



## The Augmented Scale -

The Augmented Scale is a 6 note symmetrical scale. This means that the intervallic make up of the scale is a consistent pattern. In this case, the pattern is minor 3rd - semitone - minor 3rd - semitone - etc.

The scale in the key of C consists of the following notes -

**C Eb E G G# B**

The augmented scale is commonly used to improvise over a major 7#5 chord. Here we can see how each note in the C augmented scale relates to a C major 7#5 chord.

**C = Root**

**Eb = #9**

**E = 3rd**

**G = Perfect 5th**

**G# = #5**

**B = 7th**

The augmented scale works so effectively on a major 7#5 chord because as well as containing all of the chord tones (marked in bold) the scale also contains several extensions which increase tension (marked in red). These extensions could also be considered as approach notes to the 3rd and 5th of the chord.

The major 7#5 chord is often notated as a slash chord. In the key of C, this would be written as **E/C**. The notes are identical whichever way the chord is notated. It may vary depending on the composer. The composer may also be looking for a specific chord voicing to be played.