Musilosophy

Site menu

- - Blues singer songwriter jazz pianist
- - Pop music videos
- - Pop blues jazz albums
- - Jazz pianist music stores
- - Improvisation : MIOP donation

Improvisation and music harmony : MIOP

- - Learn improvisation technique : introduction
- - Jazz improvisation and music harmony : **summary**
- - Music harmony concepts
- - Chord charts and keys
- - Learn chord charts
- - Major seventh
- - Dominant chord chart
- - Minor seventh chords
- - Half diminished chords
- - Diminished chord
- - Altered, whole tone, pentatonic, diminished scales
- - Blues scales chart
- - Learn blues chords and structures
- - Major blues charts
- - Minor blues
- » Jazz melody and improvisation
- - Jazz phrasing : imitation technique

Jazz melody building in improvisation : chordal, turning, passing notes

This is the most important chapter! In this page I explain how you can build a melody : these "rules" are not only for improvisation but for composing songs and other instrumental or vocal pieces.

I suggest you to learn every item to build melodic lines; they base on classic and jazz harmony and you can improvise or compose easily and correctly by knowing them. I want to specify that knowing and mastering harmonic techniques are not enough to create high artistic value music. Musician has to express emotions, ideas and messages to himself and to the public, besides playing in a right harmonic way.

So an improviser needs:

- **Well trained hands**
- **Learned mind**
- **Open hearth**

When these three faculties are synchronized and in harmony, your improvisations, compositions and your music become magic and have a great emotional power.

Melody is the most powerful and beautiful item of music. It has symmetric, geometric and harmonic rules:

Pay Attention: I mean 1th , 3th, 5th and seventh (**of a chord**) by “CHORDAL NOTE”

- - Music phrasing
- - Music theory and mistakes
- - Music rhythm
- - Swing jazz rhythm
- - Learn music theory : polyrhythms
- - Jazz techniques : practice
- - Music techniques : coming soon articles
- - Art of improvisation project
- - General improvisation tips
- - Music studying : general tips

When you improvise or compose, you can use to build a melody these notes: generally they are chordal notes or notes that return on them. So the *fundamental melodic concept* is:

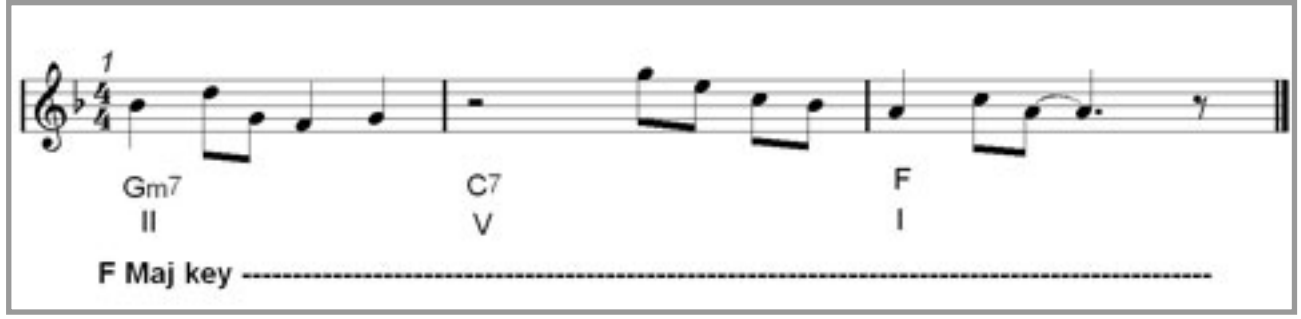
MELODY is based on the CHORD and on the KEY in which it is. Here are the most used and important e rules or suggestions to build a melody.

