

## Inversions:

A chord inversion is where the root note is not at the bottom of the chord.

A chord with the 1 or root at the bottom is called root position (So this has NOT been inverted).

A chord with the 3rd at the bottom is a 1st inversion

A chord with the 5th at the bottom is a 2nd inversion

**NB The other notes can appear in any order. It is the note at the bottom of the chord that names the inversion**

EG: Cmajor 1st Inversion has the 3rd at the bottom (E)

Cmajor 2nd Inversion has the 5th at the bottom (G)

**TO MAKE A 1st INVERSION** - draw triad in root position then put the root note up an octave

**TO MAKE A 2nd INVERSION** - draw triad in root position then put the root & 3rd up an octave

**TO IDENTIFY AN INVERSION** - root position triads are always stacked neatly either on all lines or all spaces. 1st Inversions have a big gap between the top two notes and 2nd inversions have a big gap between the bottom 2 notes.

The image shows three musical staves in treble clef, each containing a C Major triad. The first staff is labeled 'C Major Root Position' and shows the notes C4, E4, and G4 stacked on the lines C, E, and G. The second staff is labeled 'C Major 1st Inversion' and shows the notes E4, G4, and C5, with a large gap between E4 and G4. The third staff is labeled 'C Major 2nd Inversion' and shows the notes G4, C5, and E5, with a large gap between G4 and C5.

1. Write a D Major triad in root position, 1st inversion & 2nd inversion:

A single blank musical staff in treble clef, intended for the student to write a D Major triad in root position, 1st inversion, and 2nd inversion.

2. Write an Ab Major triad in root position, 1st inversion & 2nd inversion:

A single blank musical staff in treble clef, intended for the student to write an Ab Major triad in root position, 1st inversion, and 2nd inversion.

3. Identify these triads (they are all major - you just need to identify the inversion)

A musical staff in treble clef containing six triads for identification. From left to right: 1. F# major triad in root position (F#4, A4, C#5). 2. G# major triad in 1st inversion (A4, C#5, E5). 3. Bb major triad in 2nd inversion (Bb4, D5, F5). 4. Eb major triad in 1st inversion (Eb4, G4, Bb4). 5. C major triad in 2nd inversion (G4, C5, E5). 6. D major triad in 1st inversion (E4, G4, A4).

4. Identify these triads (identify the inversion & the chord type)

A musical staff in treble clef containing six triads for identification. From left to right: 1. Bb major triad in 2nd inversion (Bb4, D5, F5). 2. C major triad in root position (C4, E4, G4). 3. D major triad in 2nd inversion (F4, A4, C5). 4. Eb major triad in 1st inversion (Eb4, G4, Bb4). 5. F# major triad in 1st inversion (F#4, A4, C#5). 6. G# major triad in 2nd inversion (B4, D5, F5).