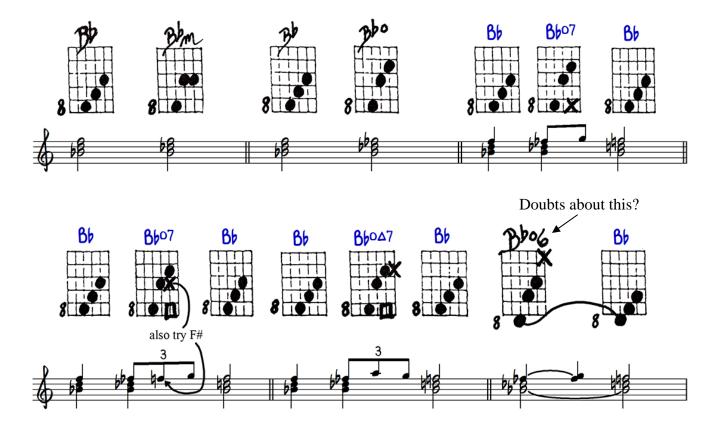
## **Ear Training - Learning to Hear Diminished**

 $(i^{\circ}, i^{\circ}6(^{\circ}7), i^{\circ}47)$ 

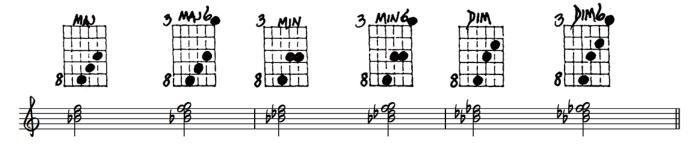
Ted Greene 1991-03-03

Let's be clear: Diminished color is a sound, a *sound* best understood and *heard* as having at least two tones (the 3rd and the 5th) that scream for resolution.

## Look:



It's easy to understand:



So why has this chord been called °7 [diminished 7] for centuries?

Two reasons, both historical, one having to do with 3rd intervals, the other with the Harmonic Minor. But using Bb as an example, let's look at this.

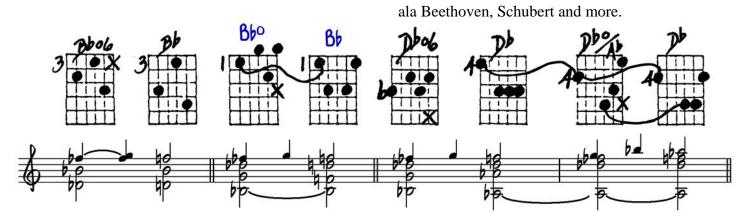
We can spell the Bb°6 chord: Bb, Db, Fb (E) and Abb and thereby call it Bb°7.

But it is just as easy and sensible in more cases to spell it with a G instead of a Abb.

(Frankly, it's not about spelling anyway...rather good sense.)

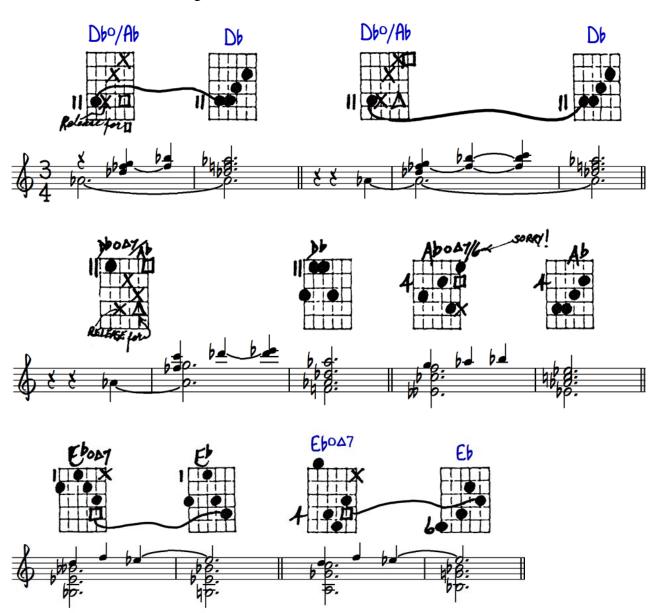
What do *you* think? Be ready for *either* name for now.

## Back to the music:

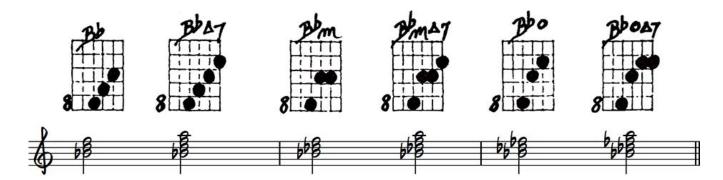


Please isolate the b3 to 3 and b5 to 5 lines and learn to hear them and sing them.

As you can hear, the \$5 in the bass is a note to love



Has this ⁰∆7 [diminished major 7] business got you in a quandary? Never fear, it too is easy:



There'll be more...study hard. The diminished color is a beautiful thing and we're not going to let it be difficult to understand.

