

Guitar Chord Charts – Rev. 0.0

This guitar chord charts are from „Sven's Guitar Site“ (<http://home.munich.netsurf.de/Sven.Petersen/>), which also contains scale charts, some music theory, information about guitar effect setups, plenty of guitar and music related links and much more. Please visit my homepage.

Sven Petersen, Dec. 20th, 1998.

Explanations

One of the reason, I finally started creating this site was to provide some chord charts, that I have posted in FidoNet and the guitar newsgroups some years ago. Some people told me they liked the chord charts, so I wanted to make them permanently available on internet.

The chord charts I have put together don't contain all the common chords everybody knows, but chords, that I call jazz chords - those chords with the numbers. They all contain higher chord options like the 7th, 6th etc. You will not find any plain major or minor chords in here. I have put the chords into a kind of lexical order to make them easier to find.

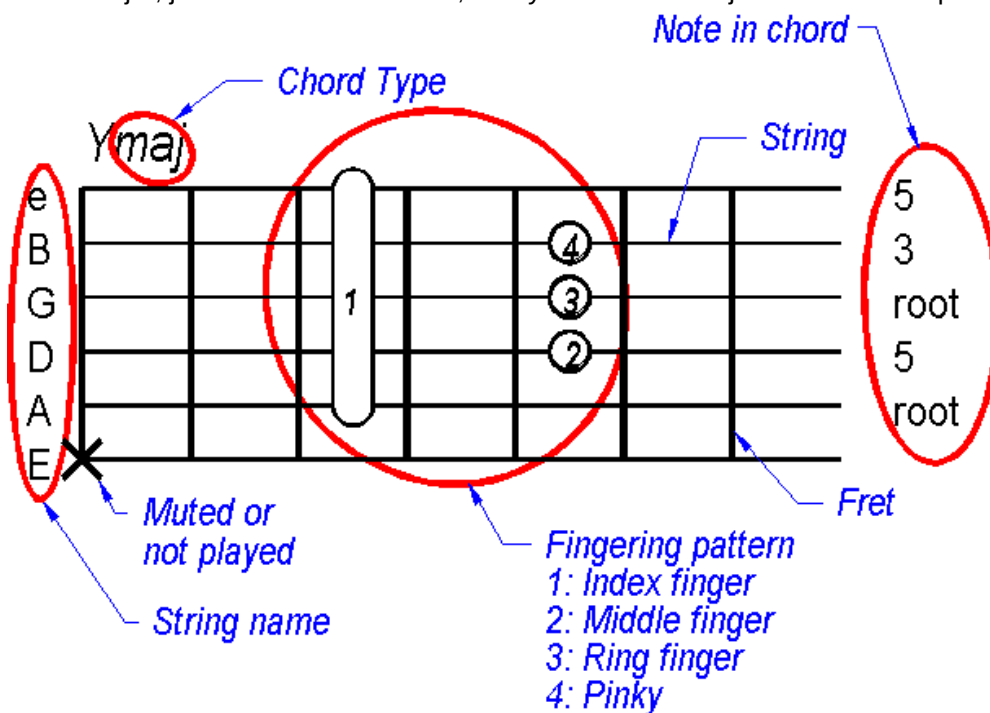
If you try them out, you should not play them distorted - they won't sound good this way and you may think, all of them are crap. The best way to try them is fingerpicking or playing with the thumb to achieve a mellow sound.

All chords are as easy to transpose as bar chords - just shift the patterns up and down the fretboard. IMHO the chords you find here are less straining, because you don't have to keep your index finger in that "bar chord position" all the time.

You can play about 600(!) different chords with the some 50 chord patterns in the chord charts. This way you don't have to learn too much by heart.

Here is a short description of the format of the chord charts:

Like I mentioned before, all chords are as easy to transpose as bar chords. Thus they don't have a specific key - the "Y" is just a virtual key, it is variable, you can put a G, a Bb etc. instead. E.g. if a chord placed at the 3rd fret is a C major, just shift it down one fret, now you have a B major with the same pattern.





The numbers within the fingering pattern represent the fingers of your left hand.

An "X" the leftmost fret means that this string is muted or not played.

An "o" means an open string – I guess, I don't make any use of it.

The  is just a location marker for a *not played* root note. It may help you to place the chord on the fretboard. You can leave out the root note of many chords without changing the feeling of the chord. Only minor chords don't like that and start sounding majorish.

The 5th is not played in many cases, either. Only if it is a +5 or a b5 it adds some flavour to the chord. A plain 5th is contained in nearly every chord, it does not carry any further information, so it isn't vital.

The numbers on the right side of the fretboard represent the notes of the chord. E.g. "root" means the root note, "7th" is the 7th, "maj7" is the major 7th, "min3" is the minor 3rd, "3" is the major 3rd.

To play a chord in a certain key, you have to know the notes of the (4th), 5th and 6th string. Here is a map of the guitar fretboard:

E	F	Gb	G	Ab	A	Bb	B	C	Db	D	Eb	E	F
B	C	Db	D	Eb	E	F	Gb	G	Ab	A	Bb	B	C
G	Ab	A	Bb	B	C	Db	D	Eb	E	F	Gb	G	Ab
D	Eb	E	F	Gb	G	Ab	A	Bb	B	C	Db	D	Eb
A	Bb	B	C	Db	D	Eb	E	F	Gb	G	Ab	A	Bb
E	F	Gb	G	Ab	A	Bb	B	C	Db	D	Eb	E	F

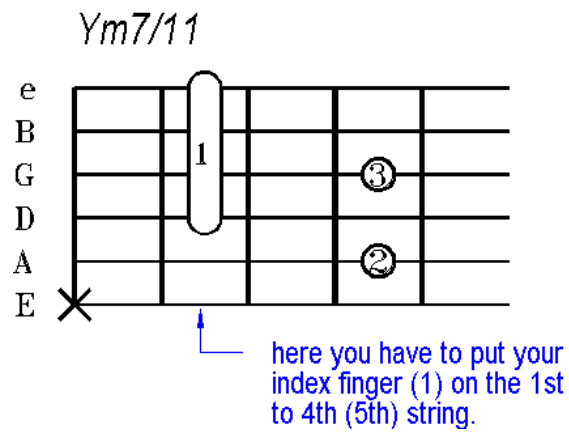
Note: A F# is just the same as Gb, a C# = Db etc.)

The chords that are shown here have options like the 7th, a 9th... You might think, "What the heck is a ninth? I thought there were just 8 tones in a scale???"

No reason to panic... A 9th is one octave higher than a 2nd. A 2nd as a chord option is just a little bit unusual.

An 11th is a 5th plus an octave, a 13th is a 6th plus an octave and so on.

Some chords are "partial" bar chords. That means, you don't have to press a finger (I don't use only the index finger for that) on all six strings, but on maybe 2, 3 or 4.



All chords that are shown here are playable! They might be unusual to you in the beginning, but they aren't more difficult to learn than normal chords. Most are variations of just a few basic patterns, so when you are able to play some of the basic chords, the others will not be very hard to learn any more.

