

John Tauxe's Chord Charts for Mandola and Family

mandola • mandocello
or other instruments tuned in CGDA

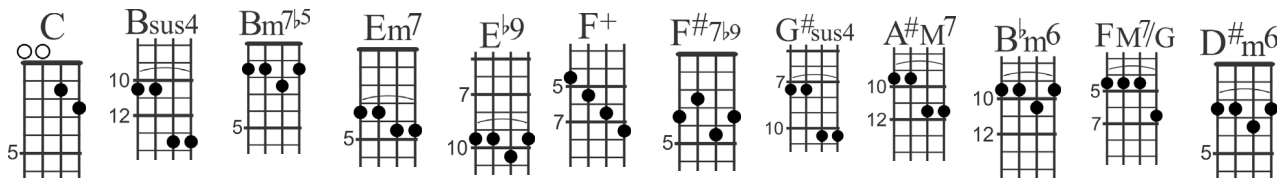
Download charts, chord images, and sheet music at <https://mando.tauxe.net>

v1.0

July 2025

This collection of chord charts for mandola family instruments was developed for two reasons: 1) To have a handy and compact chord reference, and 2) to build a library of graphic images representing each chord for use in producing mandola-specific sheet music. For the second reason, it may seem odd to have many chords that are repeated versions of the same chord, such as A flat and G sharp, but there are applications in music where one or the other is desired within a given context. For example, folk traditions generally tend to use the sharp versions, and jazz the flats.

The 900+ graphic images for each tuning are in a reasonably high resolution png (portable network graphics) format, nominally 200 × 400 pixels, and are readily imported into word processing or musical score software, like this:



Many examples of sheet music using these chords are available at the web site linked at the top of the page. Corel DRAW was used for building the chord sheets, and LibreOffice was used for producing the sheet music pages. Both are exported to PDF (portable document format) for sharing.

Pages are organized around chord type or family, with examples presented for each of the 12 keys in the western harmonic system. Companion Chord charts have also been developed for the popular GDAE tuning, used for mandolin, octave mandolin, and bouzuki.

Chord charts for both GDAE and CGDA tunings are published in separate PDF files.

Please direct inquiries, suggestions, or corrections to me via email at mando@tauxe.net.

References:

Ted Greene, 1971, *Chord Chemistry*, Dale Zdenek Publications EL 2778, Melville, NY
Steve Horn, 2010, *Moveable Chords for Mandolin and Other Stringed Instruments Tuned in Fifths*
Peter de Kraker, *Fretter* app for Android

Mandola Chord Chart

also for mandocello

M • m • 7 CHORDS

WITH SOME VOICINGS

tuning
C G D A

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C																																																																																																				
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Chords for sharps (e.g. G[#]) shown here correspond to identical chords for flats (e.g. A^b) on a separate sheet. These are separated so that graphic versions of the sharp chords may be generated.

Diagram illustrating the fretboard positions for various chords across the strings (labeled C# to B) and frets (labeled 5 to 17). The diagram shows the fretboard layout for each chord, with fret numbers indicated above the notes.

Chords and Fretboard Positions:

- C#:** Positions at frets 7, 10, and 5.
- D:** Positions at frets 10, 12, and 5.
- E:** Position at fret 5.
- F:** Positions at frets 5, 7, 10, 12, and 17.
- G:** Positions at frets 5, 7, 10, 12, and 17.
- A:** Positions at frets 5, 7, 10, 12, and 17.
- B:** Position at fret 5.

Chord Progressions:

- C#m, C#7, C#m7, C#M7:** Progressions shown for each chord type.
- D#m, D#7, D#m7, D#M7:** Progressions shown for each chord type.
- F#m, F#7, F#m7, F#M7:** Progressions shown for each chord type.
- G#m, G#7, G#m7, G#M7:** Progressions shown for each chord type.
- A#m, A#7, A#m7, A#M7:** Progressions shown for each chord type.

Specific Chord Diagrams:

- C7:** Diagram showing the C7 chord at fret 5.
- D#7:** Diagram showing the D#7 chord at fret 5.
- F#M7:** Diagram showing the F#M7 chord at fret 5.
- B7:** Diagram showing the B7 chord at fret 5.
- BM7, A#M7:** Diagrams showing the BM7 and A#M7 chords at fret 5.

