

Music Theory for Mandolin #22

Diminished Chords

Ex 1

Ex 1 shows a melodic line in 4/4 time on a treble clef staff. The notes are G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), and D4 (quarter). The first two notes are beamed together. The second measure contains a diminished triad chord (D4, F4, A4) with a flat sign above the staff. The third measure contains a diminished triad chord (E4, G4, B4) with a sharp sign above the staff. The bass staff shows the fretting: 5, 1, 4, and a bar line. The second measure has frets 6, 4, and 5. The third measure has frets 2, 3, and 1.

Ex 2

Ex 2 shows a melodic line in 4/4 time on a treble clef staff. The notes are G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), and D4 (quarter). The first two notes are beamed together. The second measure contains a diminished triad chord (D4, F4, A4) with a flat sign above the staff. The third measure contains a diminished triad chord (E4, G4, B4) with a sharp sign above the staff. The bass staff shows the fretting: 5, 1, 4, and 0. The second measure has frets 2, 3, and 2. The third measure has frets 5, 6, 4, and 5.

Ex 3

Ex 3 shows a series of chords on a treble clef staff. The chords are: C6 (G4, A4, B4, C5), C#O (C#4, E4, G4), Dm7 (D4, F4, A4, C5), G7 (G4, B4, D5, F#5), CΔ (C4, E4, G4), CbO (Cb4, Eb4, Gb4), Dm7 (D4, F4, A4, C5), and G7 (G4, B4, D5, F#5). The bass staff shows the fretting for each chord: 5, 3, 4, 3; 3, 4, 3; 5, 5, 5, 4; 3, 5, 5, 4; 7, 7, 5, 5; 6, 7, 5, 6; 5, 5, 5, 5; 3, 5, 5, 4.

Ex 4

Ex 4 shows two diminished triad chords on a treble clef staff. The first chord is D4, F4, A4 with a flat sign above the staff. The second chord is E4, G4, B4 with a sharp sign above the staff. The bass staff shows the fretting: 2, 3, 2 and 8, 6, 4, 2.

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Ex 5

8

8

2 3 1 2

5 6 4 5

8 9 7 8

11 12 10 11

Names for all any/all of chords Co Eb(D#)o Gb(F#)o Ao