Major Chords

Ymaj7

e
 B
 G
 D
 A X
 E

(maj7)
 5
 3
 maj7
 root

Ymaj7

e X
 B
 G
 D
 A
 E X

3
 maj7
 5
 root

Ymaj7

e
 B
 G
 D
 A X
 E X

maj7
 5
 3
 root

Ymaj7

e
 B
 G
 D
 A X
 E X

3
 maj7
 5
 root

Ymaj7

root
5
3
maj7

Ymaj7/9

9
maj7
3
root

Ymaj7/9 (no root note)

9
5
3
maj7

Ymaj7/9/#11

#11
9
maj7
3
root

Ymaj7/#11

#11
3
maj7
root

Ymaj7/13

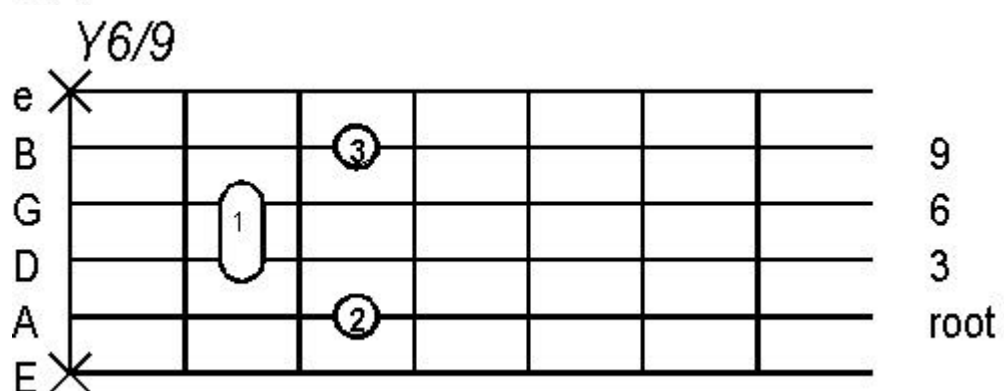
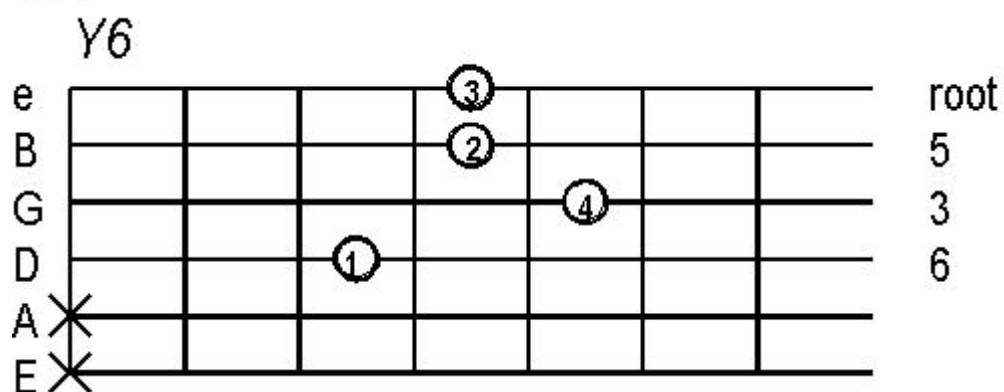
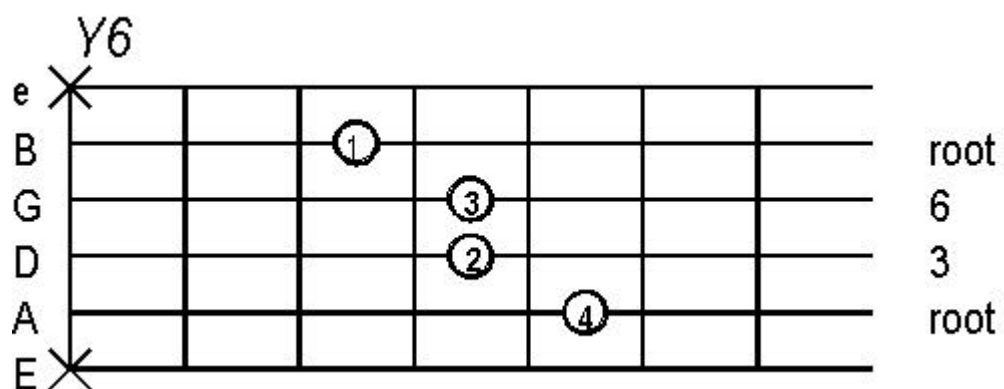
13
3
maj7
root

