

# THE JAZZ STYLE PRIMER

DRUM SET

A BLUES BASED APPROACH TO JAZZ STYLE AND IMPROVISATION

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## 1. THE TONGUED CUT-OFF

DEADSTICK PATTERN

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

5

9

## 2. ACCENTING BEATS 2 & 4

DEADSTICK PATTERN

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

13

17

21

### 3. DIT AND DOT

#### DEADSTICK PATTERN

Many quarter notes are played short in jazz. Short un-accented notes are Dit and short accented notes are Dot.

### 4. DO DAH DIT DOT

#### DEADSTICK PATTERN

### 5. TRIPLET FEEL

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

49 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**

**SWING PATTERN**

51

55

59

**7. QUARTERS AND EIGHTHS**

**SWING PATTERN**

63

67

71

### 8. MORE QUARTERS AND EIGHTHS

Jazz Rules: Eighth Notes followed by rests are played short!

SWING PATTERN

75

79

83

### 9. BACK-ACCENT TONGUING

To create a more fluid style, jazzers use a technique called "back accent tonguing". Legato tongue the downbeat if it's articulated, and slur the off beats into the downbeat.

SWING PATTERN

87

91

95

### 10. MOVING AROUND

SWING PATTERN

99

Musical staff 99: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time. The first measure contains a swing pattern: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The second and third measures each contain a quarter rest. The fourth measure contains a quarter note on C5. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

103

Musical staff 103: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time, consisting of four measures of quarter rests. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

107

Musical staff 107: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time, consisting of four measures of quarter rests. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

### 11. SWINGING FREE

SWING PATTERN

111

Musical staff 111: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time. The first measure contains a swing pattern: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The second and third measures each contain a quarter rest. The fourth measure contains a quarter note on C5. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

115

Musical staff 115: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time, consisting of four measures of quarter rests. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

119

Musical staff 119: A four-measure staff in 2/4 time, consisting of four measures of quarter rests. The staff is marked with a treble clef and a common time signature.

### 12. BEFORE THIRTEEN

#### SWING PATTERN

123

127

131

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

#### SWING PATTERN

135

139

143

14. QUARTER TIL ONE

DEADSTICK PATTERN

147

152

156

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

DEADSTICK PATTERN

160

164

168

### 16. SYNCOPATION BY DELAY

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

#### DEADSTICK PATTERN

Musical notation for a deadstick pattern. The first staff shows four eighth notes with 'x' marks above them, indicating deadsticks. The notes are on the first line of the staff. The second staff shows four eighth notes with 'x' marks below them, indicating deadsticks. The notes are on the first line of the staff. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing the notes and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest.

Musical notation for a deadstick pattern. The first staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The second staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing a rest and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest.

Musical notation for a deadstick pattern. The first staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The second staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing a rest and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The notation ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

### 17. REPETITIVE SYNCOPATION

#### SWING PATTERN

Musical notation for a swing pattern. The first staff shows four eighth notes with 'x' marks above them, indicating deadsticks. The notes are on the first line of the staff. The second staff shows four eighth notes with 'x' marks below them, indicating deadsticks. The notes are on the first line of the staff. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing the notes and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest.

Musical notation for a swing pattern. The first staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The second staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing a rest and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest.

Musical notation for a swing pattern. The first staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The second staff shows a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The pattern is repeated in four measures, with the first measure containing a rest and the following three measures containing a double bar line and a slash, indicating a rest. The notation ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

18. PICK-UP GAME

SWING PATTERN WITH HEAVY BACKBEAT

196

201

205

19. GREEN LIGHT GO!

SWING PATTERN

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

209

214

218