

## DIATONIC HARMONIZATION OF THE C MAJOR SCALE

This is the standard method of harmonizing or building chords for every note of the major scale. The chords for every single note of the scale are composed by either stacking a **flat 3<sup>rd</sup>** or a **major 3<sup>rd</sup>**, one after another starting from the note for which we build the chord, whichever is available in the concerned scale. We only stack up 3<sup>rd</sup>s because the flat 3<sup>rd</sup> is 1.5 tones away from the root and the major 3<sup>rd</sup> is 2 tones away from the root. Hence the interval of the 3rds fall in the realm of more than 1 tone and less than 3 tones and thus the term DIATONIC is justified. There are other methods of building chords as well, where we stack up 4ths ,5ths ,6ths etc.

Let's start harmonizing following the above method:

**C → C + E + G + B** { Here we start from **C** then stack its **major 3<sup>rd</sup>**, i.e., **E** ..then stack the **flat 3<sup>rd</sup>** of **E**, i.e. **G**...then stack the **major 3<sup>rd</sup>** of **G**, i.e. **B** and stop here as we keep stacking any further we shall cross the C and fall into the next octave. We shall build such extended chords later and deal with this 4 note seventh harmonies for now. }

DEGREES:    **1    3    5    7**

**C MAJOR 7TH**

Similarly, we get the following harmonies for the rest of the notes of the C Major Scale :

**D → D + F + A + C**    **D minor 7th**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

**E → E + G + B + D**    **E minor 7th**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

**F → F + A + C + E**    **F MAJOR 7th**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

**G → G + B + D + F**    **G Dominant 7th**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

**A → A + C + E + G**    **A minor 7th**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

**B → B + D + F + A**    **B minor 7<sup>th</sup> flat 5<sup>th</sup>**

DEGREES:    **1    3b    5    7b**

SO, we see that we get the **MAJOR 7<sup>TH</sup>** Harmony for the **ROOT & 4<sup>th</sup>** Note of the Major Scale , **Minor 7<sup>th</sup>** Harmony for the **2<sup>nd</sup> ,3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>** Note of the Major Scale and a **Dominant 7<sup>th</sup>** harmony for the **5<sup>th</sup>** Note of the Major Scale and finally a **Minor 7<sup>th</sup> Flat 5<sup>th</sup> or Half Diminished** harmony for the **7<sup>th</sup>** Note of the Major scale. This is applicable for any other major scale.