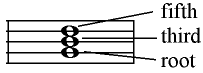


Triads

Triads

- A triad is a three-note chord
- Most chords are triads or are based on triads
- The three parts of the triad are the **root**, the **third**, and the **fifth**:



- The root is the most important note—we call a chord by its root

Four types of triads

- We can stack major and minor thirds in different ways to get four different types of triads

Major	Minor	Diminished	Augmented
m3 M3	M3 m3	m3 m3	M3 M3

- Major triads have a major third on the bottom
- Minor triads have a minor third on the bottom
- Major and minor triads have a *perfect fifth*
- Diminished triads have a minor third & a *diminished fifth*
- Augmented triads have a major third & an *augmented fifth*

Natural note triads

M m m M M m dim

If we spell triads using only the “natural notes,” we will get major triads over C, F, and G

- We get minor triads over D, E, and A
- We get a diminished triad over B
- It may help to think of the other triads as variations on these basic types

Changing a triad's quality

- We can change the *quality* of a triad by altering its third or its fifth as follows:

- Lower the third of a major triad to get a minor triad
- Raise the third of a minor triad to get a major triad
- Lower the fifth of a minor triad to get a diminished triad
- Raise the fifth of a major triad to get an augmented triad

Labeling triads

- One of the simplest ways of labeling triads is to call it by the name of its root
 - Use a capital letter for major chords G = G major
 - Use lowercase for minor chords g = g minor
 - Add a + for augmented chords G+ = G aug.
 - Add a ° for diminished chords g° = g dim.
- (This labeling system is based on what the book calls “macro analysis”)