

# Approach Tones

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Approach tone exercises as seen in my TikTok and Instagram video "Jazz Lesson: Approach Tones". These exercises can be practiced on different chords, but in the examples I have chosen G-7.

First let's start with a G-7 arpeggio, and approach every note with a half step below:



Then let's approach every note from a diatonic step above. Diatonic means notes that are in the chord scale, so for a G-7 we are going with the dorian mode, as this is what's most commonly used in a ii-V7 jazz setting.



Next we are going to put these two exercises together. First play a diatonic step above, then play the half step below, before landing on our target chord tone. We refer to this as "surrounding" the chord tone, which will emphasize it, in turn making us play lines that sound appropriate to the given chord.



Here is a variation, where we begin with the half step below, then the diatonic step above, before landing on our target chord tone.



For any chord tone that has a whole step as the diatonic step above, we can do a chromatic run down to the chord tone. In our case with the G-7 chord, this is every chord tone. Note that if this was a G7 chord, we could not do this exercise leading into the third of the chord (B), as the diatonic step above would be a half step (C).



Now, let's combine the diatonic chromatic from above with the chromatic from below. To make this exercise a bit easier we will extend the duration of the target chord tone.



And finally let's play a variation of the above exercise, beginning with the diatonic chromatic above, and then the chromatic below, before resolving to the chord tone.