Mandola Chord Chart

also for mandocello

6 • 9 • dim • aug CHORDS

tuning
C G D A

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The chart displays 12 rows of chords, each corresponding to a root note. Each row contains 18 chord diagrams, representing various chord qualities. The chords are arranged in a grid, with each chord name written above its corresponding diagram. The diagrams show the fretting positions on the four strings of the mandola (C, G, D, A) or mandocello (C, G, D, A).

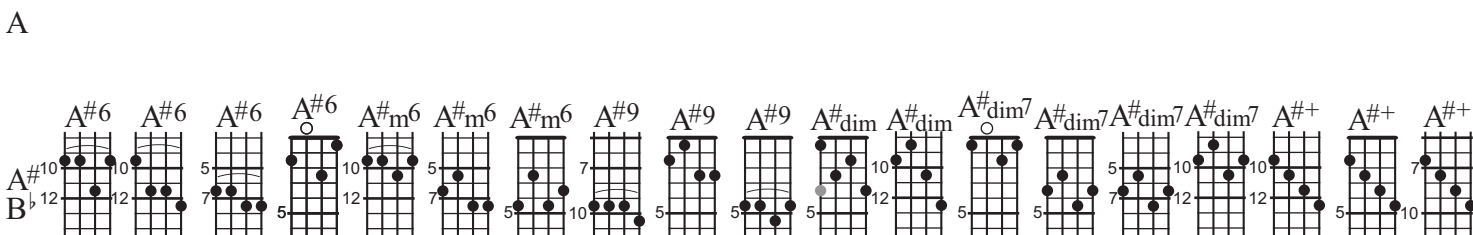
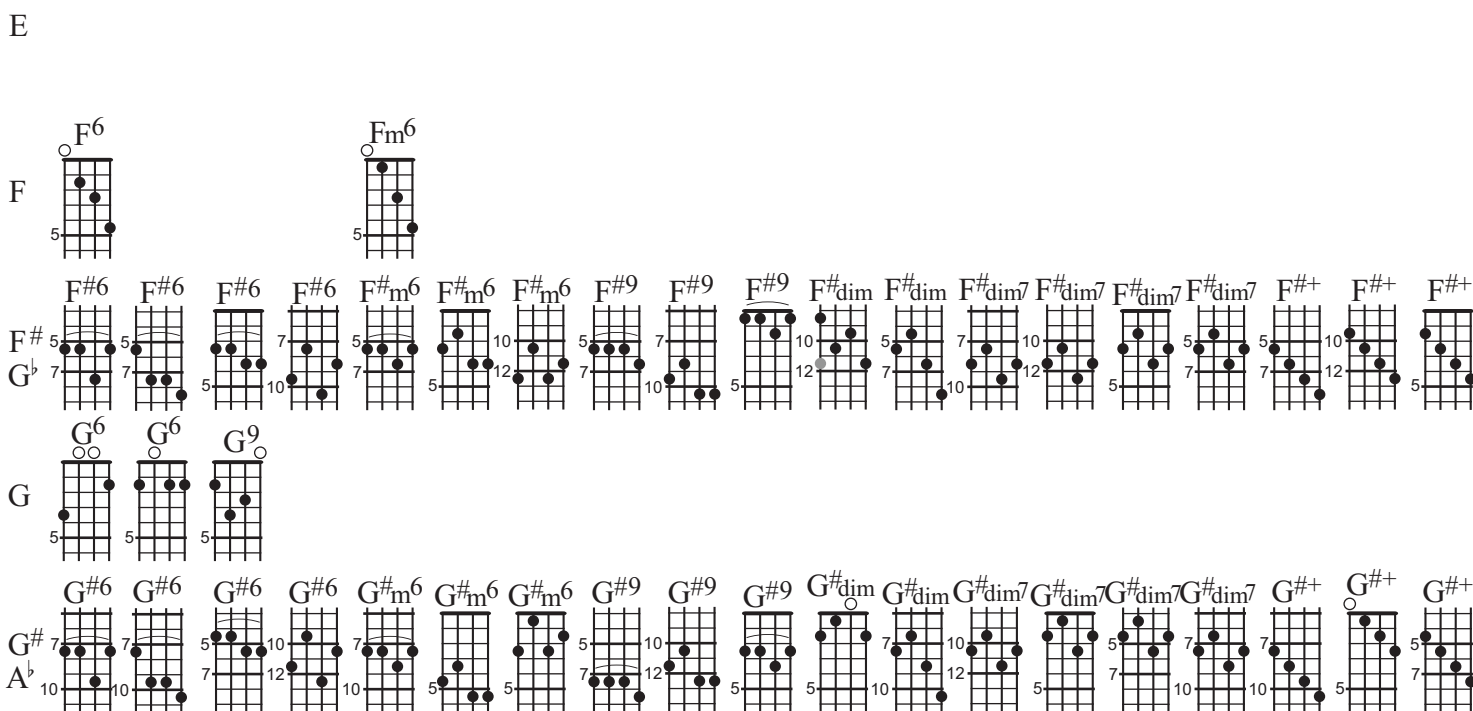
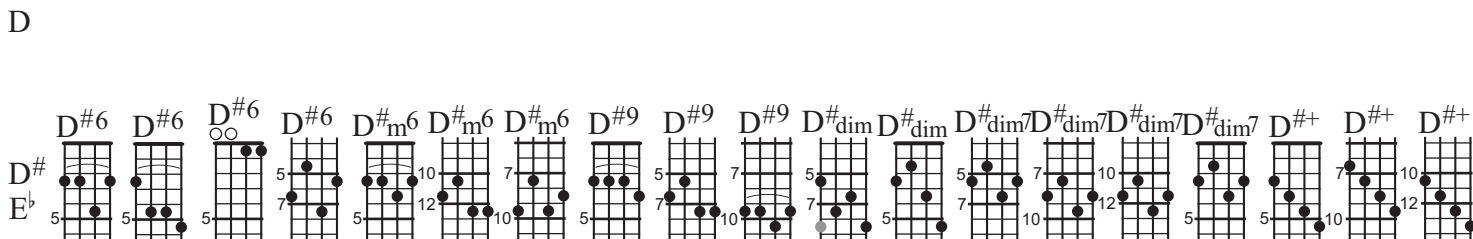
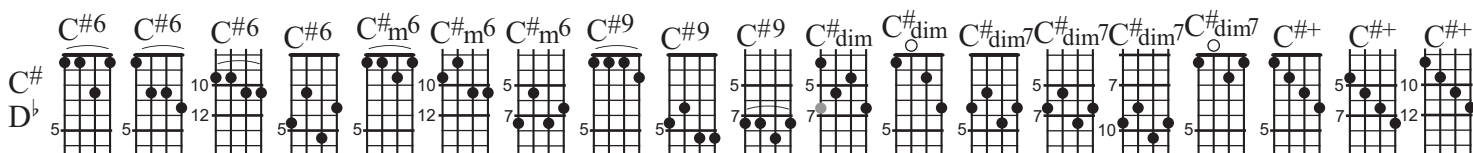
Chords for each row (from top to bottom):