- **Chordal** notes
- **Turning** note
- **Passing**
- **Leaning**
- **Delaying**
- **Anticipated**
- **Chromatic**
- **Mixed**
- **Double leaning** tones

Test *every item with your ears! Let me know what you think about!*

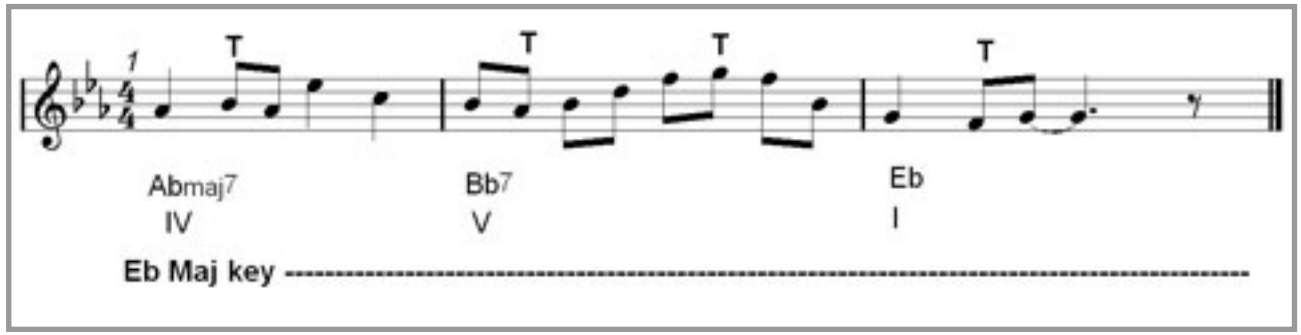
1. Notes of the chord - (**Chordal notes**)

(= chordal note)



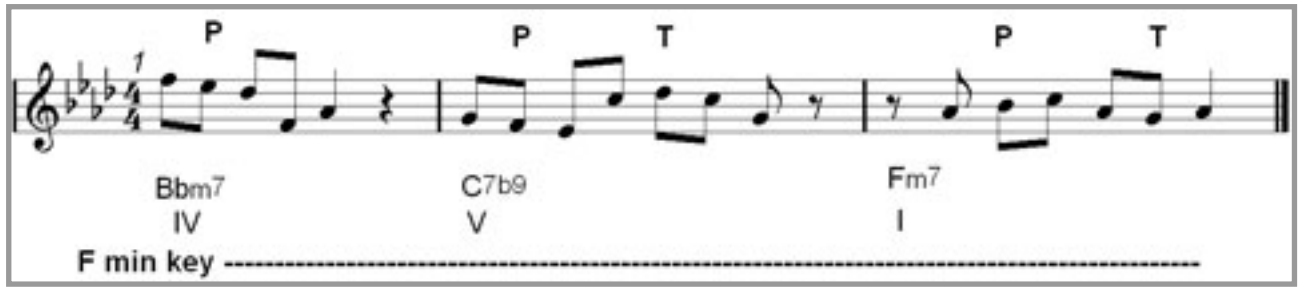
You can use the notes of a chord freely

2. **Turning** note : does not belong to chord but comes from a note of the chord and turn on it. (T = Turning note)



You have to turn on the note of the chord

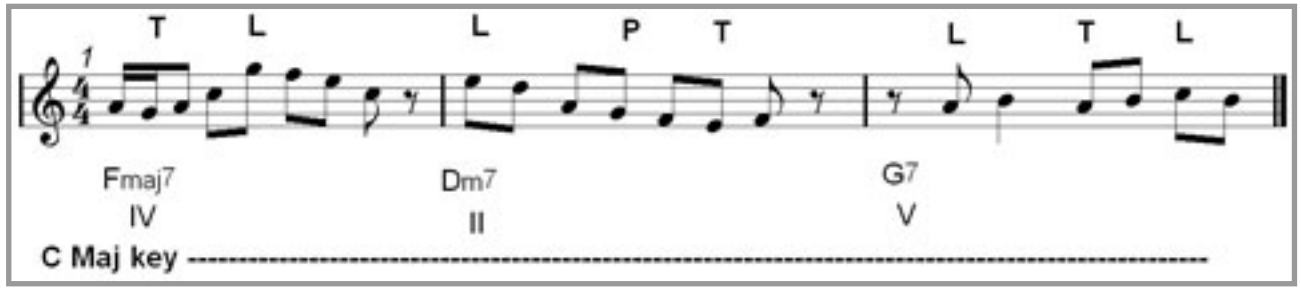
3. **Passing** note : it is between two chordal notes. (P = Passing note)



