

*Section 4.6***BASIC LEAD SHEET SYMBOLS****Lead sheet symbols for triads**

Lead sheet symbols are written above a melody and indicate the chords to play underneath. They show the root of the chord and the chord quality. For triads, the common chord qualities are major, minor, diminished, and augmented.

C Major	C- or Cmin Minor	Cdim or Cmin ^{b5} or C ^o Diminished	Caug or Cmaj ^{#5} Augmented
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Lead sheet symbols for seventh chords

The symbols for seventh chords work similarly:

C ⁷ Mm7 ("Dominant" 7th)	C ^Δ or Cmaj ⁷ Major 7th	C- ⁷ or Cmin ⁷ Minor 7th
Cmin ^{7b5} or C ^{ø7} Half-dim 7th	C ^{o7} or Cdim ⁷ Diminished 7th (B $\flat\flat$ often spelled A \flat)	

Vertical and horizontal slashes

A **vertical slash** indicates the note that should be played lowest. A **horizontal slash** indicates one chord on top of another chord (often, two different triads).

G ⁷ /B ← B on bottom	<table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">—</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">D</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">← E major triad</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">← D major triad</td></tr> </table>	E	—	D	← E major triad	← D major triad
E						
—						
D						
← E major triad						
← D major triad						

See also

See **Volume 3: Jazz and Popular Music Theory and Jazzology** by Rawlins and Bahha. For roman numerals, see **5.2 Roman Numerals**.