Ymaj7/13

13
3
maj7
5
root

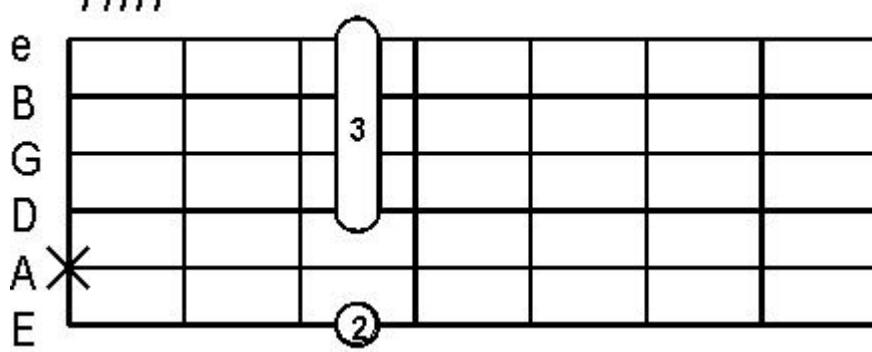
Y6

5
3
6
root



Minor Chords

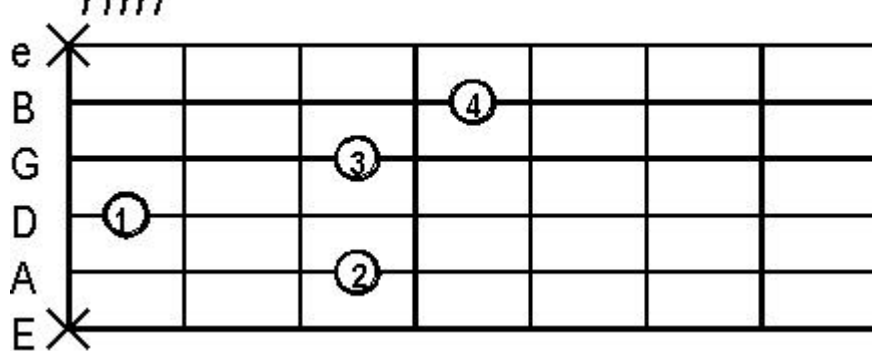
Ym7



e
 B
 G
 D
 A X
 E

root
 5
 min3
 7
 root

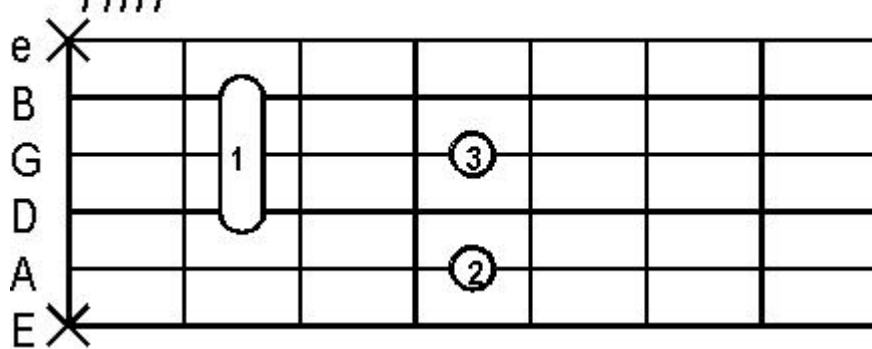
Ym7



e X
 B
 G
 D
 A
 E X

min3
 7
 min3
 root

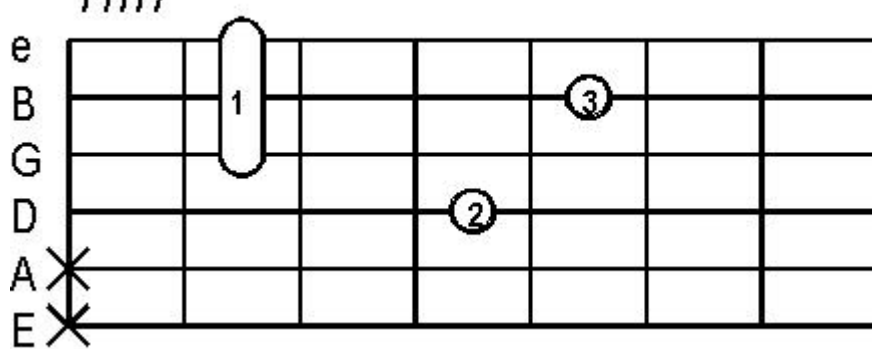
Ym7



e X
 B
 G
 D
 A
 E X

root
 7
 min3
 root

Ym7



e
 B
 G
 D
 A X
 E X

root
 7
 min3
 root

Ym7

root
7
min3
root

Ym7 (no root)

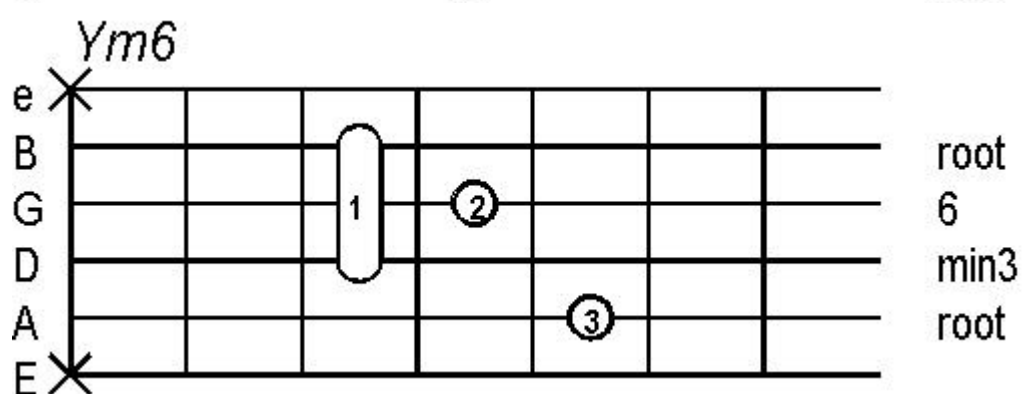
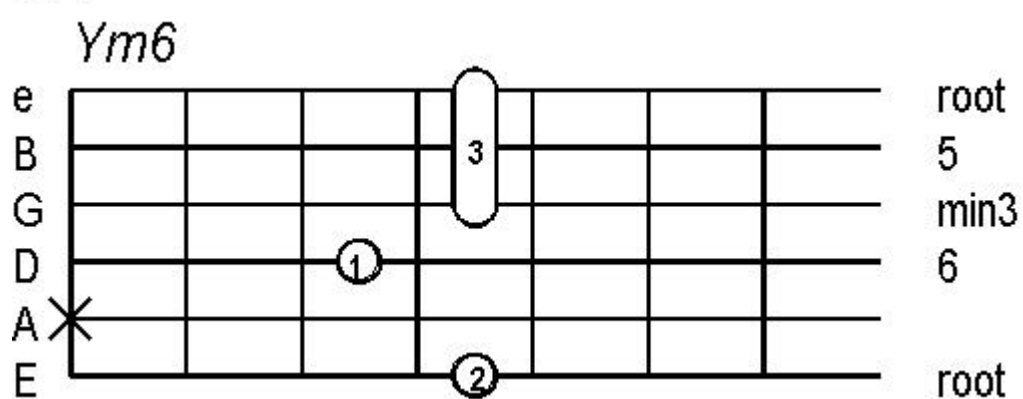
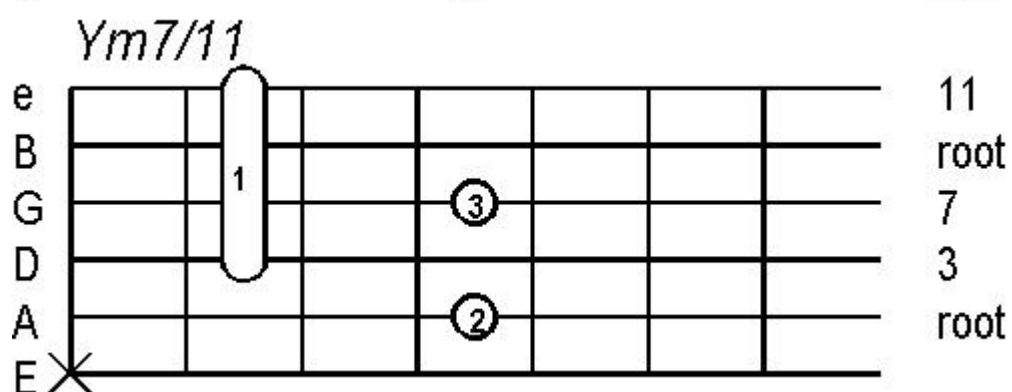
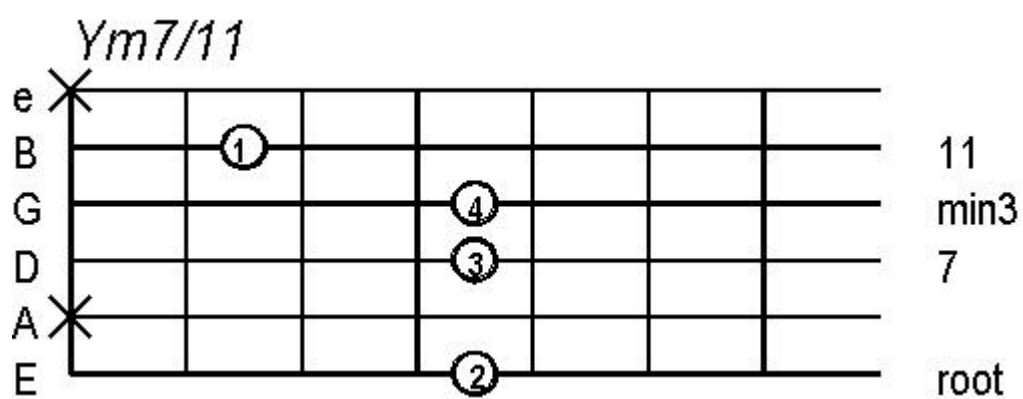
7
5
min3
7