^ TOP

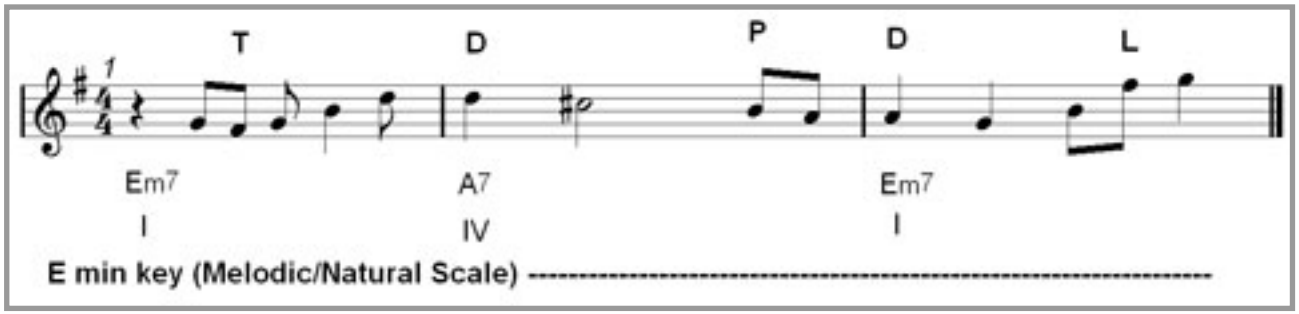
How to build a jazz melody in improvisation : leaning, delaying, anticipated notes

4. **Leaning** note (Appoggiatura) : it leans on a chordal note (L = Leaning note)



After a leaning note you have to play the chordal note close to it

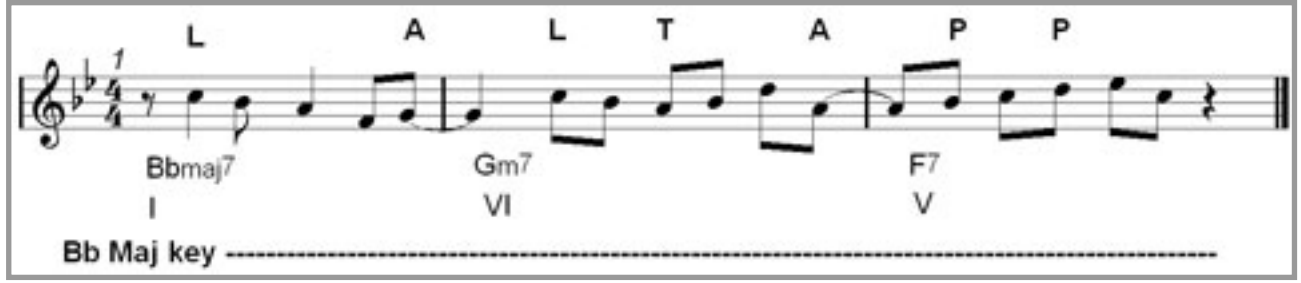
5. **Delaying** note (Ritardo) : it delays a chordal note (D = Delaying note)



After a delaying note you have to play the straight away below chordal note

The difference between leaning and delaying note is: the first one can go up or down to a chordal note while the second must go down to the straight away below chordal note!

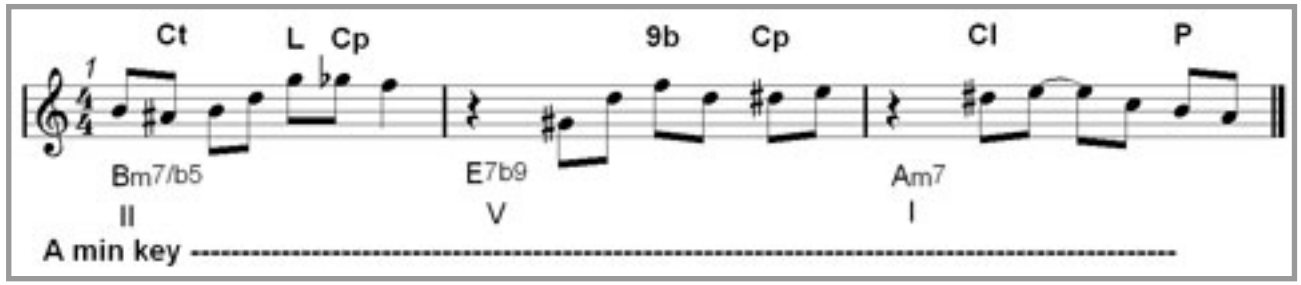
6. **Anticipated** note (Anticipo) : it belongs to the next chord (A = Anticipated note)



