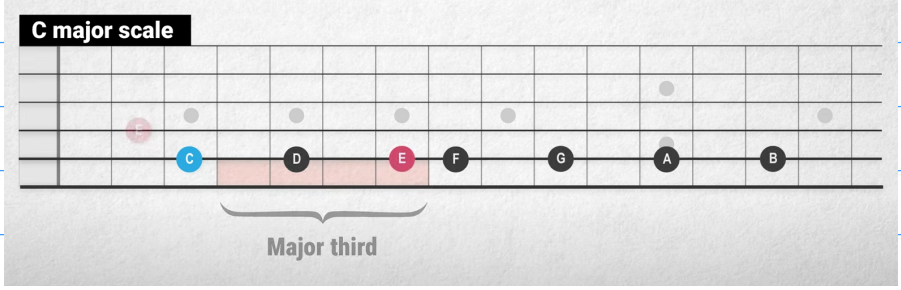
Chord Theory Part 1 - Triads

Intervals that you should know

1. The 3rd interval :

- Major third :

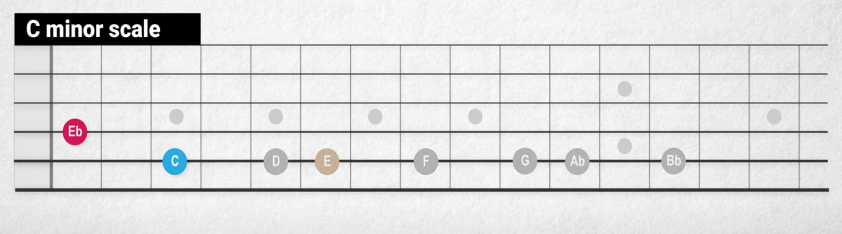
A distance of two whole steps. Creates a happy sound



Also can be seen as the distance between the first & the third note of a diatonic scale.

- Minor third:

A distance of 1.5 steps. Creates a sad/dark sound



Also can be seen as the distance between the first & the third note of a diatonic minor scale.

2. The Fifth interval :

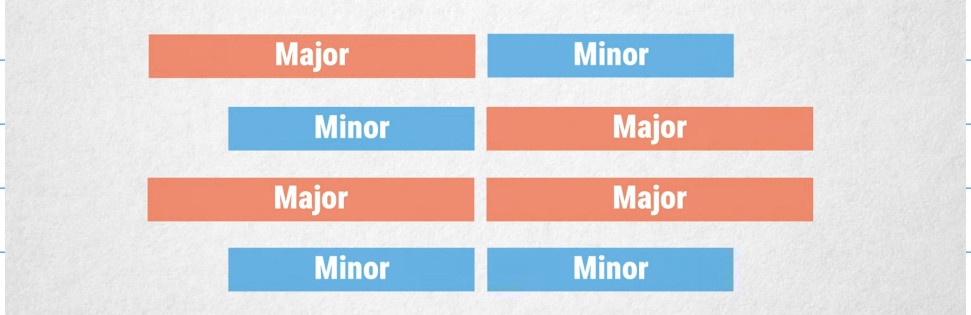
Also can be seen as the distance between the first & the fifth note of a diatonic scale.

It has three versions - The perfect 5th, diminished 5th & the augmented 5th

- The perfect fifth - 3.5 steps. Musically it is said to have a consonant sound

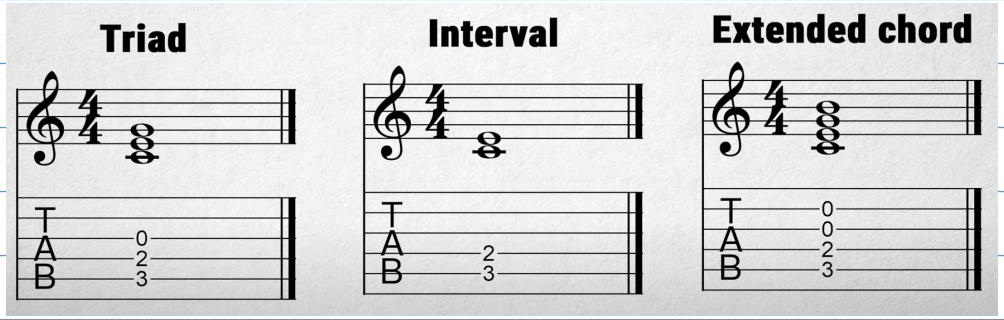
- The diminished fifth - 3 steps. It has tension/eerie. It has a disonant sound

- Augmented fifth - 4 steps.



