Walking Bass & Jazz Foundations Guide

The Easy To Understand Guide To Creating Walking Bass Lines & The Foundational Tunes & Fundamental Grooves Found On A Jazz Jam Session
Walking Bass & Jazz Foundations Guide

- **MODULE 1:** Discover The ‘3M System For Walking Bass’ - 3 Simple Methods To Create Walking Bass Lines

- **MODULE 2:** Learn The 3 Most Common ‘Jazz Chord Structures’ & Forms All Bass Players Need To know Before Going Playing At A Jazz Jam Session

- **MODULE 3:** Discover The 3 Fundamental Grooves Bass Players Will Find At A Jazz Jam Session
Resources

• The Essential Guide To Walking Bass For Bass Players Book

• The Essential Guide To Walking Bass Video Course

• Jazz Jam Backing Track Album Volume 1 & 2

• Available at eBassGuitar.Com
Module 1 | Lesson 1
‘3M System For Walking Bass Line Creation’

- The Chromatic Method
- The Chord Tone & Interval Method
- The Scalic Method

Each Method Has Its Own Unique Sound
The I-VI-II-V Turnaround
The Chromatic Method

Sound: Angular & Jazzy

Lower Chromatic Approach

Upper Chromatic Approach

Upper & Lower Chromatic Approach
Module 1 | Lesson 2

The Chord Tone & Interval Method

Sound: This approach outlines the harmony / sound of the chord

The II-V-I Chord Sequence

Chord Tones / Arpeggios For The II-V-I
Chord Tones, Arpeggios & Triads In Action

Example 1

Example 2

Example 3
Sound: This approach leads the ear from chord to chord

G Minor / Dorian Scale

C7 / Mixolydian Scale

F Major Scale / Ionian Scale
II-V-I Using Scales

The Issue With Using Scales

The Chromatic Fix

Inverting The Scale (No Chromatics Required!)
Module 1 - The ‘3m System’
Round Up

- Notice how each Method has its own unique sound
- In practice the Methods all interlink
- For more detail check out the Essential Walking Bass Book
Module 2 | Lesson 1
3 Fundamental Jazz Structures

- There are set structures you will see at Jazz Gigs / Jam Sessions or in Jazz / Walking Bass education time and time again.

- Blues Sequence

- 32 Bar AABA Form

- ‘Rhythm Changes’
The 12 Bar Jazz Blues

Simple 12 Bar Blues (Rock ’n’ Roll)

||: F7  | %  | %  | %  |
| Bb7  | %  | F7  | %  |
| C7   | Bb7 | F7  | C7  :||

Creating The Jazz 12 Bar Blues

||: F7  | Bb7  | F7  | %  |
| Bb7  | %  | F7  | %  |
| Gm7  | C7  | F7  | Dm7| Gm7 C7 :||
The 12 Bar Jazz Blues In Practice
Jazz Blues Wrap Up

• 3 Key Changes To The Blues Sequence
  • Quick IV Change In Bar 2
  • II-V-I in Bars 9-11
  • Turnaround in Bars 11-12
• Example Tunes:
  • Now's The Time
  • Sandu
  • Billies’ Bounce
  • Straight No Chaser
  • Tenor Madness
Jazz Standards tend to use one sequence that is repeated over and over.

The most common length of sequence is 32 Bars

This most commonly comprises of an ‘A’ Section and a ‘B’ section

The most common structure is A - A - B - A

Many of these originate from show tunes
Lesson 5 -
The 32 Bar Jazz Chorus [AABA]

Take The A Train

(Medium Up Swing)

A
\[C_6\]
\[D_7\]
\[G_7\]
\[C_6\]
\[D_7\]
\[G_7\]

B
\[F_A7\]
\[D_7\]
\[C_6\]

Billy Strayhorn

Made with iReal Pro
32 Bar Jazz Chorus Wrap Up

- Songs that use the AABA form
  - Don’t Get Around Much Anymore
  - Perdido
  - Satin Doll
  - Girl From Ipanema
- Jazz Standards also use 16 bar sequences too.
- Other structures to explore: A-B-A-C | A-B | A-B-C-D
Rhythm Changes is the chord sequence from George Gershwin’s ‘I Got Rhythm’

Jazz Tunes often use this chord sequence with other melodies

If a song is based on Rhythm Changes, all you need to know is the Key and you are good to go.

It’s another A-A-B-A form
Rhythm Changes

I Got Rhythm

(Up Tempo Swing)

George Gershwin

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
B\flat_6 & G_7 & C_7 & F_7 \\
B\flat_7 & B\flat_7 & E_b & E_{O7} & B\flat_{F} & F_7 & B\flat_6 & F_7 \ \\
 & & B\flat_{6} & B\flat_7 & E_b & E_{O7} & B\flat_{F} & F_7 & B\flat_6 & F_7 & D.C.
\end{array}
\]
Rhythm Changes Wrap Up

- Rhythm Changes Can Simplified into two sequences
  - A Section: I - VI - II - V (2 beats Each)
  - B Section: III - VI - V - I (2 Bars Each)

- Jazz Tunes Based On Rhythm Changes
  - Anthropology
  - Oleo
  - Scrapple From The Apple
  - Lester Leaps In
  - Moose The Mooche
Module 3 | Lesson 1
The 3 Fundamental Grooves

- The 3 Questions:
  - What Key?
  - What Feel? (or Groove)
  - What else do I need to know?
Module 3 | Lesson 1
The 3 Fundamental Grooves

Quarter Note - Jazz / Swing

8th Note - Rock / Latin

16th Note - Funk
Quarter Note - Modal Jazz

- The 3 Questions:
  - Key Dm
  - Fast Swing
  - AABA Modal

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Quarter Note - Modal Jazz

D Dorian Scale

Bass Line Ideas:
Module 3 | Lesson 2
8th Note Groove

- Straight Feel
- Bossa Nova
- Foundation is Roots & 5th

8th Note - Rock / Latin
Lesson 8 - 8th Note Groove

Roots & 5th On The Bass

Classic Bossa Bass Line
### 8th Note Groove

#### The 3 Questions:
- Key Cm
- Bossa Feel
- 16 Bar Sequence

#### Blue Bossa (Bossa Nova)

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Module 3 | Lesson 3
16th Note Groove

16th Note - Funk

Core Bass Line For ‘The Chicken’
The Chicken

(Funk)

Pee-Wee Ellis

The 3 Questions:

• Key Bb
• Funk Feel
• 16 Bar Form With Unison Phrase

Vamp for intro

Made with iReal Pro

A

| B♭7 | ♩ | ♩ | ♩ |
| E♭7 | ♩ | D♭7 | G♭7 |
| C♭7 | ♩ | ♩ | N.C. |
| B♭7 | E♭7 | ♩ | ♩ | ♩ |

(Riff) Fine
Walking Bass & Jazz Foundations Guide Wrap Up

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The Essential Guide To Walking Bass For Bass Guitar Book

• Deep Dive Into The ‘3m System For Walking Bass’

• 88 Pages

• 95 Backing Tracks & Demonstration Tracks

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