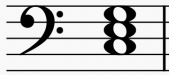




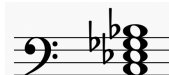
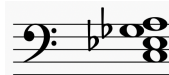

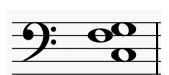



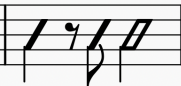

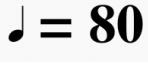


The Lead Sheet Cheat Sheet

Below is a list of the most common chords and symbols that you will see on a lead sheet!

Symbol	Meaning / notes you can play
C	 <p>A letter on its own indicates a major chord. You can use these notes in your bass line.</p>
C- or Cm	 <p>A letter followed by a dash or lowercase “m” indicates a minor chord</p>
C-7 or Cm7	 <p>Indicates a minor 7th chord</p>
C7	 <p>Indicates a dominant 7th chord</p>
Cmaj7 or CΔ7	 <p>Indicates a major 7th chord</p>
C-7b5 or Cø7	 <p>Indicates a minor 7 flat 5 chord or “half-dimished”</p>
C°7	 <p>Diminished-7th chord</p>
C/E	 <p>Indicates a major chord but with E as the lowest note. This is an inversion and as the bassist you should emphasise the note on the right, which in this case is E</p>
Csus4	 <p>Indicates a sus 4 chord. You should avoid playing E (the major 3rd) during this chord.</p>

D.S. al Coda	Jump back to the sign and keep playing through the lead sheet until you see “To Coda”
	The sign mentioned in the line above
To Coda	Jump forward to where you see the coda symbol
	The coda symbol mentioned in the line above
	You can improvise your bass line. Use notes from whichever chord is indicated.
	You must play the rhythms written, but you can choose which notes you play - choose notes from the chord indicated.
	Rehearsal marker. Often, a band leader will say “let’s take it from A”, meaning you should find this symbol and play from there.
	Tempo marking. This particular marker indicates that the tempo is 80 beats per minute, with the quarter-note being the beat

Master all the essentials of music theory with the “Playing With Music Theory” course on the BassCamp Patreon:

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