Ym7/9

9
5
min3
7
root

Ym7/9

5
9
7
min3
root



Ym6

min3
3
min3
root

Ym6/9

9
5
min3
6
root

Ym6/9

9
6
min3
root

Ym7/b5

b5
min3
7
root

Ym7/b5

b5
min3
7
root

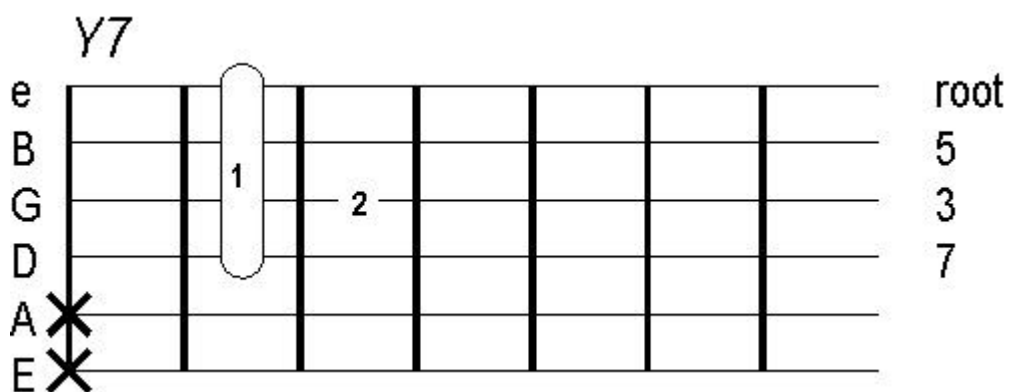
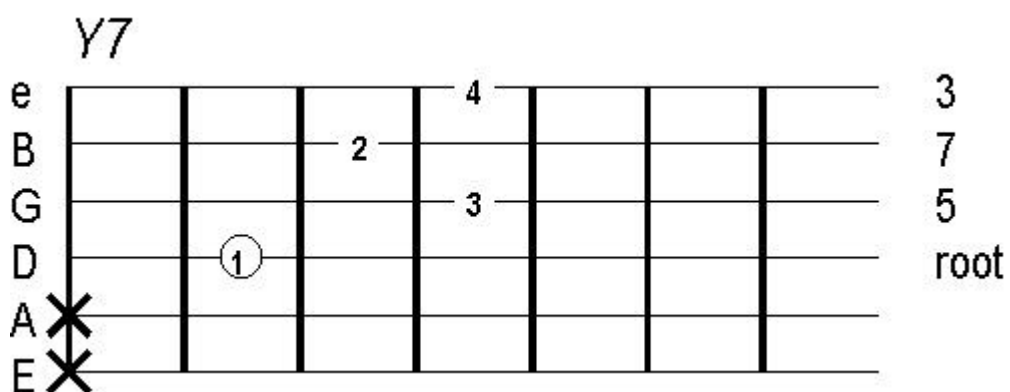
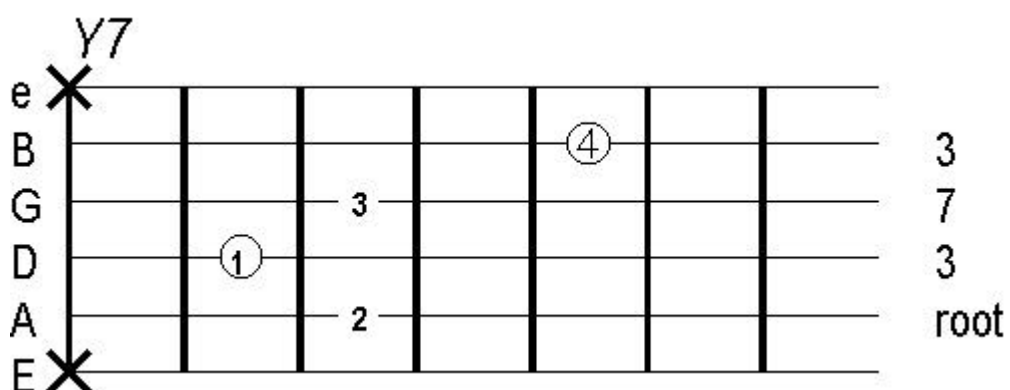
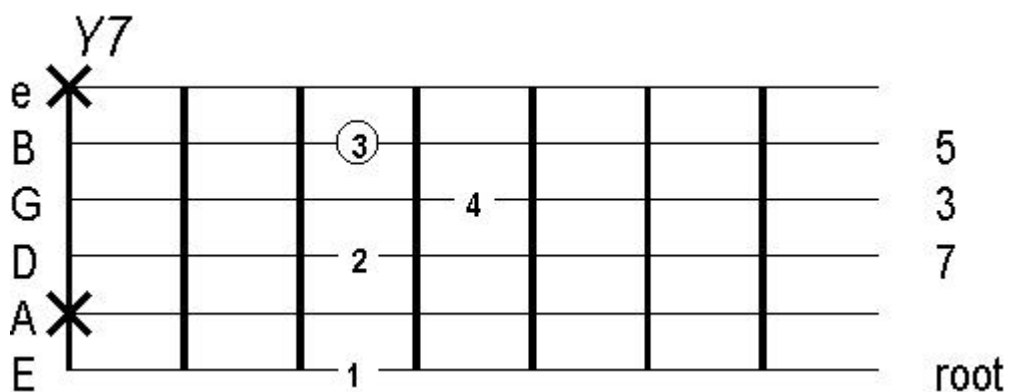
Ym7/b5

