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Essential Theory

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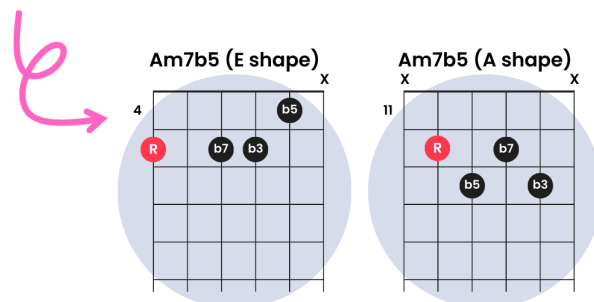
Lesson notes Diagrams

The m7b5 Chord

In the previous lesson we used the triad of the diminished chord. Triad means a 3 note chord, and the diminished triad is the root, b3rd and b5th, as we now know! Instead of using the rather dark, hard hitting diminished chord we can use something called a m7b5 chord, also known as a half diminished. The chord spelling is this:

Root, b3rd, b5th, b7th ↗

The addition of the b7th into the diminished chord creates the m7b5. It is a minor 7th chord, with a flattened 5. This softens the sound of the chord. Here are two ways to play it:



So these chords can directly replace, or potentially a better word is “substitute”, the diminished triads on the 7th degree of the scale, making it look like this:

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Essential Theory

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In this unit we get to a fundamental baseline in music theory.

Lessons:

- The Major Scale
- Harmonising The Notes
- The Beautiful Diminished
- The m7b5 Chord
- Using Shapes

UNIT 2

Fretboard Mapping

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UNIT 3

Major Progressions

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UNIT 4

Minor Progressions

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i	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii	i
G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
maj	min	min	maj	maj	min	m7b5	maj

That m7b5 is now substituted for the diminished triad, but you can use either.



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