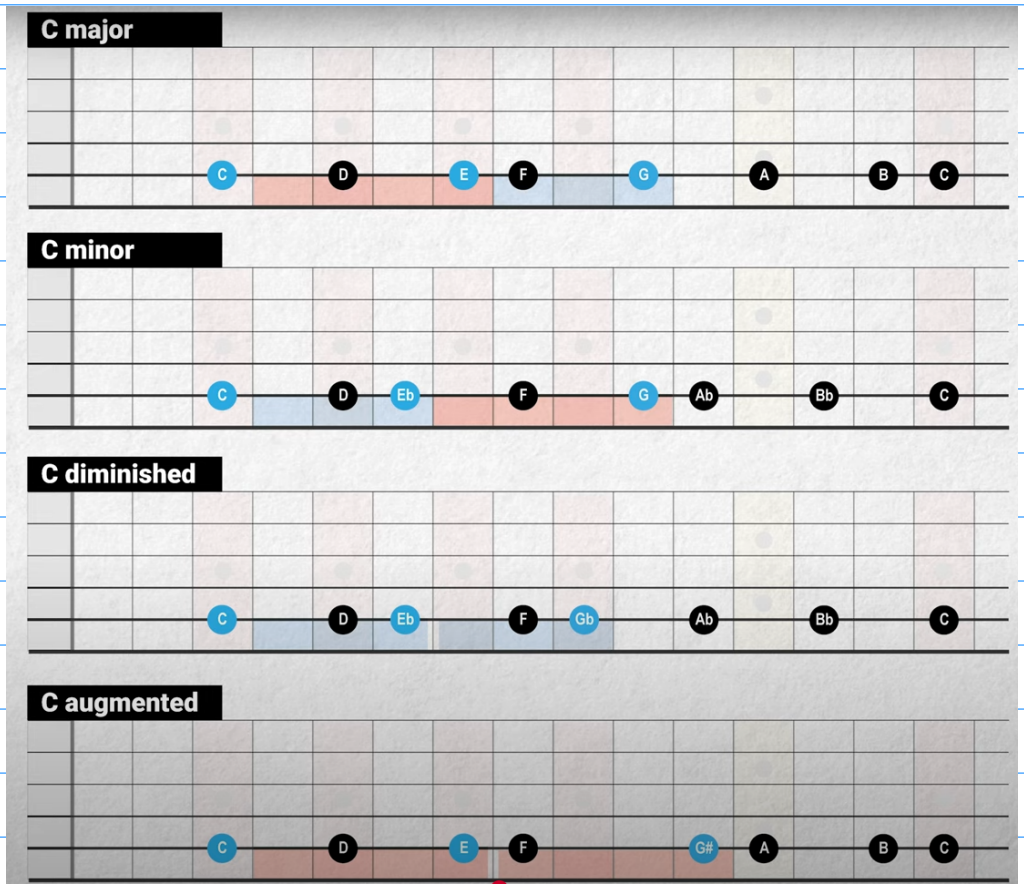
Triad is the minimum number of 3 unique notes to be considered a chord

Less notes is considered an interval & more notes is considered an extended chord



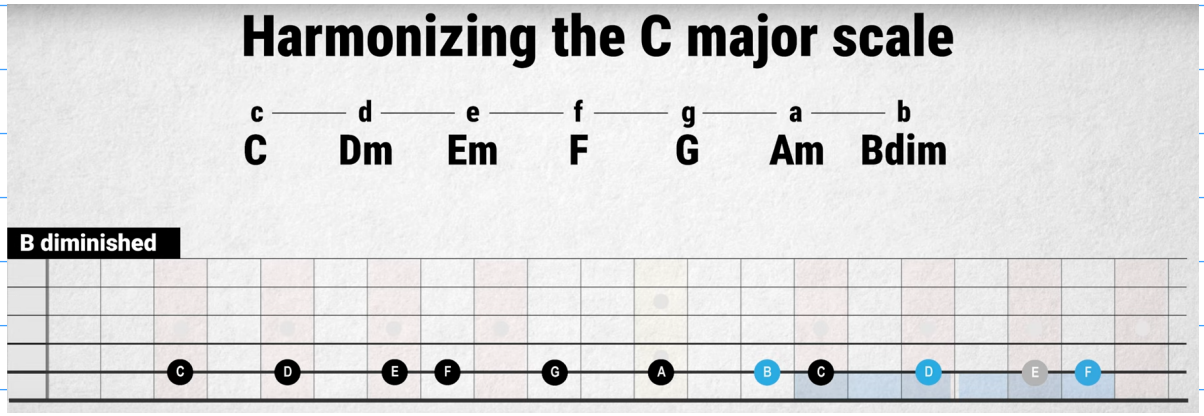
Triads are formed by stacking two types of thirds

1. Major triad/chord: Major 3rd + Minor 3rd	1 - 3 - 5
2. Minor triad/chord: Minor 3rd + Major 3rd	1 - b3 - 5
3. Augmented chord: Major 3rd + Major 3rd	1 - 3 - 5#
4. Diminished chord: Minor 3rd + Minor 3rd	1 - b3 - b5