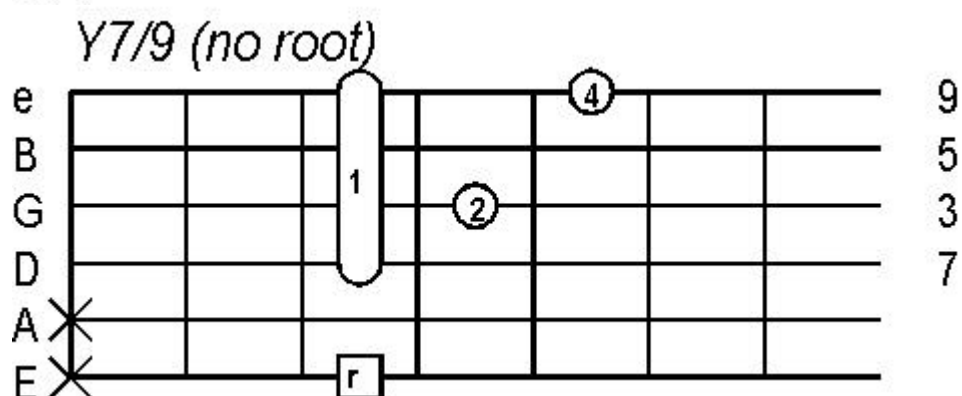
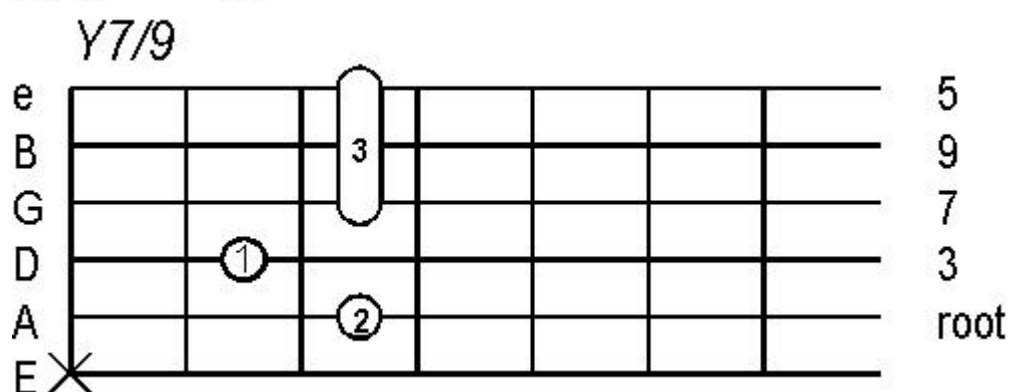
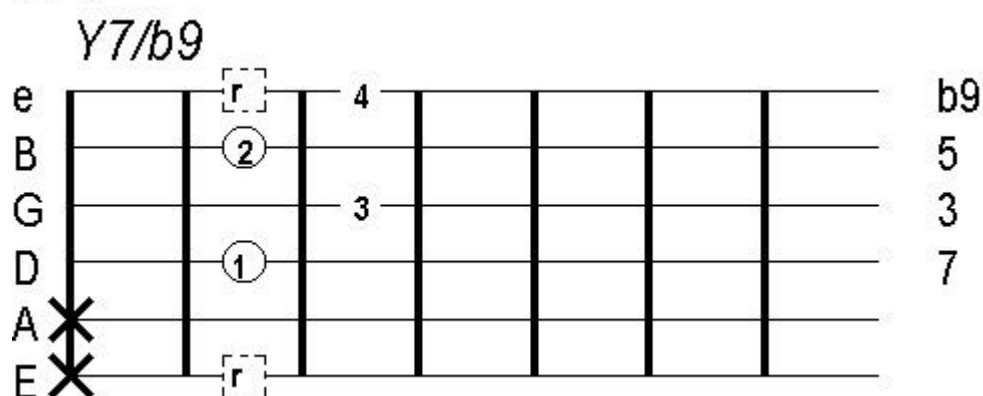
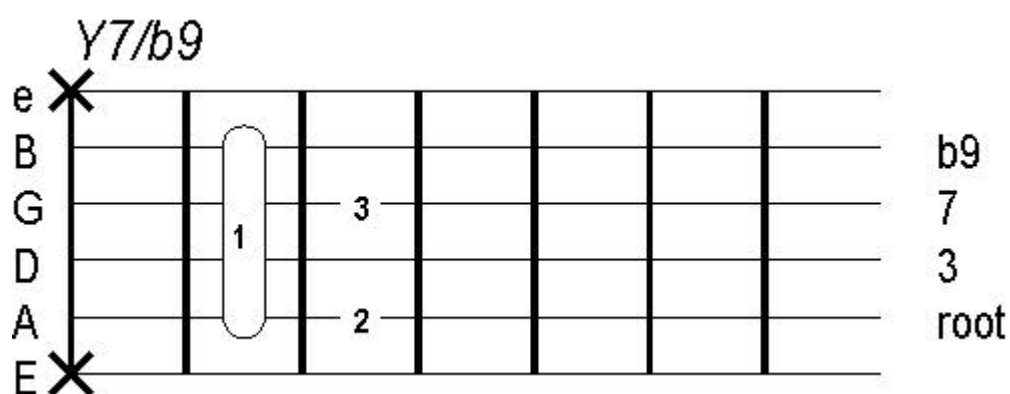
min3
7
b5
min3
root

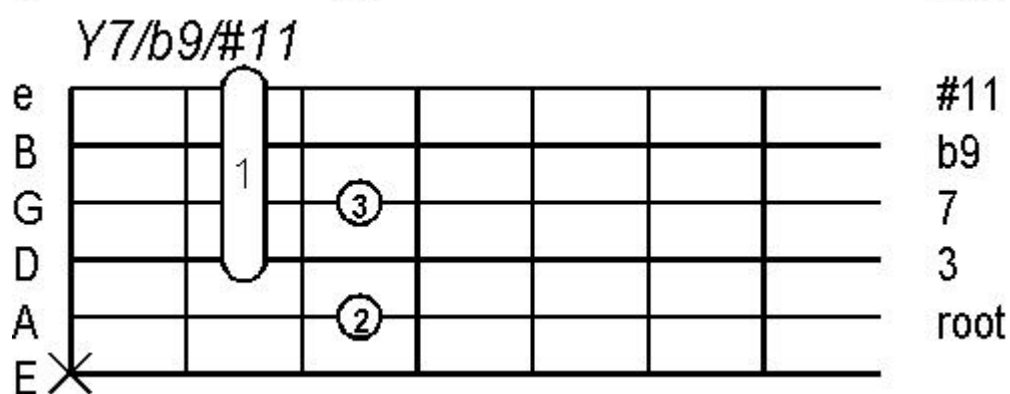
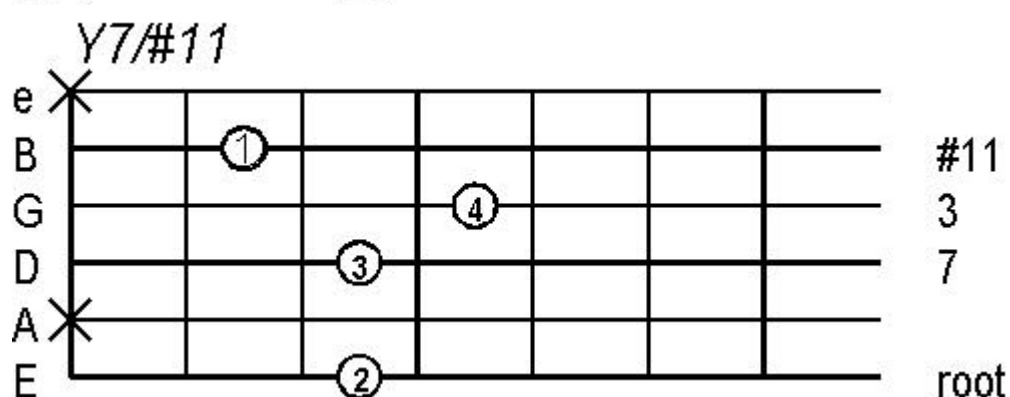
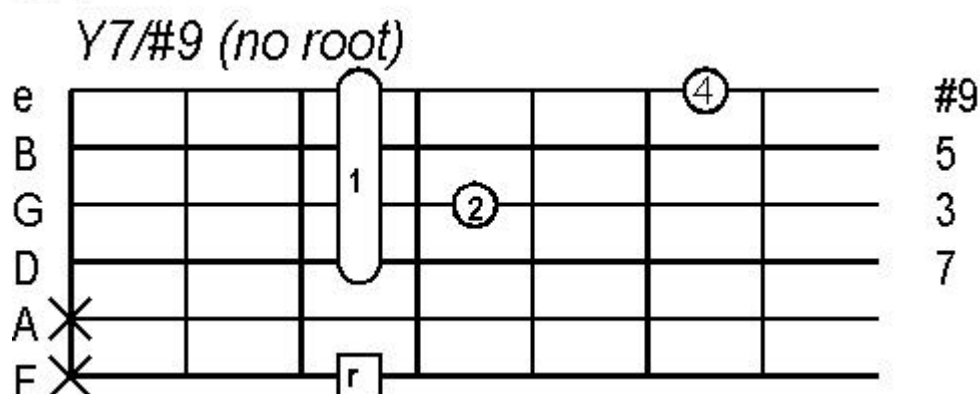
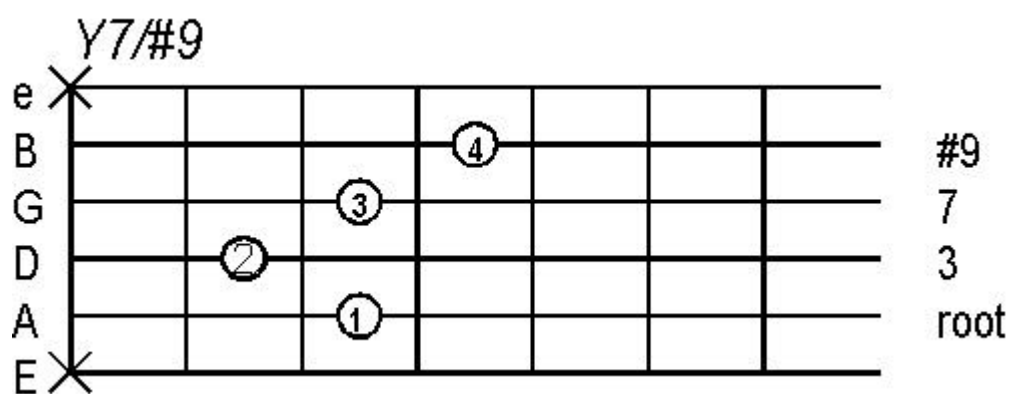
Ym7/b5

