

Chord Form Primer For Entry Level Jazz Guitarists

Presented By Free Chord Melody.com - An Affiliate Of Robert Conti.com

Before attempting to play the arrangement, I urge you to take a few days of your practice time to first become familiar with all the chord forms that will be utilized in the arrangement. I suspect that you are more than likely familiar with most of the forms already. In some cases, where I feel a certain formation may be difficult to an entry level player, I will generally include an alternate form of the same chord. In many cases you will see how a new chord is formed simply by adding a finger. For example, in the minor 7th group, I have grouped the chord forms below by type.

Again, my entire approach and philosophy toward teaching is for the student to learn how to play music by actually "playing" music that is meaningful and satisfying to YOUR ears! Spend a little time to become familiar with learning the chord forms below, and I promise that you will have a sufficient vocabulary to start making music very quickly!

It's absolutely NOT necessary to memorize each form at this point, you need only to become familiar with them. As the direct result of PLAYING the chords at the song level, you will be amazed how quickly you'll have all the forms memorized.

There appear to be 45 chord forms below. However, as you will soon discover, numerous forms are easily derived from other forms, e.g., In the first group below, the second and third Cma7 chords are the same form. Simply by adding the first finger barre, you are easily able to include a new note to the original chord. In the minor 7th group below, see how easily the second form of Am7 is formed from the first Am7. Then, see how easily the Dm11 and the second Dm7 are formed from the first Dm7! In essence, an endless number of new chord forms are easily created from other chords. My point is this - it is not as difficult as it may appear on your first review. In a short time, you'll play these forms as easily as writing your name!

Major Chords: 6; ma7; ma9 and Altered Major Chords

The chord forms shown are: Cma7 (1x342x), Cma7 (x1324x), Cma7 (x13241), Cma7 (x43111), C69/E (x11133), C/E (2x134x), C69#11 (2x1114), Fma9 (x1321x), F6 (2x1344), F6 (2x134x), D#69#11 (23111x), Bb6#11 (x13040), Cmaj7 (133244), and Cadd9 (134211).

The chord forms to the left may be difficult at first. However, don't worry, as I included easier alternate forms.

Minor 7th Chord Forms: m9; m11;

The chord forms shown are: Am7 (1x111x), Am7 (1x114x), Dm7 (x1312x), Dm11 (x1314x), Dm7 (x13121), Dm11 (1x14xx), Dm9 (x2134x), Dm7 (1x1111), Em7 (2x33xx), Em7 (013124), and Em7 (03141x).

Dominant 7th Chords and Altered Dominant Chord Forms

The chord forms shown are: G7 (1x24xx), G7 (1x121x), G13 (1x234x), G7 (1x124x), G13 (1x2344), G13b9 (1x1243), G7#5 (1x234x), G7#5 (1x1231), G7 (1x1314x), G7 (1x13141), G7sus (1x1311), G9 (x21333), G13 (x21334), Gaug (x3211x), G7#5#9 (1x1224), Db7#11 (2x341x), and Db7#11 (1x14xx).

Diminished Chord Forms:

The chord forms shown are: Abdim (2x131x), Ebdim (x23141), and C#dim (x2314x).

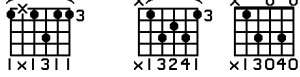
America The Beautiful

Lyrics By Katherine Lee Bates - Music By Samuel A. Ward

A Signature Arrangement By Robert Conti

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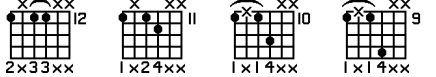
G7sus Cma7 Bb6#11



D#9#11 Cma7 Bb7#11 Am7 Eb7 Dm11 Abdim G7 C#dim Dm7 Em7 Fma7 G7



Em7 Eb7 Dm11 Db7#11 G9

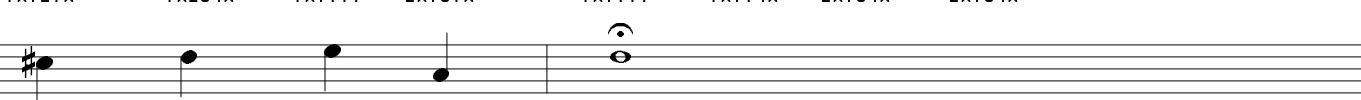


Em7 Eb7 Dm11 G7#5 Cma7 Dm9 Em7 Am7 Dm11 G7 Abdim G7



F#9 F13 Em7 F6 Abdim

F#7 F13 Em7 Ebdim Dm7 Em7 F6 Gdim



G7 Em7 Fma7 G7 Abdim G7 Ab9
G7 Gaug Dm7 Em7 Eb13 Dm7 Db13



America The Beautiful

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Cma7 **Dm7** **E^bdim** **Dm7** **Em7** **F6^b11** **E^b13** **Em7** **E^bdim** **Dm7** **D^b7[#]11**

Cmaj7 **Am11** **E^b13** **Dm7** **A^bdim** **G7** **A^bdim** **F6** **Em7** **Dm7** **Gaug**

C6 **Dm7** **Gm11** **C7[#]5** **Fmaj7** **Dm7** **E^bdim** **G^bdim** **C6** **B7[#]5** **B^b13** **A7**

Dm7 **C69/E** **Fma9** **G9** **C6** Or **Cadd9**

After playing this measure, use Ending #1 or Ending #2.

Ending #1

Fine

Ending #2 (Robert Conti played Ending #2 on video)

C6 **B13^b9** **B^b13** **A7[#]5[#]9** **Dm7** **Em7** **Fma7** **G9** **C6** **Dm7** **E^bdim** **C/E**

A^bma7 Or **A^bma7** **C69[#]11** Or **C69[#]11**

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