

Triads

A TRIAD is a combination of three notes played together. A triad is made up of the 1st, 3rd and 5th steps of a major scale. There are four main types of triads – MAJOR, MINOR, AUGMENTED and DIMINISHED. This chart shows each triad type and the corresponding formula. These four triad types can be constructed from the major scale in any key.

Triad Types	Formulas
Major	1 - 3 - 5
Minor	1 - b3 - 5
Augmented	1 - 3 - #5
Diminished	1 - b3 - b5

In the key of C, each of the four triads would be constructed as shown below.

C Major Triad

C E G

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

C Minor Triad

C Eb G

1 2 b3 4 5 6 7

C Augmented Triad

C E G#

1 2 3 4 #5 6 7

C Diminished Triad

C Eb Gb

1 2 b3 4 b5 6 7

Triads by Key Worksheet

Fill out the appropriate scale tones in each triad. They are grouped according to key. Some notes have been filled in to help you out. Use double sharps or flats as needed. Remember, when spelling chords don't give the enharmonic equivalent of a note. For example, when spelling chords, a half-step below a C is a Cb, not a B.

Triad Types	Formulas
Major	1 - 3 - 5
Minor	1 - b3 - 5
Augmented	1 - 3 - #5
Diminished	1 - b3 - b5

✓ Check your answers with the Answer Key on page 180.

C Major	<u>C</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>G</u>	Eb Major	___	___	___
C Minor	<u>C</u>	<u>Eb</u>	<u>G</u>	Eb Minor	___	___	___
C Augmented	___	___	<u>G#</u>	Eb Augmented	___	___	___
C Diminished	___	<u>Eb</u>	<u>Gb</u>	Eb Diminished	___	___	<u>Bbb</u>
F Major	<u>F</u>	___	___	A Major	___	___	___
F Minor	___	<u>Ab</u>	___	A Minor	___	___	___
F Augmented	___	___	<u>C#</u>	A Augmented	___	___	<u>E#</u>
F Diminished	___	___	<u>Cb</u>	A Diminished	___	___	___
G Major	___	___	___	Ab Major	___	___	___
G Minor	___	___	___	Ab Minor	___	<u>Cb</u>	___
G Augmented	___	___	<u>D#</u>	Ab Augmented	___	___	___
G Diminished	___	<u>Bb</u>	___	Ab Diminished	___	___	___
Bb Major	___	___	___	E Major	___	___	___
Bb Minor	___	<u>Db</u>	___	E Minor	___	___	___
Bb Augmented	___	___	___	E Augmented	___	___	___
Bb Diminished	___	___	<u>Fb</u>	E Diminished	___	___	___
D Major	___	<u>F#</u>	___	Db Major	___	___	___
D Minor	___	___	___	Db Minor	___	___	___
D Augmented	___	___	___	Db Augmented	___	___	___
D Diminished	___	___	___	Db Diminished	___	___	<u>Abb</u>

Triads Worksheet

Fill in the triad notes for each of the chords using your knowledge of triad formulas and keys. Filling out this worksheet numerous times will help build the necessary memory recognition of these triads.

✓ Check your answers with the Answer Key on page 181.

<u>Triad Types</u>	<u>Formulas</u>
Major	1 - 3 - 5
Minor	1 - b3 - 5
Augmented	1 - 3 - #5
Diminished	1 - b3 - b5

1) C Minor _____

2) F Major _____

3) G Minor _____

4) Bb Diminished _____

5) D Augmented _____

6) Eb Minor _____

7) A Major _____

8) Ab Minor _____

9) E Augmented _____

10) Db Major _____

11) B Minor _____

12) Gb Major _____

13) F# Minor _____

14) C Major _____

15) F Diminished _____

16) G Augmented _____

17) Bb Minor _____

18) D Diminished _____

19) Eb Augmented _____

20) A Minor _____

21) F Minor _____

22) G Major _____

23) C Diminished _____

24) Bb Augmented _____

25) Eb Major _____

26) D Minor _____

27) A Diminished _____

28) Ab Major _____

29) E Minor _____

30) Eb Diminished _____

31) E Major _____

32) Db Minor _____

33) B Major _____

34) Gb Minor _____

35) F# Major _____

36) C Augmented _____

37) F Augmented _____

38) G Diminished _____

39) Bb Major _____

40) D Major _____