min3
7
b5
root

Dominant 7th Chords







Y7aug, Y7/b13, Y+7

+5/b13
3
7
root

Y7/9/b13

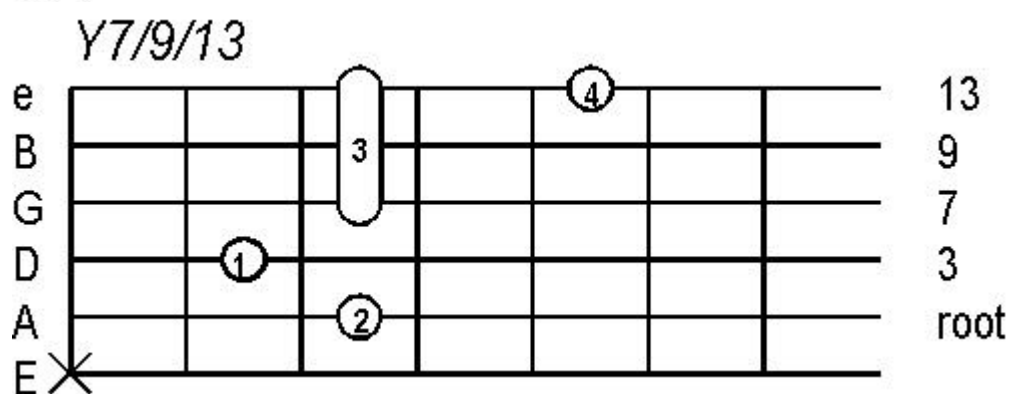
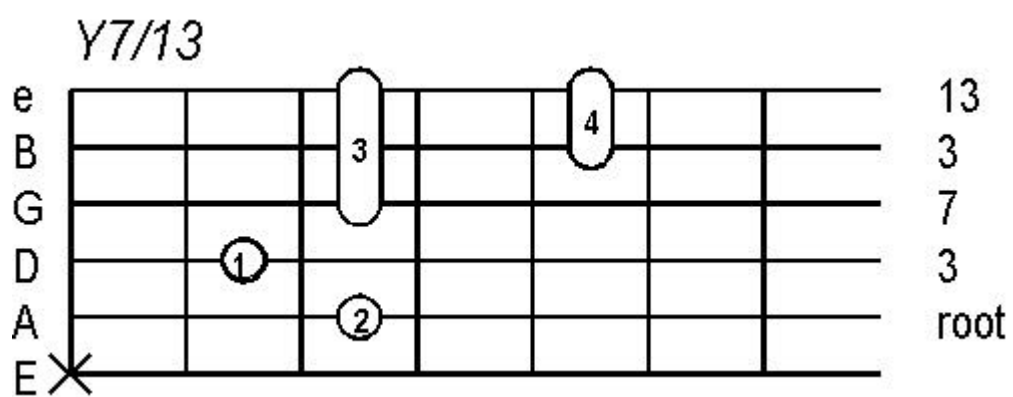
b13
9
7
3
root

Y7/13

13
3
7
root

Y7/13

root
13
3
7



Diminished Chords

Yo, Ydim

min3
6
b5
root

Yo, Ydim

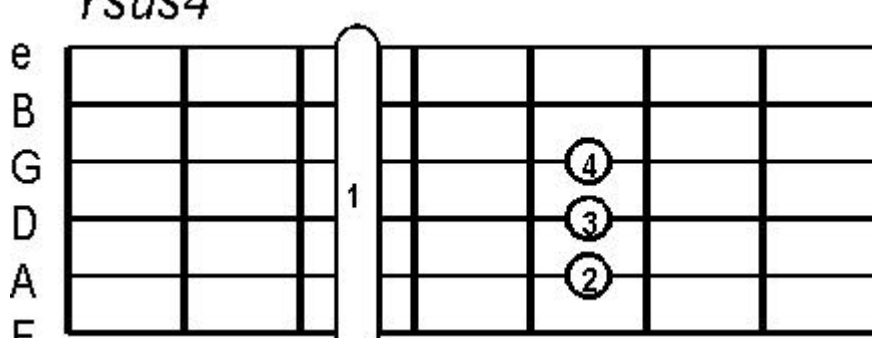
min3
6
b5
root

Yo, Ydim

b5
min3
6
root

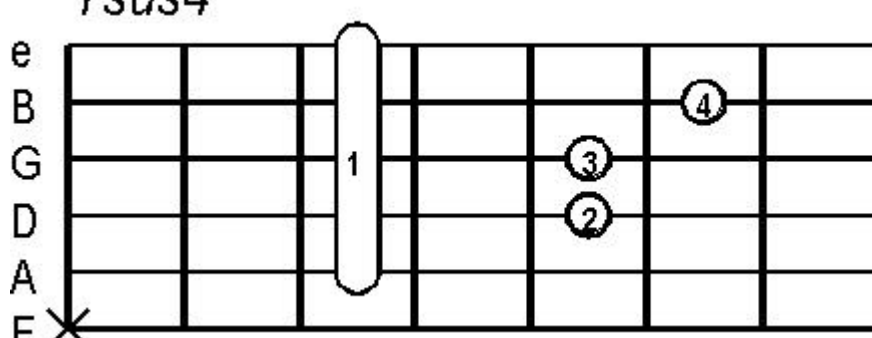
Sus4 Chords

Ysus4



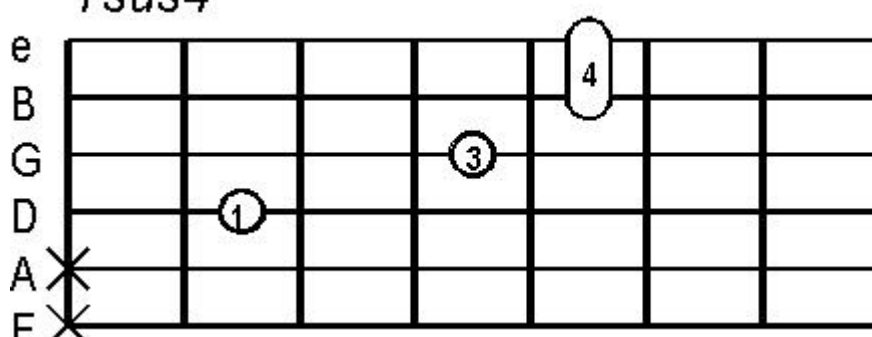
e							root
B							5
G					4		4
D					3		root
A					2		5
E							root

