

# SCALE SYLLABUS

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

<u>CHORD/SCALE SYMBOL</u>	<u>SCALE NAME</u>	<u>WHOLE &amp; HALF STEP CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>SCALE IN KEY OF C</u>	<u>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</u>
C	Major	WWHWWWH	CDEFGABC	CEGBD
C7	Dominant 7th (Mixolydian)	WWHWWHW	CDEFGAbBc	CEGBbD
C7	Minor (Dorian)	WHWWWHW	CDEbFGAbBc	CEbGBbD
C∅	Half Diminished (Locrian)	HWWHWWW	CDbEbFGbAbBbC	CEbGbBb
C°	Diminished (8 tone scale)	WHWHWHWH	CDEbFGbAbABC	CEbGbA(Bbb)
<b>FIVE BASIC CATEGORIES</b>				
<b>1. MAJOR SCALE CHOICES</b>	<b>SCALE NAME</b>	<b>W &amp; H CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>SCALE IN KEY OF C</b>	<b>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</b>
CΔ (Can be written C)	Major (don't emphasize the 4th)	WWHWWWH	CDEFGABC	CEGBD
C	Major Pentatonic	WW-3W-3	CDEGAC	CEGB
CΔ+4	Lydian (major scale with +4)	WWWHWWH	CDEF#GABC	CEGBD
CΔ	Bebop (Major)	WWHWHHWH	CDEFGG#ABC	CEGBD
CΔb6	Harmonic Major	WWHWH-3H	CDEFGAbBC	CEGBD
CΔ+5, +4	Lydian Augmented	WWWWHWH	CDEF#G#ABC	CEG#BD
C	Augmented	-3H-3H-3H	CD#EGAbBC	CEGBD
C	6th Mode of Harmonic Minor	-3HWHWWH	CD#EF#GABC	CEGBD
C	Diminished (begin with H step)	HWHWHWHW	CDbD#EF#GAbBc	CEGBD
C	Blues Scale	-3WHH-3W	CEbFF#GBbC	CEGBD
<b>2. DOMINANT 7th SCALE CHOICES</b>	<b>SCALE NAME</b>	<b>W &amp; H CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>SCALE IN KEY OF C</b>	<b>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</b>
C7	Dominant 7th	WWHWHWH	CDEFGAbBc	CEGBbD
C7	Major Pentatonic	WW-3W-3	CDEGAC	CEGBbD
C7	Bebop (Dominant)	WWHWHHHH	CDEFGAbBc	CEGBbD
C7b9	Spanish or Jewish scale	H-3HWHWW	CDbEFGAbBbC	CEGBb(Db)
C7+4	Lydian Dominant	WWHWHWH	CDEF#GAbBc	CEGBbD
C7b6	Hindu	WWHWHWW	CDEFGAbBbC	CEGBbD
C7+ (has #4 & #5)	Whole Tone (6 tone scale)	WWWWWWW	CDEF#G#BbC	CEG#BbD
C7b9 (also has #9 & #4)	Diminished (begin with H step)	HWHWHWHW	CDbD#EF#GAbBc	CEGBbD#(D#)
C7+9 (also has b9, #4, #5)	Diminished Whole Tone	HWHWWWW	CDbD#EF#G#BbC	CEG#BbD#(Db)
C7	Blues Scale	-3WHH-3W	CEbFF#GBbC	CEGBbD(D#)
<b>DOMINANT 7th SUSPENDED 4th</b>				
C7 sus4	Dom. 7th scale but don't emphasize the third	WWHWHWH	CDEFGAbBc	CFGBbD
C7 sus4	Major Pentatonic built on b7	WW-3W-3	BbCDEFGBb	CFGBbD
C7 sus4	Bebop Scale	WWHWHHHH	CDEFGAbBc	CFGBbD
<b>MAY BE WRITTEN G-/C</b>				
<b>3. MINOR SCALE CHOICES*</b>	<b>SCALE NAME</b>	<b>W &amp; H CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>SCALE IN KEY OF C</b>	<b>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</b>
C-or-C-7	Minor (Dorian)	WHWWWHW	CDEbFGAbBc	CEbGBbD
C-or-C-7	Pentatonic (Minor Pentatonic)	-3WW-3W	CEbFGBbC	CEbGBbD
C-or-C-7	Bebop (Minor)	WHHHWWHW	CDEbEFGAbBc	CEbGBbD
C-Δ (maj. 7th)	Melodic Minor (ascending)	WHWWWWW	CDEbFGABC	CEbGBD
C-or-C-6 or C-	Bebop Minor No. 2	WHWHHWH	CDEbFGG#ABC	CEbGBD
C-or-C-7	Blues Scale	-3WHH-3W	CEbFF#GBbC	CEbGBbD
C-Δ (b6 & maj. 7th)	Harmonic Minor	WHWH-3H	CDEbFGAbBC	CEbGBD
C-or-C-7	Diminished (begin with W step)	WHWHWHWH	CDEbFF#G#ABC	CEbGBD
C-or-C-b9b6	Phrygian	HWWWHWW	CDbEbFGAbBbC	CEbGBb
C-or-C-b6	Pure or Natural Minor, Aeolian	WHWHWHW	CDEbFGAbBbC	CEbGBbD
<b>4. HALF DIMINISHED SCALE CHOICES</b>	<b>SCALE NAME</b>	<b>W &amp; H CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>SCALE IN KEY OF C</b>	<b>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</b>
C∅	Half Diminished (Locrian)	HWWHWWW	CDbEbFGbAbBbC	CEbGbBb
C∅#2 (C∅9)	Half Diminished #2 (Locrian #2)	WHWHWWW	CDEbFGbAbBbC	CEbGbBbD
C∅ (with or without #2)	Bebop Scale	HWHHHWH	CDbEbFGbGAbBbC	CEbGbBb
<b>5. DIMINISHED SCALE CHOICES</b>	<b>SCALE NAME</b>	<b>W &amp; H CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>SCALE IN KEY OF C</b>	<b>BASIC CHORD IN KEY OF C</b>
C°	Diminished (8 tone scale)	WHWHWHWH	CDEbFGbAbABC	CEbGbA

**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.