- C:** C6, C6, C6, C6, Cm6, Cm6, Cm6, C9, C9, C9, Cdim, Cdim, Cdim7, Cdim7, Cdim7, Cdim7, C+, C+, C+
- *C#:** D^b6, D^b6, D^b6, D^b6, D^bm6, D^bm6, D^bm6, D^b9, D^b9, D^b9, D^bdim, D^bdim, D^bdim7, D^bdim7, D^bdim7, D^bdim7, D^b+, D^b+, D^b+
- D:** D6, D6, D6, D6, Dm6, Dm6, Dm6, D9, D9, D9, Ddim, Ddim, Ddim7, Ddim7, Ddim7, Ddim7, D+, D+, D+
- *D#:** E^b6, E^b6, E^b6, E^b6, E^bm6, E^bm6, E^bm6, E^b9, E^b9, E^b9, E^bdim, E^bdim, E^bdim7, E^bdim7, E^bdim7, E^bdim7, E^b+, E^b+, E^b+
- E:** E6, E6, E6, E6, Em6, Em6, Em6, E9, E9, E9, Edim, Edim, Edim7, Edim7, Edim7, Edim7, E+, E+, E+
- F:** F6, F6, F6, F6, Fm6, Fm6, Fm6, F9, F9, F9, Fdim, Fdim, Fdim7, Fdim7, Fdim7, Fdim7, F+, F+, F+
- *F#:** G^b6, G^b6, G^b6, G^b6, G^bm6, G^bm6, G^bm6, G^b9, G^b9, G^b9, G^bdim, G^bdim, G^bdim7, G^bdim7, G^bdim7, G^bdim7, G^b+, G^b+, G^b+
- G:** G6, G6, G6, G6, Gm6, Gm6, Gm6, G9, G9, G9, Gdim, Gdim, Gdim7, Gdim7, Gdim7, Gdim7, G+, G+, G+
- *G#:** A^b6, A^b6, A^b6, A^b6, A^bm6, A^bm6, A^bm6, A^b9, A^b9, A^b9, A^bdim, A^bdim, A^bdim7, A^bdim7, A^bdim7, A^bdim7, A^b+, A^b+, A^b+
- A:** A6, A6, A6, A6, Am6, Am6, Am6, A9, A9, A9, Adim, Adim, Adim7, Adim7, Adim7, Adim7, A+, A+, A+
- *A#:** B^b6, B^b6, B^b6, B^b6, B^bm6, B^bm6, B^bm6, B^b9, B^b9, B^b9, B^bdim, B^bdim, B^bdim7, B^bdim7, B^bdim7, B^bdim7, B^b+, B^b+, B^b+
- B:** B6, B6, B6, B6, Bm6, Bm6, Bm6, B9, B9, B9, Bdim, Bdim, Bdim7, Bdim7, Bdim7, Bdim7, B+, B+, B+

