

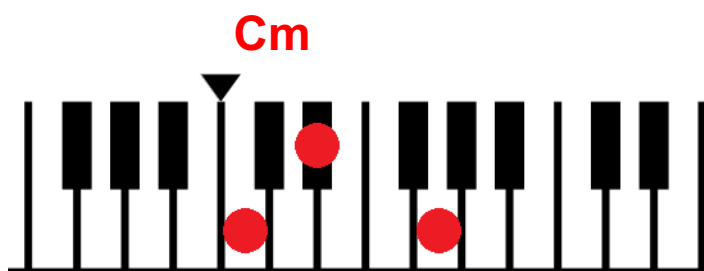
## DIMINISHED CHORDS

Diminished chords add a very distinct sound to any tune. The good news is they aren't really THAT difficult to learn.

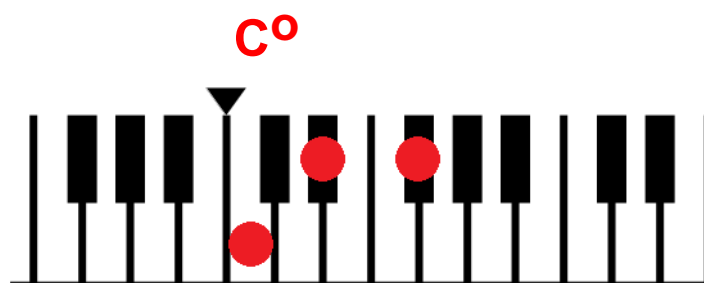
One way to make a diminished chord is to play a MINOR chord (in ROOT position) and move the 5th (your small finger) DOWN one key.

ie. to make **C<sup>o</sup>** (C diminished)  
(which could also be written as Cm<sup>-5</sup> or Cm<sup>b5</sup> or Cdim)

First play **Cm**



Then move the 5th DOWN one key to make **C<sup>o</sup>**



See if you can form **D<sup>o</sup>**, **E<sup>o</sup>**, **F<sup>o</sup>**, **A<sup>o</sup>**,

Remember, make the minor first then drop the 5th down a key

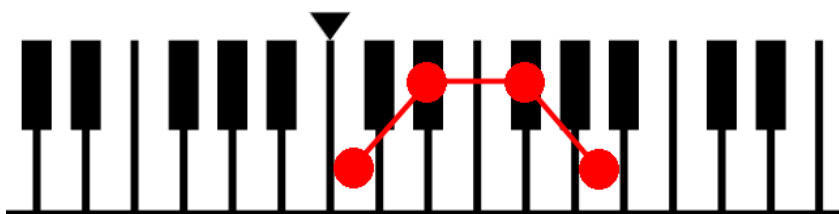
# DIMINISHED CHORDS

## ALL YOU NEED TO LEARN ARE 3 SHAPES

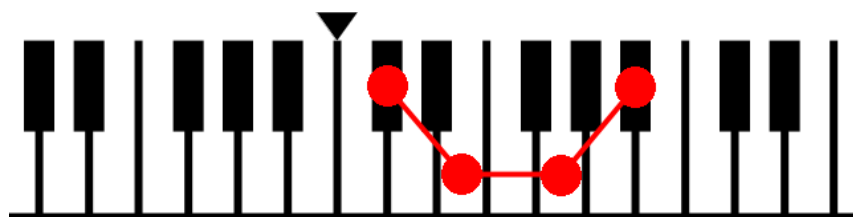
Another very useful thing to remember about diminished chords is that they connect up in a most GEOMETRIC way

Notice how the groups of four diminished chords on the left ALL fit into the ONE shape to their right. Check it and see for yourself!

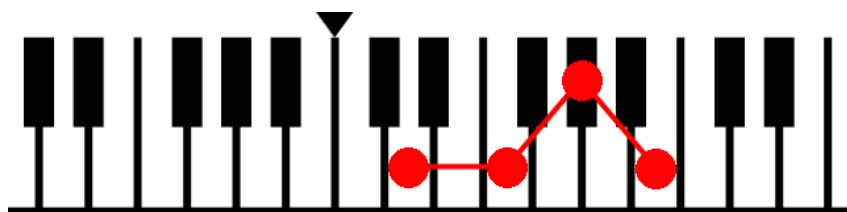
**C<sup>o</sup>** = C Eb Gb  
**Eb<sup>o</sup>** = Eb Gb A  
**F#<sup>o</sup>** = F# A C  
**A<sup>o</sup>** = A C Eb



**Db<sup>o</sup>** = Db E G  
**E<sup>o</sup>** = E G Bb  
**G<sup>o</sup>** = G Bb Db  
**Bb<sup>o</sup>** = Bb Db E



**D<sup>o</sup>** = D F Ab  
**F<sup>o</sup>** = F Ab B  
**Ab<sup>o</sup>** = Ab B D  
**B<sup>o</sup>** = B D F



So if you MEMORISE these 3 SHAPES you can easily play ANY diminished chord

# Diminished Chords - Practice Progressions

## Rhythm- Left note / Right chord (YOU MAKE ME FEEL SO YOUNG)

|   |        |    |   |                |
|---|--------|----|---|----------------|
| C | C# dim | Dm | G | Keep repeating |
|---|--------|----|---|----------------|

## Rhythm - Left note/Right chord (TUXEDO JUNCTION "Way down South..")

|        |     |   |                 |   |     |   |   |
|--------|-----|---|-----------------|---|-----|---|---|
| G Bkds | G/B | C | D               | G | G/B | C | D |
| G      | G/B | C | C# <sup>0</sup> | D | D   | G |   |

## Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (SHE - Charles Aznavour)

|   |      |    |   |   |    |                    |
|---|------|----|---|---|----|--------------------|
| D | Fdim | G  | D | B | Em | B <sup>b</sup> dim |
| D | Bm   | Em | A | D |    |                    |

## Rhythm - Left note / Right chord ('AINT MISBEHAVING)

|    |       |    |       |    |      |   |      |
|----|-------|----|-------|----|------|---|------|
| C  | C#dim | Dm | D#dim | Em | Fdim | F | Fdim |
| Em | Am    | Dm | G     | C  |      |   |      |

## Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (MY SWEET LORD - George Harrison)

|       |    |    |    |    |     |
|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| A     | Em | A  | Em | A  | Em  |
| A     | D  | Bm | D  | Bm | D   |
| Ebdim | Em | A  | Em | A  | etc |

## Rhythm - Oom Pah (LIFE IS A CABARET OLD CHUM - Liza Minnelli)

|   |       |       |    |     |       |    |    |
|---|-------|-------|----|-----|-------|----|----|
| D | A7    | D     | A7 | D   | Dmaj7 | D7 | D7 |
| G | G#dim | Dmaj7 | B7 | Em7 | A7    | D  | D  |

\*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only. You can find the complete chord progressions, with lyrics, for FREE at [ultimate-guitar.com](http://ultimate-guitar.com)