

# Diminished Chord Ideas For Improvisers

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Diminished Chord exercises are great for developing technique and constructing some new and interesting sounds when improvising. By adding some additional pitches to the diminished triad you can create a variety of dominant function ideas that add new colors and textures to your playing. Because of the symmetry of the diminished chord construction, (example 1) most ideas are interchangeable with any key areas that share the minor third relationship. Study example two for an illustration of this concept. Keep practicing!

**Ex. 1**

**Ex. 2**

## CHROMATIC ASCENDING/DESCENDING Exercises

**#1**

4 NOTE GROUPINGS. NOTE: These are all interchangeable with any of the four chords in each exercise.

**#2**

Notes in brackets are diminished triad

**#2b**

**#2c**

3 NOTE GROUPINGS NOTE: Transpose to the other two key areas

**#3**

**#4**

NOTE: Transpose to the other two key centers