Ysus4



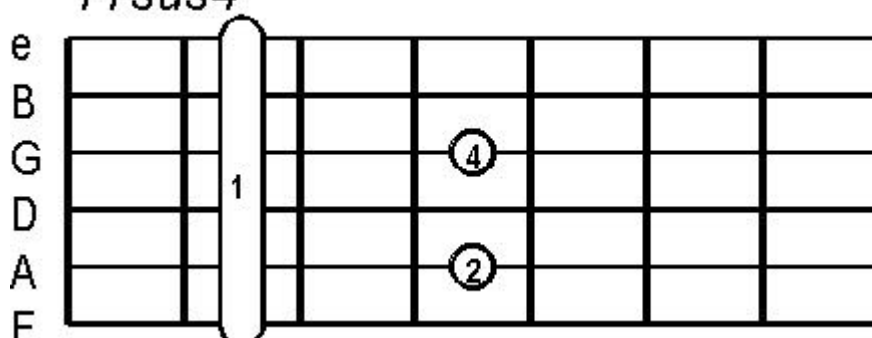
e							5
B						4	4
G					3		root
D					2		5
A							root
E	X						

Ysus4

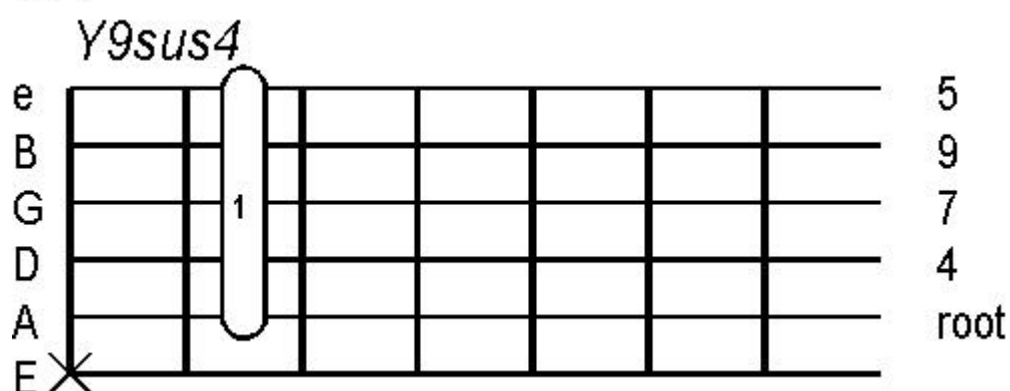
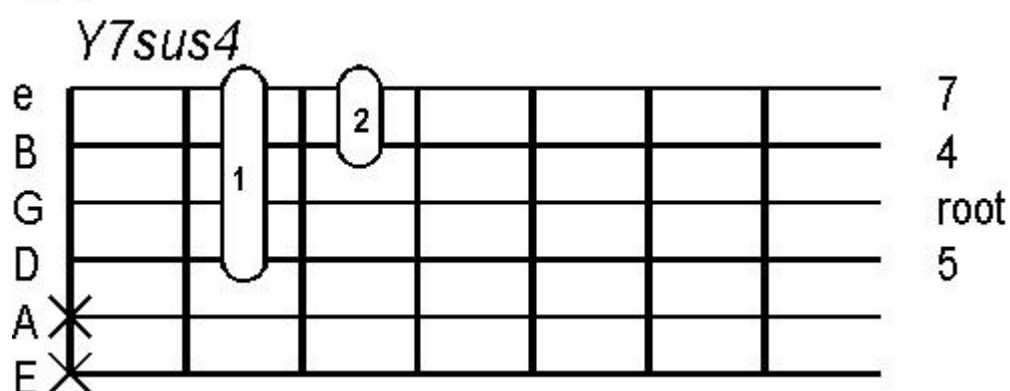
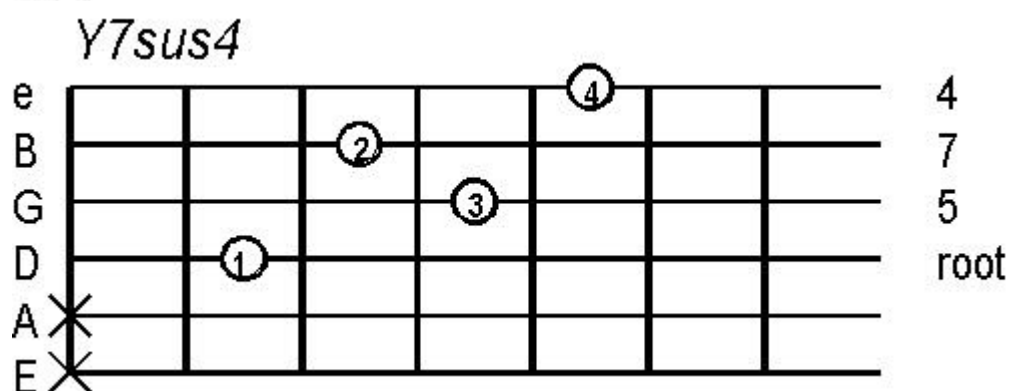
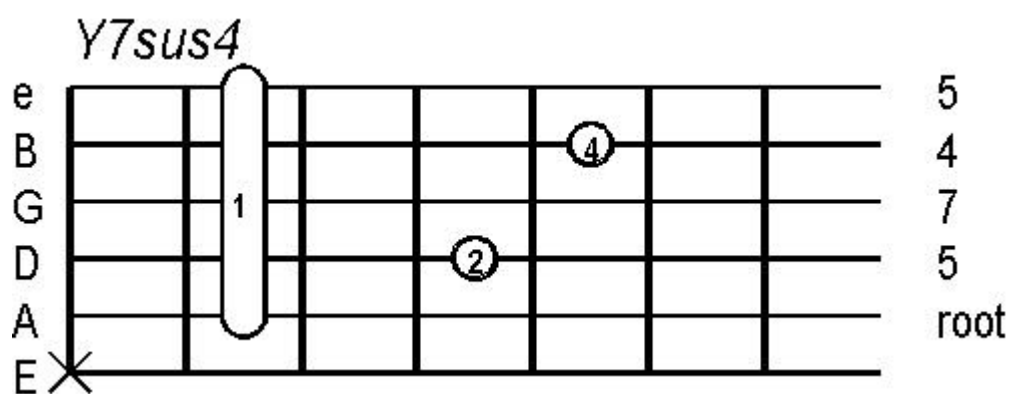


e							4
B						4	root
G					3		5
D		1					root
A	X						
E	X						

Y7sus4



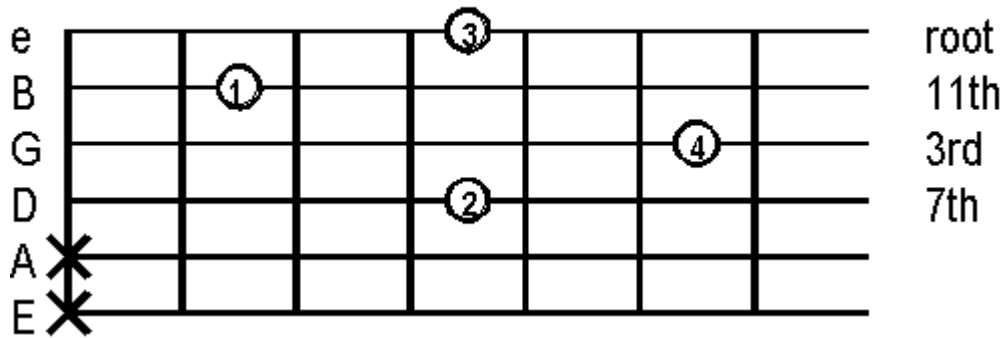
e							root
B							5
G					4		4
D							7
A					2		5
E							root