^ TOP

Jazz melody **building in improvisation : chromatic, mixed, double leaning notes**

7. **Chromatic** note : it belongs neither chord nor key (C = Chromatic note)



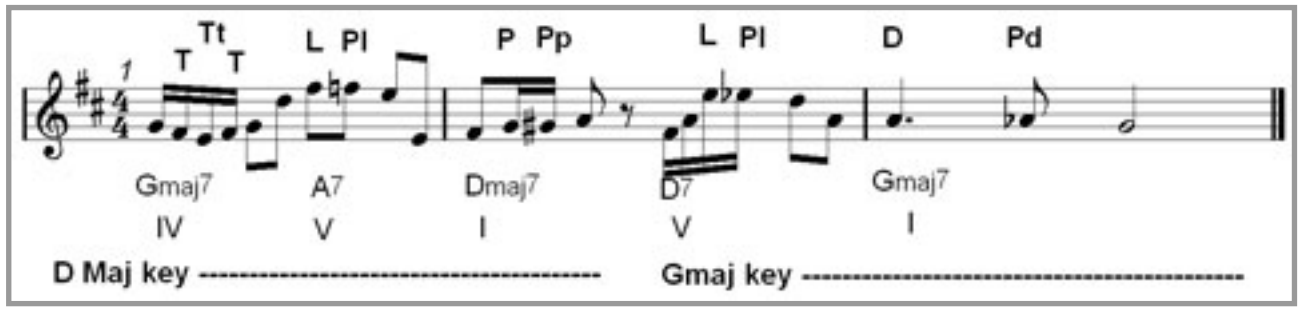
I distinguish these cases:

7.1 Chromatic passing note (Cp)

7.2 Chromatic turning note (Ct)

7.3 Chromatic leaning note (Cl)

8. **Mixed** notes : they are a mix or a combination of previous cases:



For example:

· Passing note of a passing note (also chromatic) =Pp

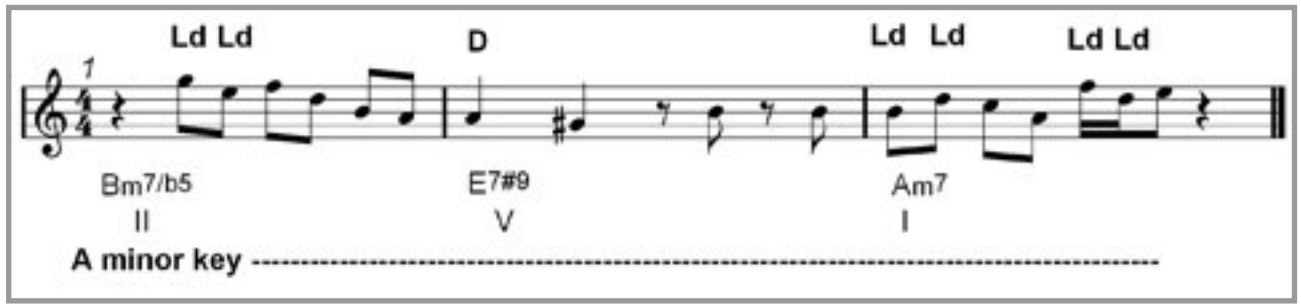
· Passing note of a turning note (also chromatic) =Ptu

· Turning note of a turning note (also chromatic) =Tt

· Passing note of a delaying note (also chromatic) =Pd

· And so on……

9. **Double leaning** tones (=Ld)



This is a good melodic ornament

^ TOP

Melodic concepts

E-mail

Contact me

PAGE PROTECTED BY COPYSCAPE DO NOT COPY

©2005-2006 Paolo Parrella. All rights reserved

ADDFREE STATS web stats