Common Chords Used for the Autoharp

Chord Name	Open Strings				Chord Name	Open Strings			
Ab Maj	G#	C	D#		D Maj	D	F#	A	
A Maj	A	C#	E		D7	D	F#	A	C
A7	A	C#	E	G	D min	D	F	A	
A min	A	C	E		Eb Maj	D#	G	A#	
Bb Maj	A#	D	F		E Maj	E	G#	B	
Bb7	A#	D	F	G#	E7	E	G#	B	D
B Maj	B	D#	F#		E min	E	G	B	
B7	B	D#	F#	A	F Maj	F	A	C	
B min	B	D	F#		F7	F	A	C	D#
C Maj	C	E	G		F# min	F#	A	C#	
C7	C	E	G	A#	F#7	F#	A#	C#	E
C min	C	D#	G		G Maj	G	B	D	
C#min	C#	E	G#		G7	G	B	D	F
C, D#, F# or Adim7		**C, D#, F#, A**			G min	G	A#	D	
C#, E, G or A#dim7		**C#, E, G, A#**			**D, F, G# or Bdim7**		**D, F, G#, B**		

The common Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do scale is often presented numerically, using roman numerals: I II III IV V VI VII.

Common major chords for the autoharp are made up of the I, III, V of the scale which begins with the root, or chord name. Thus the chord C is made up of C, E, G (I, III, V).

Minor chords are I, flatted III, and V. Seventh chords (more accurately called dominant sevenths) are made up of I, III, V and flatted VII.

In general, a chord should not start in the bass with the third. For instance, the Am chord will leave the first C (the third) dampened, starting the chord instead with the lowest E.

Some Nice Chord Variations (Sometimes Called Color Chords)
Chords shown work well with diatonic and chromatic autoharps

- M7 (Major Seven): With any major chord above, add the VII (Ti). Example- CM7= C E G B
- m7 (Minor Seven): With any minor chord above, add the flat VII (Ti). Example- Am7= A C E G
- M6 (Major Six): With any major chord above, at the VI (La). Example- C6= C E G A

NOTE: The C6 uses the same notes as the Am7. This relationship can be found with every major chord and it relative minor.

- sus4 (suspended fourth) With any major chord above, delete the III (Mi), and add the IV (Fa). Example- Csus4= C F G

- Add9 (Add nine): With any major chord above, add the first note above the root. This note is designated as a IX on the piano keyboard, but for the autoharp it may be thought of as a II (Re) as well, because they are the same note, and the octave in which it is played is not as important. Example- Cadd9 (Cadd2) C E G D (C D E G).

Many other chord combinations are available. These are the most common used for Autoharp.