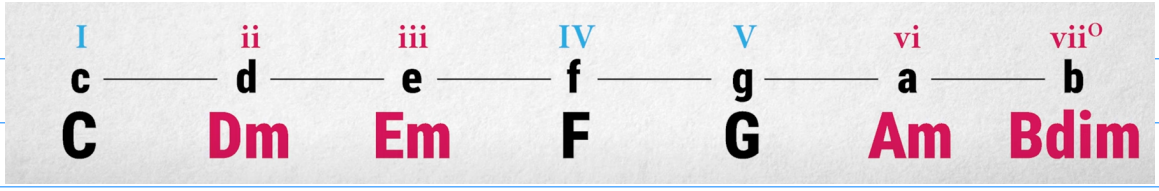
Harmonizing the C major scale

Building triads/chords on every note of a major scale - Harmonizing a scale



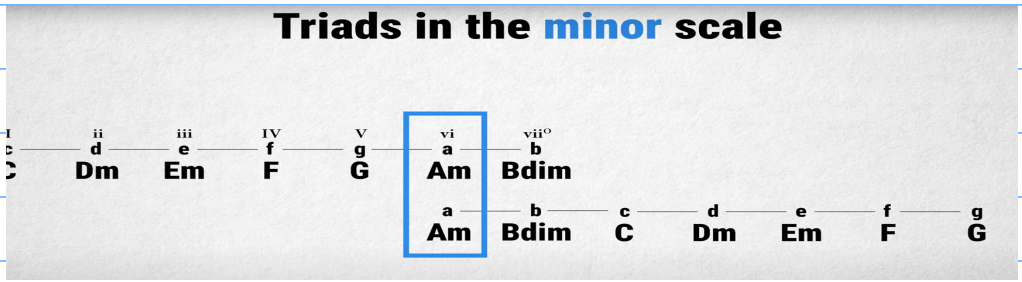
Scale degrees

The first note of a scale is known as tonic



How to get the minor scale?

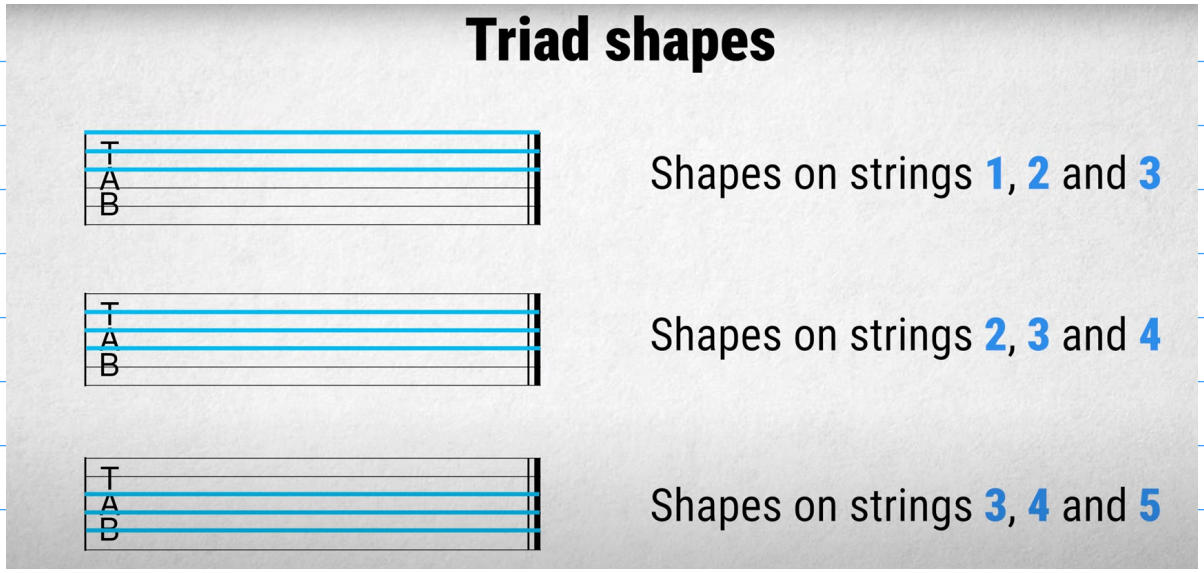
Go the the 6th and retain everything



Therefore, the major scale has a diminished on the 7th, whereas the minor has a diminished on the 2nd

To get to augmented chord, you'd have to go to the harmonic minor or the melodic minor.

These triads can be played in three places - Root on the 1st string , root on the 2nd string & root on the first.



Altered chords: Suspended chords

Here the 3rd in the triad is replaced or "suspended" with the 2nd or the 4th.

They are notated as sus2 or sus4 chords