F# G Bb C	C E G B D
2. DOMINANT 7th SCALE CHOICES	SCALE NAME	W & H CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
C7	Dominant 7th	W W H W W H W	C D E F G A Bb C	C E G Bb D
C7	Major Pentatonic	W W -3 W -3	C D E G A C	C E G Bb D
C7	Bebop (Dominant)	W W H W W H H H	C D E F G A Bb B C	C E G Bb D
C7b9	Spanish or Jewish scale	H -3 H W H W W	C Db E F G Ab Bb C	C E G Bb (Db)
C7+4	Lydian Dominant	W W W H W H W	C D E F# G A Bb C	C E G Bb D
C7b6	Hindu	W W H W H W W	C D E F G Ab Bb C	C E G Bb D
C7+ (has #4 & #5)	Whole Tone (6 tone scale)	W W W W W W	C D E F# G# Bb C	C E G# Bb D
C7b9 (also has #9 & #4)	Diminished (begin with H step)	H W H W H W H W	C Db D# E F# G A Bb C	C E G Bb Db (D#)
C7+9 (also has b9, #4, #5)	Diminished Whole Tone	H W H W W W W	C Db D# E F# G# Bb C	C E G# Bb D# (Db)
C7	Blues Scale	-3 W H H -3 W	C Eb F F# G Bb C	C E G Bb D (D#)
DOMINANT 7th SUSPENDED 4th				
C7 sus 4	Dom. 7th scale but don't emphasize the third	W W H W W H W	C D E F G A Bb C	C F G Bb D
C7 sus 4	Major Pentatonic built on b7	W W -3 W -3	Bb C D F G Bb	C F G Bb D
C7 sus 4	Bebop Scale	W W H W W H H H	C D E F G A Bb B C	C F G Bb D
3. MINOR SCALE CHOICES*	SCALE NAME	W & H CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
C- or C-7	Minor (Dorian)	W H W W W H W	C D Eb F G A Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
C- or C-7	Pentatonic (Minor Pentatonic)	-3 W W -3 W	C Eb F G Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
C- or C-7	Bebop (Minor)	W H H H W W H W	C D Eb E F G A Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
C-Δ (maj. 7th)	Melodic Minor (ascending)	W H W W W W H	C D Eb F G A B C	C Eb G B D
C- or C-6 or C-	Bebop Minor No. 2	W H W W H H W H	C D Eb F G G# A B C	C Eb G B D
C- or C-7	Blues Scale	-3 W H H -3 W	C Eb F F# G Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
C-Δ (b6 & maj. 7th)	Harmonic Minor	W H W W H -3 H	C D Eb F G Ab B C	C Eb G B D
C- or C-7	Diminished (begin with W step)	W H W H W H W H	C D Eb F# G# A B C	C Eb G B D
C- or C-b9b6	Phrygian	H W W W H W W	C Db Eb F G Ab Bb C	C Eb G Bb
C- or C-b6	Pure or Natural Minor, Aeolian	W H W W H W W	C D Eb F G Ab Bb C	C Eb G Bb D
4. HALF DIMINISHED SCALE CHOICES	SCALE NAME	W & H CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
CØ	Half Diminished (Locrian)	H W W H W W W	C Db Eb F Gb Ab Bb C	C Eb Gb Bb
CØ#2 (CØ9)	Half Diminished #2 (Locrian #2)	W H W H W W W	C D Eb F Gb Ab Bb C	C Eb Gb Bb D
CØ (with or without #2)	Bebop Scale	H W W H H H W W	C Db Eb F Gb G Ab Bb C	C Eb Gb Bb
5. DIMINISHED SCALE CHOICES	SCALE NAME	W & H CONSTRUCTION	SCALE IN KEY OF C	BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C
C°	Diminished (8 tone scale)	W H W H W H W H	C D Eb F Gb Ab A B C	C Eb Gb A

NOTES: 1) The above chord symbol guide is my system of notation. I feel it best represents the sounds I hear in jazz. The player should be aware that each chord symbol represents a series of tones called a scale. 2) Even though a C7+9 would appear to have only a raised 9th, it also has a b9, +4 and +5. So the entire C7+9 scale would look like: Root, b9, +9, 3rd, +4, +5, b7 & root (C, Db, D#, E, F#, G#, Bb, C). My chord symbol C7+9 is therefore an abbreviation, while the complete name of this scale is Diminished Whole Tone (sometimes called Super Locrian or Altered Scale). Similarly, C7b9 also appears to have only one altered tone (b9) but it actually has three: b9, +9 and +4. The entire scale looks like this: Root, b9, +9, 3rd, +4, 5th, 6th, b7 & root (C, Db, D#, E, F#, G, A, Bb, C). This is called a Diminished scale and my chord symbol abbreviation is C7b9. 3) All scales under the Dominant 7th category are scales that embellish the basic Dominant 7th sound. Some scales provide much more tension than the basic dominant 7th sound and require practice and patience to grasp the essence of their meaning. I encourage you to work with the first side of Volume 3 "The 11-V7-1 Progression" since it emphasizes Diminished and Diminished Whole Tone scales and chords. 4) * - In category #3, MINOR SCALE CHOICES, the PURE MINOR scale choice is not used very often. I have found the order of preference to be Dorian, Bebop, Melodic, Blues, Pentatonic, and then any of the remaining Minor scale choices.