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# HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is divided into three important sections: Jazz Chords; Common Chord Progressions; Common Jazz Standard Progressions.

## Jazz Chords

Here you'll find licks over chords essential to the construction of common chord progressions in the jazz idiom. It can be helpful to study these chords individually before bringing them into context. This section lays out a variety of ideas to play over major 7th, minor 7th, dominant 7th, minor 7th utilizing the Dorian mode, and major 7(b5) chords utilizing the Lydian mode. Occasionally, a lick might include an extension to the chord, such as a V7#11.

## Common Chord Progressions

The licks in this sections are played over chord progressions often found in jazz repertoire. This section lays out ideas to play over ii-V-I, ii-V-i (minor), I-VI-ii-V-I, i-vi-ii-V-i (minor) and I7-IV7-I7 chord progressions. These licks will help develop good voice-leading and show how these chords are connected together. Some licks in this section might stray from the original progression and outline a common substitution jazz musicians may utilize. For example, instead of playing a ii-V-I (Dm7-G7-Cmaj7), a tritone substitution can be used (Dm7-D7-Cmaj7). It's important to understand some of these substitutions and how they are applied to their associated chord progressions.

## Common Jazz Standard Progressions

These are licks that are applied to entire forms of popular jazz standards. Every four bars are individual licks that focus on unique chord progressions within each tune. All the licks were composed to flow together musically, so you can play each lick individually or apply them to the next. This section will help you see how licks can be applied in the context of an entire tune, which is incredibly important. It also covers unique chord progressions not addressed in the Common Chord Progressions section.

Use this book like you would a dictionary or a thesaurus. It's not meant to be read front to back, but rather referenced according to your needs. These licks were written to inspire different melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic ideas. Some originate from the bebop language and other jazz styles, while others focus on patterns and rhythmic variations.

All the categories of licks are written in four different common keys. The primary reason for this is to encourage practicing them in different keys, and preferably all 12 keys. Find a lick you particularly like and work on it in different keys, octaves, and tempos. Practice the lick with straight-eighths, various styles of swing-eighths, and at different dynamics. Add expressive markings that lend an expressive, colorful shape. Play it over and over again so that it sinks deep into your conscience. Try making variations of your own and, most importantly, feel free to be creative.

# Jazz Chords

## Major 7th Chords



# Common Chord Progressions

ii-V-I

208

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

209

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

210

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

211

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

212

Dm7 G7#5 Cmaj7

213

Dm7 G7#5 Cmaj7

214

Ebm7 Ab7b5 Dm7 G7b5 Cmaj7

# Common Jazz Standard Progressions

## Everything You Are Not

418 Fm7 Bbm7 Eb7 Abmaj7

Musical notation for progression 418 in F major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Fm7, Bbm7, Eb7, and Abmaj7.

419 Dbmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7

Musical notation for progression 419 in D-flat major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Dbmaj7, Dm7, G7, and Cmaj7.

420 Cm7 Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7

Musical notation for progression 420 in C minor, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Cm7, Fm7, Bb7, and Ebmaj7.

421 Abmaj7 Am7 D7 Gmaj7

Musical notation for progression 421 in A-flat major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Abmaj7, Am7, D7, and Gmaj7.

422 Am7 D7 Gmaj7

Musical notation for progression 422 in A minor, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Am7, D7, and Gmaj7.

423 Gbm7 Bbm7

Musical notation for progression 423 in G-flat minor, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Gbm7 and Bbm7.

424 Fm7 Bbm7

Musical notation for progression 424 in F minor, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chords Fm7 and Bbm7.

425 Dbmaj7

Musical notation for progression 425 in D-flat major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chord Dbmaj7.

426 Bbm7

Musical notation for progression 426 in B-flat minor, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes across four measures, corresponding to the chord Bbm7.



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