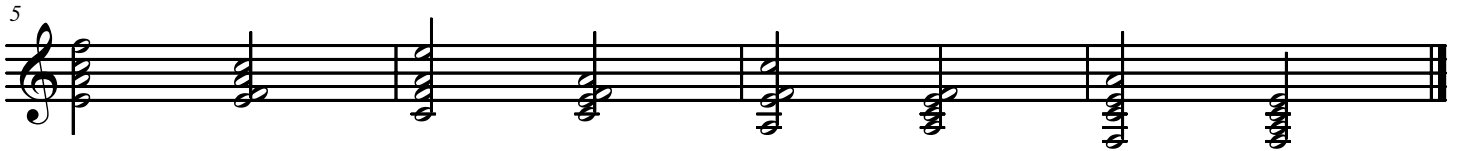
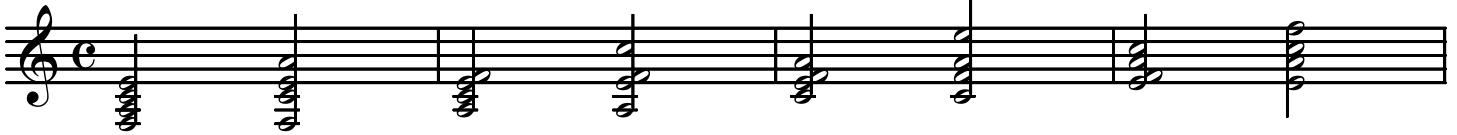


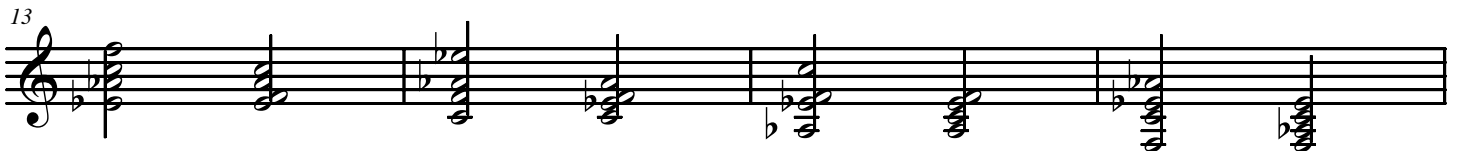
# Open Closed Voicings

Tony Miceli

A F Maj7



B F min7



For Chords with 5 notes the general rule is the first note to go is the root (the next would be the 5th).  
So when doing this exercise with an F#9 chord you would leave the root out.

C F 7(#9)

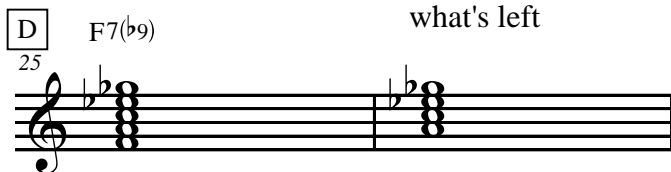


Realize that when you practice certain voicings of chords you are practicing other chords as well. For instance when you are practicing a diminished chord you are also practicing a flat 9 chord.

For instance  
here's an F7b9

If we take the  
root out this is  
what's left

Do you see that that is a diminished chord?  
So when you're practicing the open closed  
voicing exercise with F# dim you're practicing  
voicings for F7b9.



Do you also understand that F# dim and A dim and C dim and Eb dim are the same notes.  
So when you practice one diminished chord you're practicing 4 at the same time.



They are all the same notes, just inverted.

The last thing to understand about this is this:

Here are 4 chords. They're related by minor 3rds. F Ab B D.

Now take the roots away and you're left with the same notes for each chord,  
A, C, Eb(D#) and F#(Gb)



So when you're practicing open closed voicings on A dim do you understand that you're also practicing voicings for F7b9, Ab7b9, B7b9 and D7b9?

As you practice more and more chords and upper partials you'll see more of this.

Don't worry about understanding all of this. Just start practicing open and closed voicings. Maj 7 chords and Minor 7th chords.

However if you do understand this do you understand that when you're practicing C maj 9 you're also practicing E mi 7??.

Write down a C maj 9 chord. Then re-write it without the root. See the E min notes there? So with this exercise you'd practice a C maj 9 chord by omitting the root.

Last thing: When you play a voicing and omit the root, hit the root before playing each inversion. This is just for your ears. This way a b9 chord will sound like a b9 chord and not a diminished.