



# CHORD INVERSIONS

## Chord Inversions

Chords are made up of a collection of tones – but these tones can be layered in any order.

The notes in a C major triad are 1-3-5 from the C major scale or C-E-G. But they don't have to always be in that order. The notes could be arranged E-G-C or G-C-E. As long as they have a C and an E and a G then the chord is C major.

The notes can appear in any order and repeat as many times as desired. These variations of the chord tones are called INVERSIONS.

Chord tones that appear within a one octave range are called CLOSED VOICINGS.

Chord tones that appear greater than an octave are called OPEN VOICINGS.

	Closed Voicings (All Notes Within an Octave)						Open Voicings (Notes Greater than an Octave)		
	Root Position	1st Inv. (3 <sup>rd</sup> in Bass)	2nd Inv. (5 <sup>th</sup> in Bass)						
T	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	8	
A	2	0	1	1	1	0	5	10	
B	3	2	0	2	2	3	3	7	
				3	0				

Changing the bass note or inversion can change the quality and sound of the chord.






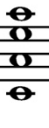
ROOT POSITION chords have the root as the lowest tone and sound very stable.

1<sup>ST</sup> INVERSION chords have the 3<sup>rd</sup> as the lowest tone and sound sweet and melodic.






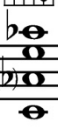
2<sup>ND</sup> INVERSION chords have the 5<sup>th</sup> as the lowest tone and sound stable but not like “home”.

# Jazz Inversions




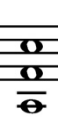

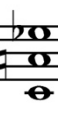
Here are some of the more helpful inversions in Jazz for Major 7<sup>th</sup>, Minor 7<sup>th</sup>, and Dominant 7<sup>th</sup> Chords.

<p><b>Fmaj7</b></p>  	<p><b>Fmaj7/A</b></p>  	<p><b>Fmaj7/C</b></p>  
<p><b>T</b> 1</p> <p><b>A</b> 2</p> <p><b>B</b> 1</p>	<p><b>T</b> 5</p> <p><b>A</b> 3</p> <p><b>B</b> 5</p>	<p><b>T</b> 10</p> <p><b>A</b> 9</p> <p><b>B</b> 8</p>

<p><b>Fm7</b></p>  	<p><b>Fm7/A<sup>b</sup></b></p>  	<p><b>Fm7/C</b></p>  
<p><b>T</b> 1</p> <p><b>A</b> 1</p> <p><b>B</b> 1</p>	<p><b>T</b> 6</p> <p><b>A</b> 5</p> <p><b>B</b> 4</p>	<p><b>T</b> 9</p> <p><b>A</b> 8</p> <p><b>B</b> 8</p>

<p><b>F7</b></p>  	<p><b>F7/A</b></p>  	<p><b>F7/C</b></p>  
<p><b>T</b></p> <p><b>A</b> 2</p> <p><b>B</b> 1</p>	<p><b>T</b> 5</p> <p><b>A</b> 3</p> <p><b>B</b> 5</p>	<p><b>T</b> 8</p> <p><b>A</b> 7</p> <p><b>B</b> 8</p>