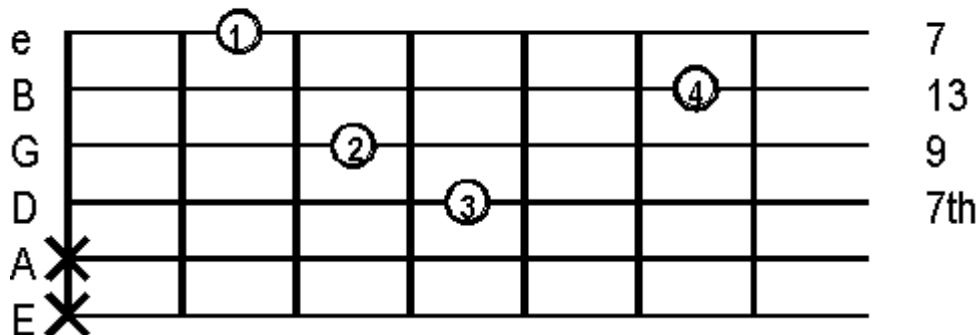
Half Step Chords

Half step chords are chords that contain a semi tone step. This is in some cases pretty difficult to fret, but they sound great. Modern jazz guitarists like Alan Holdsworth play them a lot, they are part of the special sound of them.

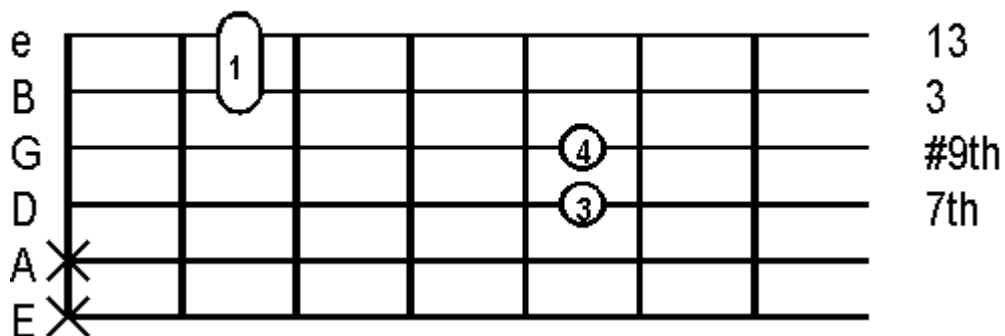
Y11



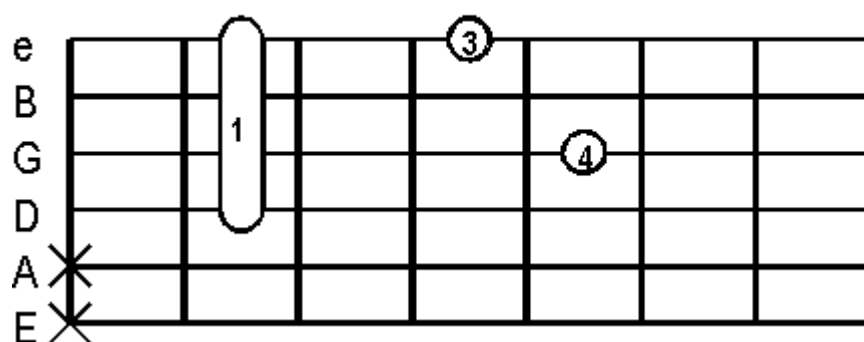
Y9/13 (no 3rd, no root)



Y#9/13

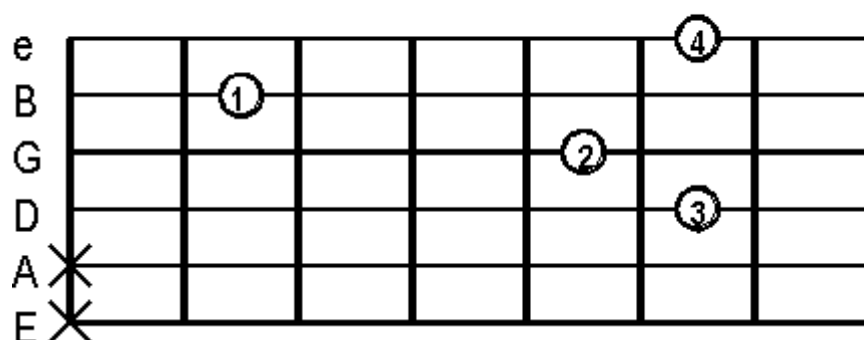


Y9/#11 (no 3rd)



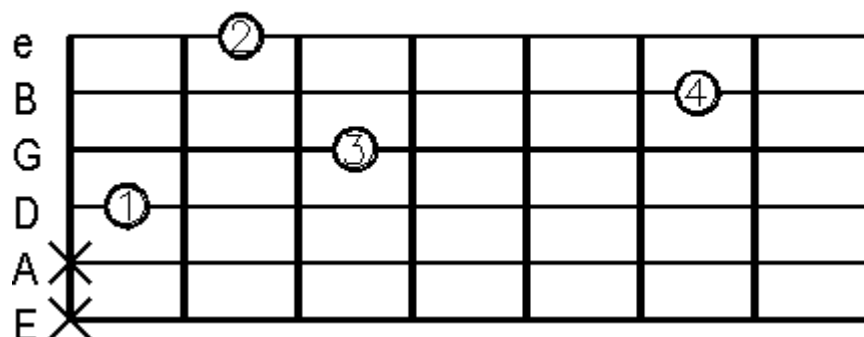
9th
5th
#11
7th

Ym9



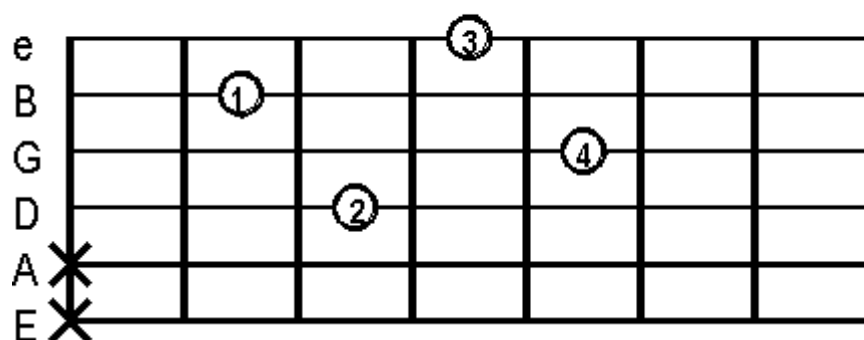
root
min3rd
9th
7th

Ym9



min3rd
9th
5th
root

Ymb13



min3rd
b13th
5th
root