* Chords for sharps (e.g. G#) corresponding to identical chords for flats (e.g. A^b) are on a separate sheet.

Chords for sharps (e.g. G[#]) shown here correspond to identical chords for flats (e.g. A^b) on a separate sheet.

C These are separated so that graphic versions of the sharp chords may be generated.



B

Mandola Chord Chart

also for mandocello

ALTERED CHORDS

PLUS SOME EXTRAS

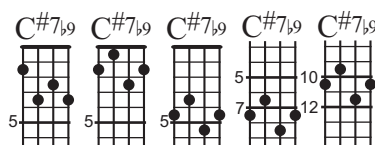
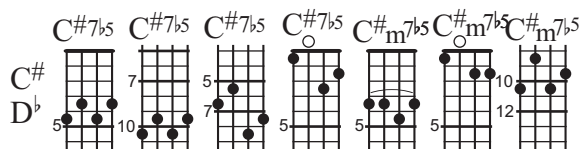
tuning
C G D A

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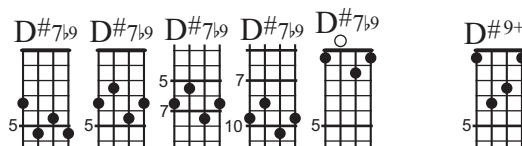
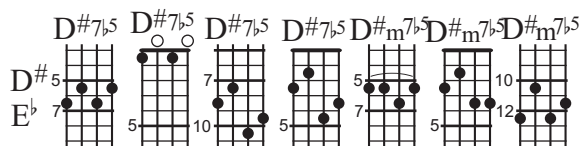
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* Chords for sharps (e.g. G#) corresponding to identical chords for flats (e.g. Ab) are on a separate sheet.

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C

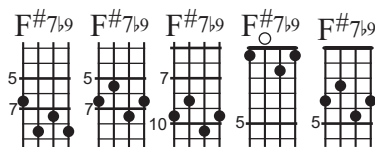
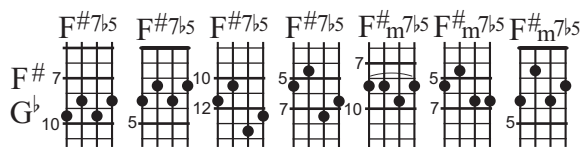


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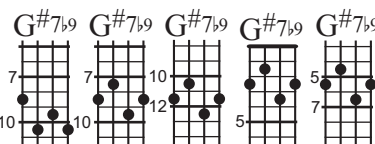
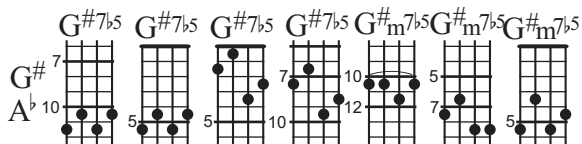


