

How to Use the Chords of Just Intonation Chart

The chart below shows how to adjust each pitch of any chord represented on the chart in order to play in tune in a just intonation scheme. Employing just intonation, orchestras are able to play perfectly in tune as an ensemble. This is different from pianos, for example, which are tuned in equal temperament, sometime referred to as "stretch tuning". Equal temperament is a compromise intonation system developed so pianos could sound more or less in tune in any key. As a result, in reality, pianos are slightly out of tune in every key.

The numbers on the chart represent cents. For reference, 100 cents equals a half-step.

A player needs to determine which pitch of a chord their part contains, then make the tuning adjustment accordingly.

If the pitch has a "+" and a number, that pitch needs to be raised as the number indicates.

If the pitch has a "-" and a number, that pitch needs to be lowered as the number indicates.

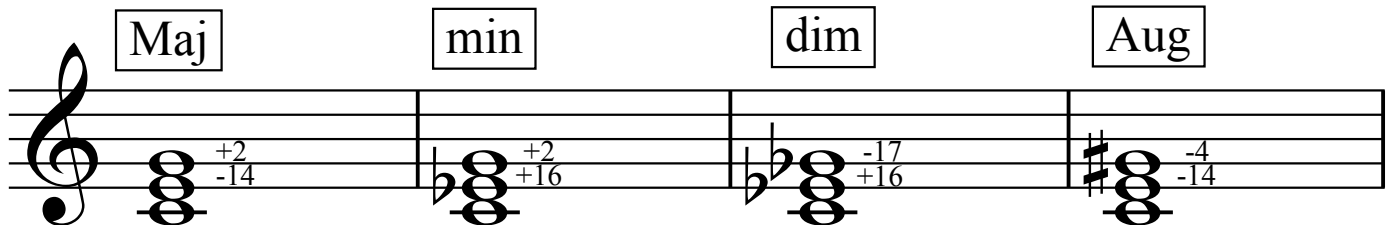
- Notes by Ken Truitt, Juneau Symphony

Chords of Just Intonation

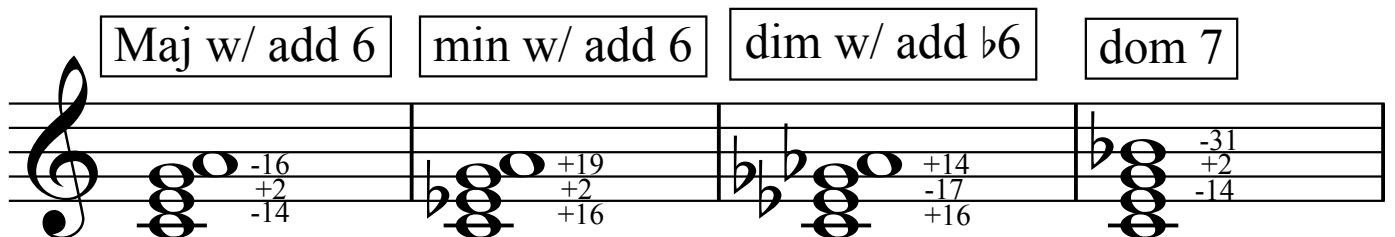
All chords are based on root "C" which is "0" pitch.

+ or - is cents rounded to nearest whole number

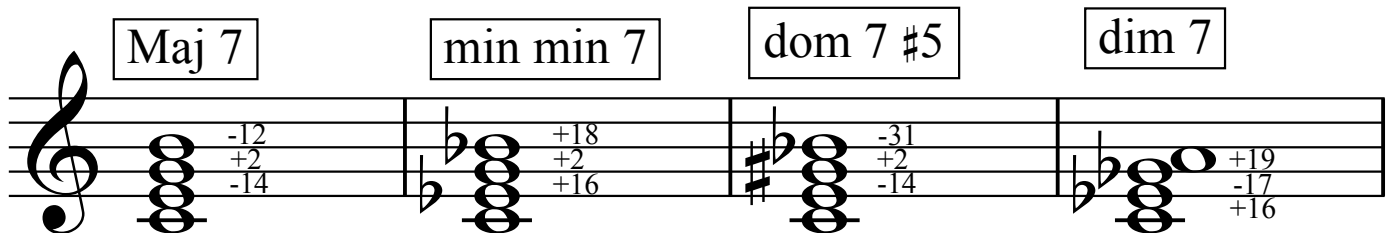
Maj	min	dim	Aug
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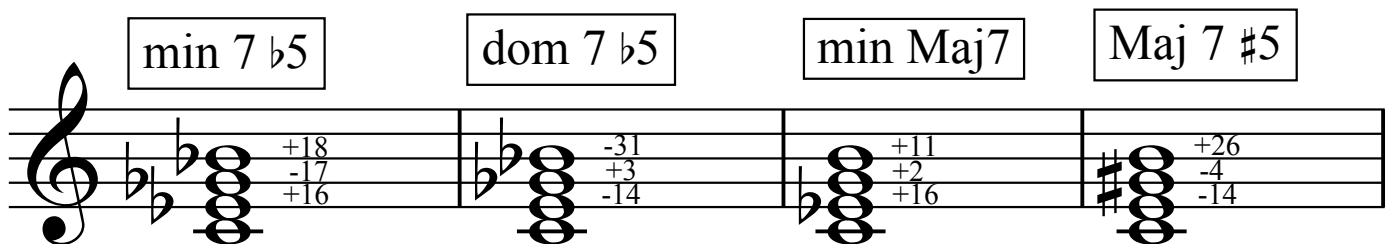
Maj w/ add 6	min w/ add 6	dim w/ add b6	dom 7
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Maj 7	min min 7	dom 7 #5	dim 7
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min 7 b5	dom 7 b5	min Maj7	Maj 7 #5
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dim Maj7	dom 7 w/ add 9	dom 7 w/ add b9	Maj 7 w/ add 9
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