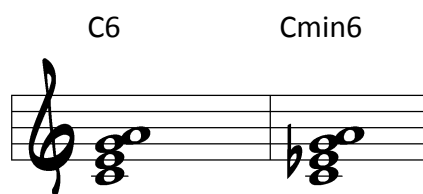


The Two Basic Sixth Chords

Below are the two basic sixth chords. These tend to function as tonic chords—chords of resolution or stability. Although there are no flatted-sixths in chords, there are flatted-thirteens. These typically appear in dominant-seventh chords.

The Major Sixth is formed by the root, 3rd, 5th, and 6th of the major scale. This is a major triad with a major sixth. The chord symbol is C6.

The Minor Sixth is formed by the root, b3rd, 5th, and 6th of the major scale. This is a minor triad with a major sixth. The chord symbols are Cmin6, Cmi6, Cm6, and C-6.



The major ninth is often added to the major and minor sixth chords yielding the major sixth add nine and the minor sixth add nine chords.

The Major Sixth Add Nine is formed by the root, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 9th of the major scale. This is a major triad with a major sixth and a major ninth. The chord symbol is C6add9. A slash is often used in place of the “add” (e.g., C6/9).

The Minor Sixth Add Nine is formed by the root, b3rd, 5th, and 6th of the major scale. This is a minor triad with a major sixth and a major ninth. The chord symbols are Cmin6add9, Cmi6add9, Cm6add9, and C-6add9. A slash is often used in place of the “add” (e.g., Cmin6/9).

