



THE LYDIAN MODE AND THE MAJOR 13 #11 CHORD



The above example is the C Lydian Mode. The Lydian Mode is the 4th mode of the Major Scale. This particular Lydian Mode is related to the G Major Scale. Notice both scale have one sharp in their respective keys (F#). Play the scale on a keyboard and sing along until you can imagine its sound even when you are not playing. The intervallic scale formula for the Lydian mode is Root, M2, M3, A4, P5, M6, M7, Octave.



This chord is a Major 13 (#11) chord. This is the sound of the Lydian mode in a chord form. Play the chord on a keyboard until it is internalized.

The Lydian Mode is the go-to scale to use over a Major 7 (#11), Major 9 (#11), and Major 13 (#11) chord. You can also play it over a regular Maj7 chord for extra color. Practice this C Lydian Mode with a C Maj 7 chord backing track. Don't forget to move this into other keys and practice those as well!

Musical Examples of the Lydian Mode

Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time - The Lost Woods Theme

Joe Satriani - Introduction and first theme to Flying in a Blue Dream

Led Zeppelin - Dancing Days (Introduction)