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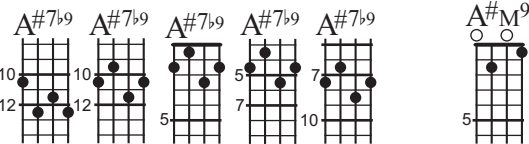
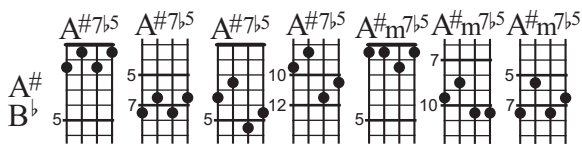
F



G



A



B

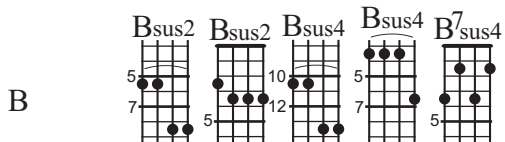
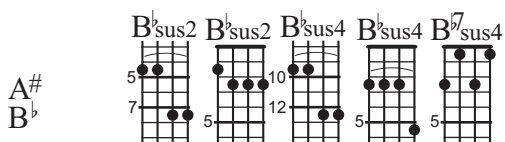
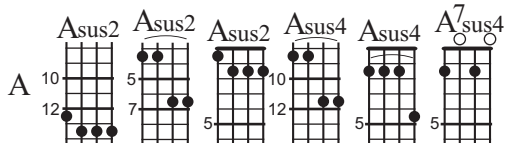
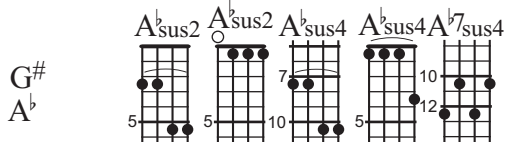
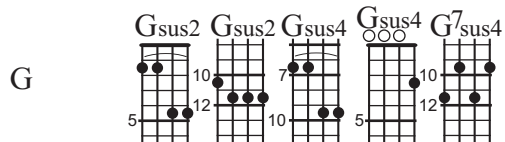
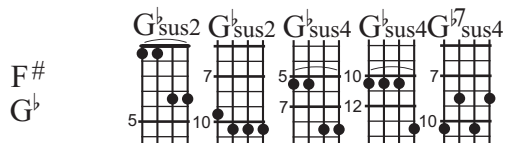
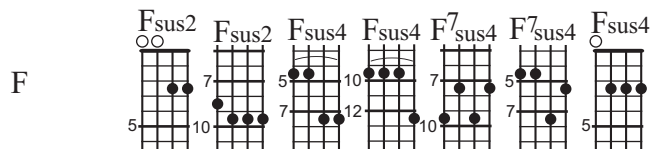
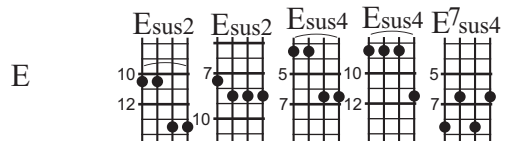
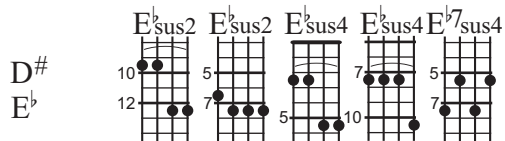
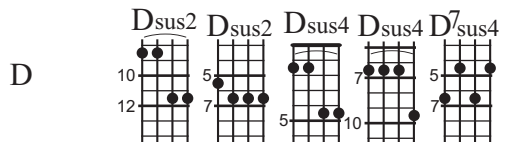
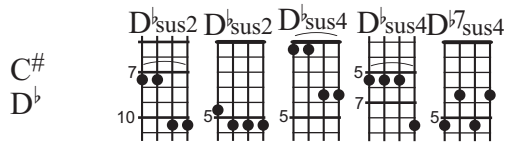
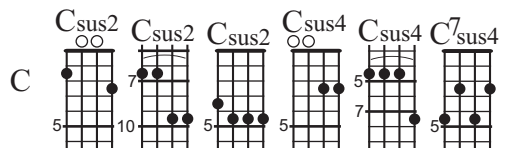
Mandola Chord Chart

also for mandocello

sus2 • sus4 CHORDS

tuning
C G D A

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