

THE JAZZ STYLE PRIMER

BARITONE SAX.

A BLUES BASED APPROACH TO JAZZ STYLE AND IMPROVISATION

WILLIAM RANK

1. THE TONGUED CUT-OFF

In jazz music use a tongued cut-off to articulate the end of the note, giving the end of the note a rhythmic feeling.

Musical notation for 'The Tongued Cut-off' exercise, consisting of three staves in 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff starts at measure 1 and ends at measure 4. The second staff starts at measure 5 and ends at measure 8. The third staff starts at measure 9 and ends at measure 12. The notes are: Staff 1: D4 (half), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 2: D4 (half), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 3: D4 (half), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into pairs of half notes: (D4, E4), (F#4, G4), (A4, B4), (C5, D5). The notes are marked with a 'Doo' syllable and a tongued cut-off symbol (a vertical line with a small 't' above it) at the end of each note.

2. ACCENTING BEATS 2 & 4

The accent in most jazz music is on beats 2 & 4, whereas classical music generally emphasizes beats 1 & 3.

Musical notation for 'Accenting Beats 2 & 4' exercise, consisting of three staves in 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff starts at measure 13 and ends at measure 16. The second staff starts at measure 17 and ends at measure 20. The third staff starts at measure 21 and ends at measure 24. The notes are: Staff 1: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 2: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). Staff 3: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into pairs of half notes: (D4, E4), (F#4, G4), (A4, B4), (C5, D5). The notes are marked with a 'Doo' syllable and an accent (>) above each note.

Many quarter notes are played short in jazz.
Short un-accented notes are DIT and
short accented notes are DOT.

3. DIT AND DOT

25

DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT DIT DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

29

DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT DIT DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

33

DIT DOT DIT DIT DOT DIT DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

4. DO DAH DIT DOT

37

DO DO DO DAH DO DAH DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

41

DO DO DO DAH DO DAH DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

45

DO DO DO DAH DO DAH DIT DIT DIT DOT DIT

Swing has an underlying triplet feel. Put a slight accent on the last third of the beat.

5. TRIPLET FEEL

49 Do Do DA Do Do DA Do Do DA Do Do DA Do Do DA Do Do DA Do Do DA DoT

In measures 1 & 2, the first two triplets are tied together to make a quarter note triplet. The rhythm is consistent throughout the entire exercise. Generally this is written as eighth notes, with the last third of the beat slightly accented.

6. EIGHTH NOTES

51 Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT Do-DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT

53 Do-DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT Do-DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT

55 Do-DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT Do-DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA Do DA DoT

7. QUARTERS AND EIGHTHS

63 DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT

65 DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT

67 DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT DIT DoT DIT Do DA Do DA DoT

10. MOVING AROUND

99 **G7**

99 **G7**

103 **C7** **G7**

107 **D7** **G7**

11. SWINGING FREE

111 **G7**

111 **G7**

115 **C7** **G7**

119 **D7** **G7**

12. BEFORE THIRTEEN

Musical score for "Before Thirteen" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music with rhythmic notation below. The first staff (measures 123-126) features a G7 chord and a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. The second staff (measures 127-130) features C7 and G7 chords. The third staff (measures 131-134) features D7, C7, and G7 chords. The rhythmic notation includes "Do DA 00 DA 000 Dot" and "Do Do DA 00 DAH".

Entering on the And of the beat is a little confusing. If you have a rest on the downbeat, think "n".

13. AND OF ONE

Musical score for "And of One" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music with rhythmic notation below. The first staff (measures 135-138) features a G7 chord and a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, starting with a rest on the downbeat. The second staff (measures 139-142) features C7 and G7 chords. The third staff (measures 143-146) features D7, C7, and G7 chords. The rhythmic notation includes "(N) DA 00 DA 000 Dot" and "Do Do DA 00 DAH".

14. QUARTER TIL ONE

147 DOT DO DA OO DA OO DOT DOOT DOT DO DO DA OO DOT DOOT DOT

152 DO DA OO DA OO DOT DOOT DOT DO DO DA OO DOT DOOT DOT

156 DO DA OO DA OO DO DA OO DA OO DO DO DA OO DOT DOOT DOT

To create syncopation, one method that jazzers tend to use is anticipation. Keep the "doo-dle-da" triplet feel in your head to be sure that you don't rush the anticipation.

15. SYNCOPATION BY ANTICIPATION

160 Doo Doo Doo DA ___ Doo Doo Doo DA ___

164 Doo Doo Doo DA ___ Doo Doo Doo DA ___

168 Doo DA ___ Doo DA ___ Doo Doo Doo DA ___

Another method of syncopation is to delay an entrance. This is usually accomplished by adding a rest on the downbeat.

16. SYNCOPATION BY DELAY

172) G7
Doo Doo (N) DA Doo

176) C7 G7
Doo Doo (N) DA Doo

180) D7 C7 G7
(N) DA Doo (N) DA Doo

17. REPETITIVE SYNCOPATION

184) G7
Do Dot Dot DAA

188) C7 G7
Do Dot Dot DAA

192) D7 C7 G7
Do DA oo DA oo DA oo DA oo DA oo DA oo DA oo Dot Dot DA oo DA oo

18. PICK-UP GAME

196
 DA OO DA OO DAH DA OO DA OO DAH DA OO DA OO DA OO DA OO DAH T DA

201
 OO DA OO DAH DA OO DA OO DAH DA OO DA OO DA OO DA OO DAH T DA

205
 OT DAH DA OT DAH DA OO DA OO DA OO DA OO DAH T DA

Detailed description: This section contains three staves of musical notation for the exercise 'Pick-Up Game'. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff starts at measure 196 and features a G7 chord. The second staff starts at measure 201 and features C7 and G7 chords. The third staff starts at measure 205 and features D7, C7, and G7 chords. Each staff includes rhythmic notation with eighth and sixteenth notes, and syllables 'DA' and 'DAH' written below the notes. A triplet of eighth notes is indicated with a '-3' above the notes in each staff.

Apply ALL the style rules covered so far.
 Write in your syllables, Sing and Play!

19. GREEN LIGHT GO!

209
 214
 218

Detailed description: This section contains three staves of musical notation for the exercise 'Green Light Go!'. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff starts at measure 209 and features a G7 chord. The second staff starts at measure 214 and features C7 and G7 chords. The third staff starts at measure 218 and features D7, C7, and G7 chords. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs. There are no syllables written under the notes in this section.